

December 14, 2017 Board Meeting

In Attendance

Board members **Ted Bachtold, Tim McGreal, Brian Plenert, Mark Slagel, Corey Steffen, Ann Steidinger** and **John Wilken**; administrators **Paula Crane, Tonya Dieken**, central office employee **Cheryl Hoffman**; press representative **Kent Casson** (The Blade); PC employees **Kyle Miller, Becky Freed, Kole Stadt, Glenda Knauer, Linda Walter, Cara Sweet, Caren Appel**.

Guests: Prairie Central High School FFA Teams and Parents/Guests

Comments (Public)

Comments (Visitors Arranged in Advance)

None

Minutes

The Board approved minutes of the November 14, 2017 regular meeting.

Consent

The Board approved the consent agenda, which included an activity fund report, bills (current/interim), a cafeteria report, financial reports, and investment schedule, a sales tax report, and a treasurer's report.

Hearing

A hearing was conducted concerning the intent of the Board of Education to sell \$6,000,000 in working cash fund bonds. The purpose of the bonds would be to sustain current programs and purchase updated buses to replace a portion of our severely aging fleet. Without the money, an additional \$1,000,000 would have to be cut from the budget.

Superintendent's Report

The Board heard from Superintendent Crane on the following topics:

FFA RECOGNITION: The Board officially recognized our National Champion Ag Mechanics Team and Reserve National Champion Dairy Products Team, as well as our Farm Business Management and Meats Teams with an official Resolution. The recent success of several teams at the state level which qualified them for 2018 national competition was also recognized.

REPORT CARD WEBSITE: The current District and all School report cards are posted on our website. The newly reformatted Illinois Report Card website has a plethora of information from academics to teacher qualification to demographics and finances. The site can be reached at <https://illinoisreportcard.com>.

MAINTENANCE: The Board was presented with many maintenance projects completed or in progress.

ASSESSED VALUE REQUEST: The Board was made aware of a substantial request of an area business to decrease its assessed value, which would cost the district over \$26,000 per year.

### Old Business

The Board:

- Approved the Fy 17 Levy, which does not exceed 5% of last year's levy
- Approved the purchase of Marching Band Uniforms
- Heard an update on the disposal of the Meadowbrook building. Asbestos removal has begun. Additional damage has been sustained by burst water pipes (the water was reported to the district to be turned off to the building).
- Was again reminded that a decision will have to be made, most likely in January, regarding the timeline of Bond money. The money designated for buses may have to be received earlier than the money for operations, depending on if the District receives grant money through the EPA to help replace a portion of our bus fleet. We will know if the District is awarded money in mid to late January.

### New Business

The Board

- Heard information regarding the "Seal of Biliteracy" program. Ms. Cara Sweet informed the Board of this program, which awards students for high test scores in both English and Spanish. She will administer the Spanish test to Spanish 4 students who are interested in earning the award. Students will have to achieve a designated level on the ELA portion of the SAT test as well. Ms. Sweet reports that the designation will be extremely challenging to achieve, however she hopes that in addition to rewarding students, it will help the teachers better assess their program and drive instruction in the future.
- Heard information from Caren Appel and Tonya Dieken regarding three new proposed courses at PCHS. Mrs. Appel would teach the new "AP Computer Science Principals" course, in hopes of getting our students back on track in the area of coding. The PE department proposed two new courses "Personal Development" and "Foundations of Fitness" in hopes of educating students on a healthier lifestyle and ways to sustain it.

### Personnel

Following executive session under 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1, 10), (5 ILCS 120/2 (c)2, and (5ILCS 120/2 (c)(9) the Board

- Appointed Brad Allen as Prairie Central High School principal beginning the 2018-2019 school year.
- Appointed (retroactively) Tory Farney as Assistant High School Football Coach for the 2017-18 school year.

- Approved 6 leaves-of-absence as requested by Prairie Central employees.
- Approved an amended Memorandum of Understanding for a Prairie Central employee.

Adjourn

The Board adjourned at 11:15 pm