

Last night, January 21, 2016, during its regularly-scheduled meeting, the Prairie Central Board of Education . . .

Recognized the attendance of

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

»Central office employees, Dr. John Capasso, Superintendent; and Cheryl Hoffman, chief business official.

»Employees Angela Kratochvil, Debra Vaughan & Glenda Knauer (PCEA president & representatives, respectively).

»Press representative Kent Casson, *The Blade*.

Took general action

»To approve the minutes of its December 17, 2015 regular meeting.

»To approve the consent agenda, which included an activity fund report, bills (current/interim), a booster proposal (a high jump “kit” for the Prairie Central High School track program @ \$5,495), a cafeteria report, a financial report, a financial summary, an investment schedule, and a treasurer’s report.

Recognized public or pre-arranged visitor’s comment from

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Heard the Superintendent's report and learned (or was reminded) that

»HB 691 & SB 318, measures now being considered by the General Assembly to freeze property values for a two-year period, will cost the District approximately \$478,000 (based on average new dollars/year) in property taxes.

»Categorical payments are “trickling” in. Some special education and transportation reimbursement installments have been received. Since FY11, the General Assembly has prorated general state aid and transportation reimbursement, resulting in a loss of ~\$3.6 Million for the District.

»Board members are required to sit for training in the Open Meetings Act, Leadership, and PERA as per 105 ILCS 5/10-16a, 5/24-16.5, and 120/1.05.

»The staff attended a productive institute on January 15, which included – among other topics – Student Learner Objective training for teachers (part of student growth piece in teacher evaluation instrument) and A.L.I.C.E. training for the PCHS staff.

»Planning for the formation of attendance centers is on schedule, with staffing patterns the current focus. Architect Middleton is working on specifications for roof repair and heating system renovation at Chatsworth, with the intent to complete the projects before the 2016-17 school term.

»Propane-operated school buses are a viable option as the Board considers replacing its aging fleet. The Board expressed an interest in experimenting with 2-3 propane vehicles, provided a convenient source of fuel is available.

Conducted/considered old business, by

»Asking the Superintendent to work with Prairie Lands chair David Hammer in drafting an agreement for

the formation of a foundation under the auspices of Prairie Lands.

Conducted/considered new business, by

»Authorizing bid materials for the purchase of 30,000 of bulk diesel fuel for buses.

»Changing its regular February meeting date to February 23, 2016.

Held an executive session for the purpose (exception to the Open Meetings Act) of discussing personnel and, following, made personnel decisions to

»Accept the resignation of **Lisa Mayr** (as a part-time café worker @ PCUE, effective immediately).

»Appoint **Jason Whitfill** (as a track coach at PCJHS for the current year) and **Kelley Wescott** (as assistant baseball coach @ PCHS for current year).

Took general action to

»Adjourn at 10:29 PM.