

December 18, 2023

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees was called to order at 6:37 pm by Dr. Rogers. Dr. Rogers led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following board members were present Mr. Mullett, Mr. Hoover, Mr. Beattie, Mr. Wolfe, Dr. Rogers, and Ms. Justice. Dr. Quin had an excused absence in advance.

On motion by Ms. Justice, seconded by Mr. Beattie, the Board 6-0 unanimously approved the public agenda with the following changes: Item VII C was recommended to table directors' raise until next month's meeting in January.

On motion by Ms. Justice, seconded by Mr. Beattie, the Board approved the memorandums of November 16th and 20th, 2023, with a vote of 6-0.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT - No public comment.

II. CELEBRATIONS - Dr. Cole showed a celebration slide show of a variety of positive staff actions from the past month.

III. PROGRAM

A. DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS GRANT - Jennifer Yates Miami County YMCA Prevention Director presented information on the Division of Mental Health and Addictions prevention grant that will run from 7/24 through 6/26 with a potential for reapplying for two more years. The recommended programs are Al's Pals which is geared toward preschool and/or kindergarten and Life Skills which is geared toward grades 3,4, and 5 and/or 6,7, and 8. Her recommendation is to start with grades 6-8 then work it in later for grades 3-5. Al's Pals is an evidence-based, comprehensive social-emotional learning curriculum and professional development program designed to meet the specific needs of preschool children. The Life Skills training is comprehensive, dynamic, and developmentally designed to promote mental health and positive youth development.

On motion by Mr. Wolfe, seconded by Mr. Beattie, the Board approved to continue to receive the Mental Health and Addictions curriculum grant 6-0.

B. PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE RENEWAL - Terry Smith from Smith Sawyer Smith insurance agency reviewed the renewal policies for Peru Community Schools for 2024 for an increased rate of 18 percent. Mr. Smith explained the reason for the increased rate. PCS paid \$410,000 in liability over the past three years and has the possibility of paying \$407,000 in claims. A few are still open and pending. The goal is to be under 50% expense to lower the risk and liability. This year, PCS has put in plans to reduce risk factors.

On motion by Mr. Mullett, seconded by Ms. Justice, the board approved insurance renewal for 2024 with a vote of 6-0.

C. STADIUM DEMO BIDS ADVERTISEMENT - Dr. Cole asked for approval to advertise for bids for the Peru Junior Senior High School stadium demo project. The bids will be open to the public and posted in the newspaper.

On motion by Ms. Justice, seconded by Mr. Mullett, the board voted 6-0 to approve to advertise for bids for the Peru Junior Senior High School stadium demo project.

D. ELEVATOR MAINTENANCE QUOTE - Dr. Cole asked for approval to accept the elevator maintenance quote from Otis Maintenance. The contract net price is \$214.71 per month. Chuck Hight answered questions from the board. We have two different vendors because we still have 1 year left on a different elevator at the High School, monthly inspections are required as it is hooked up to the fire alarm system.

On motion by Mr. Wolfe, seconded by Ms. Justice, the board voted 6-0 to accept the elevator maintenance quote from Otis Maintenance for \$214.71 per month.

E. DONATION AGREEMENT - PERU TIGER PAINTING - Dr. Cole asked for approval of the donation agreement between Patrick Redmon (Donor) and Peru Community Schools Corporation (Recipient) for the Peru Tiger painting. If the painting is removed from approved location, painting will be returned.

On motion by Ms. Justice, seconded by Mr. Wolfe, the board voted 6-0 to approve the donation agreement between Patrick Redmon (Donor) and Peru Community Schools Corporation (Recipient) for the Peru Tiger painting.

F. 2023-2024 PCS RE-ENTRY PLAN REVIEW- Dr. Cole reviewed the PCS re-entry plan for approval to satisfy requirements for ESSER dollars. Until we spend all ESSER funds, we will submit every 6 months.

On motion by Mr. Wolfe, seconded by Ms. Justice, the board approved the 2023-2024 PCS Re-Entry Plan 6-0.

IV. PERSONNEL

A. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS/SUSPENSIONS/TERMINATIONS

1. Amy Behny - resignation Elmwood special education aide.
2. Alyssa Judy - resignation Junior Senior High special education aide.
3. Terry Fuller - retirement Peru Community Schools food service director. December 4, 2023.
4. Judy Siblisk - retirement Elmwood cafeteria.

On motion by Mr. Beattie, seconded by Mr. Hoover, the board voted 6-0 to approve the resignations/retirements/suspensions/terminations.

