

Last night, September 17, 2015, during its regularly-scheduled meeting, the Prairie Central Board of Education . . .

Recognized the attendance of

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

-Guests Tonya Dieken, Scott Saffer, Angie Kratochvil, Cheryl Hoffman, Brian Hansen, and Kent Casson (*Blade*).

Took general action to

-Approve the minutes of its August 20, 2015 regular meeting; and its September 8 and 15, 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 (or was reminded) that

-HB 691 will be decided September 30, having been put back several times. Like the already-approved SB 318, this measure would apply PTELL (property tax extension limitation law) to all public schools for two (2) tax years (2016-17), with the "extension limitation" set at zero (0). Given PC's average extension increase per year, a zero limitation could translate into \$(478,000).

-SB 100 is now PA 99-456, affecting the capabilities of a school to suspend and expel students. Although the legal community will be interpreting implications in the coming months, Capasso expressed concern on behalf of building administrators about the potential difficulty in removing negative, even dangerous, influences from the premises.

-At meeting time, the General Assembly and Governor had not come to an accord on the State budget, leaving the level of school funding in question. Capasso reviewed categoricals, and estimated that the Governor's budget proposes higher prorations on state aid and cats (special education, transportation the most prominent). He also informed the Board that, since FY11, PC has lost \$2.7+ Million in GSA due exclusively to proration.

-The Westview roof replacement project, for all intents and purposes, is complete. The bonding company will inspect the project and certify the 20-year warranty.

-Prairie Central's enrollment is 2,038, down 115 from last year. Capasso also informed the Board that, while enrollment has dropped, the low-income enrollment has increased by 39% since FY05, creating instructional and financial implications.

-The administration would like it to consider A.L.I.C.E. training for staff. A.L.I.C.E. is an outgrowth of a profile developed by the law-enforcement community of a school shooter which suggests that the active - such as throwing objects at the perpetrator to disrupt his plan - may be more effective than the passive in certain situations. The Board requested that a training officer from the Livingston County Sheriff's Department attend its next meeting and provide an overview of A.L.I.C.E. and answer questions.

-The administration is developing a list of tasks and decisions to be made regarding the closing of Meadowbrook and reorganization.

Held a budget hearing under 105 ILCS 5/17-1, during which

-Superintendent Capasso presented a power point on the FY16 budget, how it was developed, and future orientations. The presentation will be placed on the District's website.

Conducted/considered old business, by

-Approving the FY16 budget.

-Accepting the bid of Schultz Construction for the installment of a small wind turbine at PCJHS for science teaching purposes. The Board acknowledged an up-front investment of \$34,744, but will be reimbursed all but ~\$2,000 from grants and installer discounts.

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

-Accept the resignations of Cathy Smith (as math/computer teacher @ PCJHS, effective following the 2019-20 term - retirement) and Lexi Heins (as a para @ PCJHS).

-Appoint Stephanie McCormick (as a 4th grade teacher @ MB - transfer), Karen Volk (as a paraprofessional @ PCJHS), Kelley Wescott (as assistant girls basketball coach @ PCHS), Lilah Stotler (as a 3-hour-per-day cafe worker @ PCHS), and Jeff Whitmore (as an auxiliary boys basketball coach @ PCJHS).

Took general action to

-Adjourn at 10:30 PM.