

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

February 23, 2016

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 February 23, 2016 and was called to order by President Patricia Haberkorn at 7:00 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

Employees or PCEA representatives present: Cheryl Hoffman, Chief Business Official; Brad Beyers, Athletic Director; Phyllis Bellot, PCEA

Students present: None

Guests present: Ron Schramm, Tal Parmenter, Becky McGreal

Press present: Kent Casson, *The Blade*

Public Comment

None

Visitors Arranged in Advance

None

General Action

To approve minutes (1/21/16): Moved by McGreal and seconded by Dotterer that we approve minutes for the January 21, 2016 regular meeting as presented. Voting: Austman, yea; Dotterer, yea; Haberkorn, yea; McGreal, yea; Slagel, yea; Steffen, yea; and Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

To approve minutes (2/1/16): Moved by Dotterer and seconded by Steffen that we approve minutes for the February 1, 2016 special meeting as presented. Voting: Austman, yea; Dotterer, yea; Haberkorn, yea; McGreal, yea; Slagel, yea; Steffen, yea; and Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

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:

- ISBE/LEGISLATIVE NEWS & COMMENTARY.

*HB 691*. This tax-capping measure, if reconciled with SB 318, could translate into a loss of ~\$239,000 per year in property taxes (based on average new dollars/year). Final action on the House version is now scheduled for April.

Categoricals. By 1-31, the District had received roughly half of its categorical (prorated) monies, with 60% of the fiscal year elapsed. This year's proration stands at ~\$(600,000). Prairie Central's accumulated proration since FY11 is ~\$(3,593,000).

Board member training. Board members were reminded of required training sessions on the Open Meetings Act, leadership issues, and Performance Evaluation Reform Act.

- TRANSPORTATION. Specs are being drawn up for two (2) LP-fueled buses. The District will test drive the vehicles and determine whether to purchase additional vehicles.
- MEADOWBROOK CLOSURE/REORGANIZATION. The administration has estimated enrollments and, following a Board review, tentatively staffed the reorganized District. Attention now must turn to logistics, or transferring staff, equipment, and supplies to new assignments; and grouping the teaching staff for maximum collaboration and effectiveness.
- BUILDING/GROUNDS. Specs are being drawn up for the replacement of the roof system and renovation or replacement of the heating system at Chatsworth Elementary School (ELC-E). It is hoped both projects can be completed by the start of school in the Fall.

Discussion (Old Business)

"Soaring Hawk" Fund

The Board discussed a proposed intergovernmental agreement between Prairie Lands Foundation, a 501( c ) (3) charitable organization, and Prairie Central CUSD #8 for the creation of the Soaring Hawk Fund, the purpose of which would be to attract donations and support large-scale capital projects for educational, athletic, and fine arts purposes.

Meadowbrook closure/  
reorganization:

Building names

The naming of reorganized attendance centers remains an item of discussion. Some options are listed below. The Board will complete the naming process in March.

Current:	Chatsworth Elementary	Chenoa Elementary	Westview Elementary
Working:	Early Learning Center-East	Early Learning Center-West	Elementary
Prospect:	Early (Elementary) East	Early (Elementary) West	Intermediate
	Primary East	Primary West	Intermediate
	East Elementary	West Elementary	Lower Elementary

Teacher groupings &  
chairs/coordinators

The administration has proposed a restructuring of academic departments and grade level groupings, as well as a re-defining of the duties of coordinators and chairs, for the 2016-17 school year. The purpose is to encourage regular and high quality collaboration, involve professional staff more integrally in curriculum decisions, and intensify the pursuit of best practices in the classroom. The Board will consider the matter in March. <sup>ATTACHED</sup>

Discussion (New Business)

None

Action - Old Business

- To approve reorganization issues: Moved by Dotterer and seconded by McGreal that we approve the following regarding the closure of Meadowbrook Elementary School and the formation of attendance centers for the 2016-17 school term

Start/end times

Start/end times to be observed by attendance centers in 2016-17:

Building	PCUE	PCJHS	PCHS	PCE	ELC-E	ELC-W
Start	7:40	7:45	8:05	8:10	8:20	8:20
End	2:45	2:50	3:10	3:15	*3:25	*3:25
Time	7:05	7:05	7:05	7:05	7:05	7:05

\*The Board may consider an earlier release time, say 3:10, to address a prep time issue (no fine arts in the ELCs).

Cropsey addresses

Students in grades ECSE, PreK, Kindergarten, and grade 1 with Cropsey addresses will attend ELC-E (Chatsworth); however, the Board will consider transfer requests to ELC-W (Chenoa) submitted by those with Cropsey addresses living west of the Village of Cropsey.