B. JOB DESCRIPTION KITCHEN INVENTORY MANAGER (Retroactive Job Announcement November 21, 2023)

On motion by Ms. Justice, seconded by Mr. Mullett, the board voted 6-0, to approve the job description kitchen inventory manager (retroactive job announcement November 21, 2023).

C. RECOMMENDATION FOR CLASSIFIED POSITIONS

1. Kynedi Yard - kitchen inventory manager (pending background check) \$15.00 (6 hours per day)
2. Jaeden Brown - Elmwood instructional assistant (pending background check)
3. Josh Ulery - security at home basketball games
4. Avery Keller - kitchen intern at Blair Pointe (pending background check)
5. Cherri Briscoe - bus monitor (pending background check)

On motion by Mr. Beattie, seconded by Ms. Justice, the board voted 6-0 to approve the recommendation for classified positions.

D. RECOMMENDATION FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR POSITIONS

1. Emily Ream - volunteer varsity softball coach (pending background check)

On motion by, Mr. Mullett seconded by Mr. Beattie, the board voted 6-0 to approve the recommendation for classified positions.

E. RECOMMENDATION FOR (RETROACTIVE)

1. Sub Teachers - Briana Butler, Terie Parkman, Alisha Jent, Sidney Smith, Mary Whitaker, Patty Lorenz, Kyle Emelio, Lisa Lee
2. Sub Custodian - Larry Nice
3. Sub Nurse - Kathryn Peck
4. Sub Cafeteria - Stacia Balaira, Dorann Nation, Bailey Adams, Brandi McKay, Summer Hyde, Sandra Corn, Teresa Thibeault, Gloria David, Stephanie Dewitt, Kendra Endricks, Colleen Opp, Jessica Patrick, Debra Spencer
5. Elmwood Cafeteria Staff - Abigail Briley, Diana Caldwell, Shannon Fowler, Heather Hoagland, Samantha Milliron, Kathy Rogers, Janie Salkill, Sharon Smith, Pamela Stitsworth, Brenda Ward
6. Blair Pointe Cafeteria Staff - Nancy Brooks, Marsha Fewell, Linda Fuller, Sara James, Pamela Lewis, Chasity Maze, Deborah Rendes, Kristina Roberts, Debra Siders
7. Junior Senior High Cafeteria Staff - April Adams, Katina Capps, Beverly Creager, Jean Hughes, Sara James, Bobbi Kern, Teresa McKinney, Patricia Reitz, Robin Selleck, Ann Simbeck

Kitchen staff were already working but may not have been board approved officially in the past. This action is a corrective action from previous year. In the future, all vacant positions will be advertised with a current job description, posted, interviewed for, and then board approved.

On motion Ms. Justice, seconded by Mr. Hoover, the board voted 6-0 to approve the recommendation for retroactive sub positions.

F. IUK PARAPROFESSIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS - Dr. Cole presented an update of the paraprofessionals that have been accepted into the IUK Grow Your Own Program.

-Gina Forman, Ann Martin, Pete Polk, Shannon Skeens, Madison Harp, Mercedes Shaffer, Sierra Davis, Kailee Wright, Janel Harding, Jessica Ingle, Melany Smith. We are waiting on the next steps for IUK.

Dr. Cole explained the program approved in the evenings was for elementary, but once certified as a teacher, they could continue for High School certification with continuing education classes.

This was an informational item.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. MILEAGE - Dr. Cole recommended transitioning to actual mileage logs instead of a set amount per pay up to limit.

On motion by Mr. Hoover, seconded by Mr. Mullett, the board voted 6-0 to approve the transition.

B. LIBRARIAN ASSISTANT - Dr. Cole recommended librarian assistants be on the same pay schedule as aides. Dr. Rogers requested librarian assistants agree to the change with the understanding they can be moved to sub in areas as needed. Once they sign agreement, we will change rates.

On motion by Mr. Hoover, seconded by Mr. Mullett, the board voted 6-0 to approve the librarian assistants to be on the same pay schedule as aides with the understanding they can be moved to sub in areas needed.

C. DR. GORNTO RETIREMENT - Dr. Cole recommended that employee Jason Gornto qualifies for Article X. Section 3. Dr. Gornto left for a short time, and this was part of the package of him returning to Peru Community Schools. Based on his evidence from prior central office administrators.

On motion by Mr. Beattie, seconded by Mr. Hoover, the board voted 5-0-1, Mr. Mullett abstained to approve employee Jason Gornto to qualify for Article X. Section 3 as was previously set.

D. MARILYN BENNETT - Dr. Cole recommended Marilyn Bennett from library assistant to Keys secretary/aide. Rate change from \$16.85 to \$18.20. Retroactive.

