

Last night, August 21, 2015, during its regularly-scheduled meeting, the Prairie Central Board of Education . . .

Recognized the attendance of

-Board members Patricia Haberkorn, Ann Steidinger, Mark Slagel, Jeffrey Austman, Jason Dotterer, Tim McGreal, and Corey Steffen.

-Guests Pam Weeks, Trish Paulson, Tonya Dieken, Paula Crane, Jane Steidinger, Mark Ifft, Kassadee Ifft, Brian Helmers, Kelly Helmers, Phil Tetley, and John Slagel.

Recognized the accomplishments of

-PCHS junior Kassadee Ifft, 2015 Class 2A pole vault champion.

Took general action to

-Approve the minutes of its July 16, 2015 regular meeting; and its July 20 and July 27, 2015 special meetings.

-Approve the consent agenda - activity fund report, bills (current & interim), booster proposals, cafe report, financial report, financial summary, investment report, and treasurer's report.

Heard the Superintendent's report and learned/was reminded that

-The Illinois Senate passed SB 318. The bill, if reconciled with HB 691, would apply PTELL (property tax extension limitation law) to all public schools, with the "extension limitation" set at zero (0). Capasso reminded the Board of the untenable financial situation in which the measure would place Prairie Central.

-At meeting time, the state budget was not approved. Capasso explained the difficulty in completing the PC budget with state allocations undetermined and collective bargaining a work-in-progress. Capasso offered better news that Title I & II monies (state flow-thru) were released, so planned technology purchases can be made.

-Anticipated (with prorations) categoricals for FY15 were received, although \$364,291 arrived after June 30. Upon receipt, the amount of state/federal money lost since 2011 stood at \$1,809,603.

-Cleaning and maintenance projects went, for the most part, as planned in the Summer and Capasso commended the crews. Classroom remodeling at PCUE, carpet replacement at PCJHS, chimney reduction/flue/tuckpointing at Chenoa, internet tower replacement and shoring, surveillance camera installation, shatter-proof glass application, and lever-lock installation were completed. Capasso expressed grave concerns about the Westview roof system, i.e. that it would not be finished before the start of school. He anticipated that, as work continued, dirt/dust, noise, and re-routed bus traffic would present a challenge.

-The first days of school will be August 24-25, and heat schedule will be followed until Labor Day.

Conducted/considered old business, by

-Resolving to close Meadowbrook Elementary School following the 2015-16 school term, and reorganizing students into attendance centers or partial attendance centers for the 2016-17 term as such: All children in grades ECSE/PK/K/1 will be divided between Chatsworth (to be renamed Early Learning Center East) and Chenoa (Early Learning Center West), and all children enrolled in grades 2-4 will attend Westview (Prairie Central Elementary School). Some consideration will be given to the dividing lines with respect to balancing to the ELCs.

Conducted/considered new business, by

-Approving an Application for Recognition of Schools for each of the attendance centers.

-Hearing a report on District technology by Phil Tetley, coordinator, with a written report to follow.

Entered/exited executive session for the purposes (exceptions to the Open Meetings Act) of personnel and collective bargaining, and following, made personnel decisions to

-Accept the resignations of Beth Laakman-Schaumburg (as kindergarten teacher @ Chenoa Elementary, effective following the 2014-15 term - retirement), Mike Wolf (as a track coach @ PCJHS, effective following the 2014-15 term), and Kaylan Marti (as assistant girls basketball coach @ PCHS, effective following the 2014-15 term).

-Appoint Zach Corrie (as a District bus driver), Lindsey Krippel (as an auxiliary softball coach @ PCJHS), Cari King (as kindergarten teacher @ Chenoa Elementary - transfer), Heidi Kiefer (as kindergarten teacher @ Meadowbrook Elementary), Allison Wilson (as assistant volley coach @ PCHS), Lexi Heins (as a paraprofessional @ PCJHS), and John Edwards (as an auxiliary football coach @ PCHS).

Took general action to
-Adjourn at 11:03 PM.

Faithfully submitted . . .

John Capasso, Superintendent