Memorials, PTO

The District will place memorials and use PTO-sponsored equipment as it deems appropriate. It may find the need to consult with families of memorialized individuals.

Logistics/moving procedures

The attached procedures will be used for classroom transfers. ATTACHED

Sorting/sale

Librarians will sort materials in elementary libraries and recommend a plan for re-distribution. The administration will determine the general need in each center/area for equipment and supplies, which will then be distributed or re-distributed as such. When books, equipment, or supplies become expendable, the District will sell such materials.

Voting: Austman, yea; Dotterer, yea; Haberkorn, yea; McGreal, yea; Slagel, yea; Steffen, yea; and Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

Action – New Business

To allow school name for local clay target chapter

Moved by Slagel and seconded by Austman that we authorize a local chapter of the Illinois Clay Target League to use Prairie Central's name in competition for youngsters 6th to 12th grade, with the understanding that the program will not be conducted on school property, by or with school personnel, or with school resources; that the District assumes no financial obligation for the program; and that the District assumes no legal responsibility or liability for the program.

Voting: Austman, yea; Dotterer, yea; Haberkorn, yea; McGreal, yea; Slagel, yea; Steffen, yea; and Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

To join re-aligned high school conference

Moved by Austman and seconded by Slagel that We authorize the membership of Prairie Central High School in a re-aligned conference, from remnants of the Corn Belt and Okaw Valley Conferences, for interscholastic competition beginning with the 2017-18 school term.

Voting: Austman, yea; Dotterer, yea; Haberkorn, yea; McGreal, yea; Slagel, yea; Steffen, yea; and Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

To enter agreement with Sheriff on surveillance

We approve the attached Intergovernmental Agreement between Prairie Central CUSD #8 and the Livingston County Sheriff's Department for access to the District's surveillance equipment in the event of an emergency. ATTACHMENT

Voting: Austman, yea; Dotterer, yea; Haberkorn, yea; McGreal, yea; Slagel, yea; Steffen, yea; and Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

To permit music trip

We permit the Prairie Central Junior High School music department to participate in the Music in the Parks Festival at Six Flags Great America, Gurnee, IL, on Saturday, May 21, 2016.

Voting: Austman, yea; Dotterer, yea; Haberkorn, yea; McGreal, yea; Slagel, yea; Steffen, yea; and Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

To accept fuel bid We accept the bid of Evergreen FS for 30,000 gallons of diesel fuel at \$1.573 for 2% biodiesel.  
 Voting: Austman, yea; Dotterer, yea; Haberkorn, yea; McGreal, yea; Slagel, yea; Steffen, yea; and Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

To move March meeting date We change the March, 2016 Board meeting date from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup>.  
 Voting: Austman, yea; Dotterer, yea; Haberkorn, yea; McGreal, yea; Slagel, yea; Steffen, yea; and Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

Executive Session

To enter executive session Moved by Dotterer and seconded by Austman that we enter into executive session at 9:57 PM for purposes of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of personnel (5 ILCS 120/2 ( c )(1)).  
 Voting: Austman, yea; Dotterer, yea; Haberkorn, yea; McGreal, yea; Slagel, yea; Steffen, yea; and Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

To return to open session Moved by Dotterer and seconded by McGreal that we return to open session at 10:54 PM.  
 Voting: Austman, yea; Dotterer, yea; Haberkorn, yea; McGreal, yea; Slagel, yea; Steffen, yea; and Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

Action on Personnel

To accept resignations from:

Name	Position/Site	Effective	Motion by	Second by	Voting							Result	
					Austman	Dotterer	Haberkorn	McGreal	Slagel	Steffen	Steidinger		
Amber Hays	Psychologist	Following 2015-16	Haberkorn	Slagel	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Carried
Kari Medearis	Café worker/PCJHS (Retire under CBA 9.11)	Following 2015-16	Dotterer	Austman	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Carried

To appoint:

Kole Stadt	Voc Ag teacher/PCHS	2016-17	Slagel	McGreal	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Carried
JaNae Steidinger	Café worker/PCUE	Immediately	Steidinger	Steffen	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Carried
Josh Creek	Guidance counselor/PCHS	2016-17	Austman	Haberkorn	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Carried
Nathan Wenger	Aux baseball coach/PCHS	Spring, 2016	Steffen	Dotterer	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Carried

To grant medical leave:

Sarah Cox	Spec educ teacher/PCUE	April 15-end of term	Haberkorn	Steidinger	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Carried
-----------	------------------------	----------------------	-----------	------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---------

General Action

To adjourn Moved by Steffen and seconded by Austman that we adjourn at 10:56 PM.  
 Voting: Austman, yea; Dotterer, yea; Haberkorn, yea; McGreal, yea; Slagel, yea; Steffen, yea; and Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 President

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Secretary