On motion by Mr. Beattie, seconded by Mr. Hoover, the board voted 6-0 to approve the retroactive of Marlynn Bennett from library assistant

to Keys secretary/aide with rate change from \$16.85 to \$18.20.

VI. BUSINESS

A. Donations

1. \$500.00 to Kicks for Kids for shoe purchases from Phi Delta Kappa Fraternity.
2. \$300.00 to HS girls' basketball for general use from Logansport Savings Bank.
3. \$240.00 to JH boys' basketball for general use from Logansport Savings Bank.
4. \$200.00 to HS girls' basketball for general use from South Side Scoops.

On motion by Mr. Mullett, seconded by Ms. Justice, the board voted 6-0 to approve the donations.

VII. BUDGET

- A. TEACHER APPRECIATION GRANT - Dr. Cole recommended the TAG grant. The TAG amount is \$68,924.95. Following prior board approved policy.

On motion by Mr. Hoover, and seconded by Mr. Beattie, the board approved by a vote of 6-0 to approve the distribution of the TAG grant.

- B. DUAL CREDIT - Dr. Cole reviewed the dual credit CBA payments from the educational fund. A list was provided totaling \$20,000.00 for High School staff members.

On motion by Mr. Beattie, and seconded by Mr. Hoover, the board approved by a vote of 6-0 to approve the dual credit payments.

- D. CLAIMS - Mr. Durrwachter presented and reviewed the claims for Board approval. Questions were asked and answered.

On motion by Ms. Justice, seconded by Mr. Wolfe, the Board approved the claims by a vote of 6-0, as follows:

AP SUMMARY

EDUCATION FUND	70,349.42
DEBIT SERVICE	1,068,975.00
OPERATING FUND	126,309.64
CONSTRUCTION SINKING FUND	169.86
SCHOOL LUNCH FUND	94,259.58
TEXTBOOK RENTAL FUND	208.00
LOCAL ADULT ED GRANT	1,530.00
SRO NIPSCO GRANT	129.99
REIMBURSEABLE FUND	933.94
FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT GRANT	1,080.88
HIGH ABILITY GRANT	650.00
PARENT NURTURING PROGRAM	721.61

	TITLE IV-A SAFE/DRUG FREE	9.82	
	TITLE IV-A SAFE/DRUG FREE	2,652.91	
	TITLE IV-A SAFE/DRUG FREE	2,447.80	
E. FUND	TITLE II-A	337.14	
MONITORING	TITLE VIB RLIS FFY 21-23	110.88	
REPORT -	ESSER III	45,889.77	Mr.
	ESSER II	21,081.66	
	FRINGE BENEFITS	23.20	
	TOTAL	1,435,108.35	

Durrwachter	PR SUMMARY		
reviewed	EDUCATION FUND	111,874.90	the
monthly	OPERATING FUND	14,973.22	
fund	SCHOOL LUNCH FUND	2,543.75	
monitoring	SECURED SCHOOL	1,706.25	
report.	CURRENT 2022		
Questions	TITLE I 2022/23	107.30	
were asked	GROUP INSURANCE	4,830.00	and
answered.	RETIREEES-TERM LIFE	337.02	
On motion by	INSURANCE		Mr.
Mullett, by	GROUP INSURANCE	4,830.00	
seconded by	FRINGE BENEFITS	644,977.21	Ms.
Justice, the	TOTAL	786,179.65	
Board			
approved by a vote of 6-0 the fund monitoring report.			

F. RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS - Mr. Durrwachter requested approval to accept transfer of funds for January of 2024 from education fund to operations fund for \$225,000.00.

On motion by Ms. Justice, seconded by Mr. Hoover, the board approved by a vote of 6-0 to transfer funds for January of 2024 from Education fund to operations fund.

VIII. COMMITTEE UPDATES

1. Athletic Council - members have been attending the stadium project meetings with Barton and Coe.
2. Heartland Career Center Board - meeting coming up on Wednesday December 21, 2023
3. Art Collection Advisory - Mr. Wolfe helped with the art gallery for the Christmas concert. Mrs. Blong is working on arranging the gallery.
4. Peru Park Board - gave update on the municipal golf course getting approval at the city council meeting for a bond resolution for the irrigation system.
5. ISBA Legislative Representative - latest information is regarding 3rd grade retention rates.

IX. BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS

A. BOARD MEMBER - Mr. Mullett said the Pacers event went very well and that everyone involved did a great job. Dr. Cole added our girls' and boys' basketball teams did a great job helping. Mr. Mullett and Dr. Cole said Morgan Gold did a great job too. Dr. Cole thanked the number of board member volunteers this month from Mr. Beattie, Mr. Mullett and Mr. Wolfe.

X. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Mullett motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Secretary,

Brittany Justice

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