

**PRAIRIE CENTRAL COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 8**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**OPEN SESSION**

August 20, 2015

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Prairie Central Community Unit School District No. 8, Ford, Livingston, and McLean Counties, was held on August 20, 2015 and was called to order by President Patricia Haberkorn at 7:01 PM in the Prairie Central CUSD #8 Unit Office Conference Room.

Board members present: Jeffrey Austman, Jason Dotterer, Patricia Haberkorn, Timothy McGreal, Mark Slagel, Corey Steffen, and Ann Steidinger

Board members absent: None

Administrators present: Dr. John Capasso, Superintendent; Tonya Dieken, Prairie Central Junior High School Principal; Paula Crane, Westview Elementary Principal; and Trish Paulson, Meadowbrook Elementary Principal

Employees or PCEA present: Pamela Weeks, Transportation Coordinator; and Phil Tetley, Technology Coordinator

Students present: Kassadee Ifft

Guests present: Mark Ifft, Brian Helmers, Kelly Helmers, John Slagel, and Jane Steidinger

Press present: Kent Casson, *The Blade*

Public Comment

None

Visitors Arranged in Advance

None

General Action

To approve minutes

Meeting	Motion	Second	Voting							
			Austman	Dotterer	Haberkorn	McGreal	Slagel	Steffen	Steidinger	
7/16/15 Regular Motion carried	Steffen	Dotterer	Abst	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
7/20/15 Special Motion carried	Slagel	Austman	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
7/27/15 Special Motion carried	Dotterer	McGreal	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Abst	Abst	Yea	Yea

To approve consent agenda Moved by Slagel and seconded by Austman that we approve the consent agenda, which includes: Activity fund report, bills (current and interim), booster proposals, café report, financial report/summary, investment schedule, and treasurer’s report.  
 Voting: Austman, yea; Dotterer, yea; Haberkorn, yea; McGreal, yea; Slagel, yea; Steffen, yea; and Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent Capasso reported on the following:

- o ISBE/LEGISLATIVE NEWS & COMMENTARY

Senate Bill 318. The Board was informed that the Illinois Senate approved SB 318, which would apply PTELL to all counties in Illinois with a rate of increase set at 0%. HB 691, the House's version of the bill, will be considered on August 31 (delayed from July 31).

Budget. The state budget, including any changes in allocations for Elementary and Secondary Education, remains unapproved and an item of contention between the governor's office and legislative leaders. If general state aid is funded at the proposed level (92% proration on the \$6,119 foundation), Prairie Central will gain ~\$35,712 over the previous entitlement. The drop in average daily student attendance in 2014-15, a key factor in the formula, is the reason for the relatively small increase.

o FINANCE

Categoricals. Prairie Central has now received all but \$31,000 of its expected state and federal reimbursement payments for FY15. However, \$364,291 arrived after the fiscal year ended. Prairie Central has now realized a loss of \$1,809,603 Million in state and federal funding since FY2011.

LEA budget. Given that the General Assembly and Governor have not, to-date, agreed on the state budget, i.e. allocations for elementary and secondary education for FY16, and that the Collective Bargaining Agreement remains un-ratified, the District budget presented on September 17 will likely be the result of guess-work. The legislative and executive did agree to release Title flow-thru funds, so the planned technology orders can be made.

o BUILDING/GROUNDS

Planned Summer cleaning, projects. Capasso commended the maintenance and custodial crews for Summer cleaning and repairing in less-than-ideal conditions. As for special projects & contracted work, the following were reported as complete: Chimney reduction, flue installation, and tuckpointing at Chenoa Elementary School; internet tower replacement at PCUE; surveillance camera installation at PCUE & PCHS; interior lever door lock installation (security) on all classrooms in the District; shatter-proof glass application on all entry-ways and large window areas (security) in the District; corrective (scheduled) carpeting at PCJHS; and classroom division/remodeling at PCUE.

Westview roof. Capasso reported that, at meeting time, the roof replacement project was behind schedule owing to weather, equipment and supply delivery delays, and crew vacation. With school beginning on Monday, Capasso expressed concerns about continued leaking, noise, dust, bus paths, and safety.

o OTHER

Opening days of schools. Capasso reviewed events ahead of the start of school. An orientation session for coaches was held on August 3; and for new teachers, August 14. He reported that, due to the efforts of Unit and building office staffs, on-line registration went well again, although registrants didn't appear to possess a sense of urgency they did the year before. Other red-letter events for the early days of 2015-16:

Chatsworth, Chenoa, Meadowbrook, Westview open houses (6:00-7:00PM)	.	August 17, 2015
Upper Elementary & Junior High open houses (3:00-6:00 PM)	.	August 18, 2015
(Open houses were scheduled before the start of school due to Fairbury Fair)		
First day for teachers, paraprofessionals	.	August 20, 2015
Board of education meeting (7:00 PM)	.	August 20, 2015
First day for students, K-12	.	August 24, 2015
First day for students, PreK/ECSE	.	August 25, 2015

Discussion (Old Business)

Meadowbrook closure, reorganization of students

With its decision to close Meadowbrook Elementary School and reorganize students, the Board acknowledged that the line dividing ECSE/PK/K/1 children for ELC assignment will need flexibility for the purpose of balance.



Lindsey Krippel	Auxiliary softball coach/PCJHS	2015 season	Slagel	Haberkorn	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Carried
Cari King	Kindergarten teacher/CHE Transfer	Beginning 2015-16	McGreal	Dotterer	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Carried
Tory Farney	Assistant football coach/PCHS	Beginning 2015-16	Austman	Steffen	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Carried
Heidi Kiefer	Kindergarten teacher/MBE	Beginning 2015-16	McGreal	Dotterer	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Carried
Allison Wilson	Assistant volleyball coach/PCHS	Beginning 2015-16	Austman	Slagel	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Carried
Lexi Heins	Para/PCJHS	Beginning 2015-16	Steidinger	McGreal	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Carried
Matt Lambert/ John Edwards	Auxiliary football coaches/PCHS	2015 season	Slagel	Steffen	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Carried
Emily Shifflett	Auxiliary girls basketball coach/PCHS	2015 season	McGreal	Austman	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Carried

General Action

To adjourn

Moved by Austman and seconded by Steffen that we adjourn at 11:03 PM. Voting: Austman, yea; Dotterer, yea; Haberkorn, yea; McGreal, yea; Slagel, yea; Steffen, yea; and Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

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President

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Secretary