
PRAIRIE CENTRAL COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 8

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES
OPEN SESSION**

JANUARY 17, 2019

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 DECEMBER 20, 2018 AND WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT MARK SLAGEL AT 7:00 PM IN THE PRAIRIE CENTRAL CUSD #8 UNIT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Slagel, Corey Steffen, Brian Plenert, Ted Bachtold (arrived 7:01) John Wilken, and Ann Steidinger

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Tim McGreal

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Paula Crane, Tonya Dieken

CENTRAL OFFICE EMPLOYEES

PRESENT: None

PCEA REPRESENTATIVES

PRESENT: Jennifer Steidinger, Kay Shols

EMPLOYEES PRESENT: Lisa Bounds

STUDENTS PRESENT: Nathan Plenert

GUESTS PRESENT: Dana Kafer, Brad Brown, Denise Plenert

PRESS PRESENT: Kent Casson, The Blade

PUBLIC COMMENT NONE

VISITORS ARRANGED IN ADVANCE NONE

GENERAL ACTION

TO APPROVE MINUTES

Moved by Plenert and seconded by Wilken that we approve minutes of the December 20, 2018 regular meeting as presented.

VOTING: BACHTOLD, ABSENT; MCGREAL, ABSENT; PLENERT, YEA; SLAGEL, YEA; STEFFEN, YEA; STEIDINGER, YEA; AND WILKEN, YEA. MOTION CARRIED.

TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Steffen and seconded by Bachtold that we approve the consent agenda, which includes: Activity fund report, bills (current and interim), café report, County Sales Facility Tax report, financial report/summary, investment schedule, and treasurer's report.

VOTING: BACHTOLD, YEA; MCGREAL, ABSENT; PLENERT, YEA; SLAGEL, YEA; STEFFEN, YEA; STEIDINGER, YEA; AND WILKEN, YEA. MOTION CARRIED.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Board heard from Superintendent Crane on the following topics:

*Legislative Update: A new governor has taken office. According to his promises during his campaign, it looks like his educational focus will be:

- Lower property taxes, especially on lower-income households, as part of shifting the main funding burden for education from local government onto the state.
- Oppose the private school tax credit program or anything else that's "siphoning off money from public schools."
- Lowering the mandatory school enrollment age from 6 to 5.
- Incrementally enroll more 3- and 4-year-olds in preschool — about 12,500 a year for eight years.
- Increase access to state child care subsidies — to 200 percent of the federal poverty level from the current 185 percent, and let people gradually wind down participation as their income approaches 300 percent of the poverty level. (The campaign says 200 percent threshold would be about \$40,000 in annual salary for a family of three.)
- Add more preschool teachers and classrooms: "I'm going to establish new financial incentives for people to earn the appropriate credentials and enter the state's early learning workforce."
- Expand "birth-to-three" home visit services and create a "Family Engagement Portal" to educate new parents on child development.
- Also, we can anticipate the return of the \$40,000 minimum salary for teachers, as well as a pension-cost shift among other things.

*Mrs. Dieken gave an overview of what is being planned for our February institute. Among other opportunities, we will feature ALICE training for our primary schools, co-teaching, mental health first aid, college-career connections roundtable (inviting our businesses for collaboration and communication), visual tracking/dyslexia, STEAM swap and share, culture/climate/motivation.

*The Board was shown a new app which connects teachers and staff to our security system, giving them access to all security cameras in their building during an emergency so they can make informed decisions on how to react. Additional equipment would be needed to run the software effectively.

DISCUSSION (OLD BUSINESS)

- The superintendent evaluation will be completed by Mrs. Crane, as well as all Board members and returned to President Slagel by February 17th to be compiled.
- Our architect is working on plans for the HS daytime visitor entrance and office modification which is a high safety priority for the District.
- There are a few issues to negotiate with the new student information system company. This should be set for approval in February.

DISCUSSION (NEW BUSINESS)

- The Board was given information about a new intercom/communication system for Prairie Central schools. Several of the current systems are failing and have required a great deal of maintenance. Replacing current systems with more modern equipment could cost nearly \$250,000. The new systems would provide better communication on a daily basis, as well as more options for more detailed information in case of an emergency. More investigation will be carried out and a recommendation will be brought to the next meeting.
- The Board and meeting guests took a tour of the new High School Career Lab at PCHS.

ACTION – OLD BUSINESS

NONE

ACTION - NEW BUSINESS

NONE

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Enter Executive Session: Moved by Plenert and seconded by Wilken that we enter into executive session at 8:34 PM for purposes of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of personnel; as per 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1, 10)

VOTING: BACHTOLD, YEA; MCGREAL, ABSENT; PLENERT, YEA; SLAGEL, YEA; STEFFEN, YEA; STEIDINGER, YEA; AND WILKEN, YEA. MOTION CARRIED.

Exit Executive Session: Moved by Bachtold and seconded by Plenert that we exit executive session at 9:25 PM.

VOTING: BACHTOLD, YEA; MCGREAL, ABSENT; PLENERT, YEA; SLAGEL, YEA; STEFFEN, YEA; STEIDINGER, YEA; AND WILKEN, YEA. MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION ON PERSONNEL

TO APPOINT:

VOTING

RESULT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION/ SITE</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>	<u>MOTION BY</u>	<u>SECOND BY</u>	<u>BACHTOLD</u>	<u>MCGREAL</u>	<u>PLENERT</u>	<u>SLAGEL</u>	<u>STEFFEN</u>	<u>STEIDINGER</u>	<u>WILKEN</u>	
KYLIE CREWS	DISTRICT SPEECH/LANG UAGE PATHOLOGIST	2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR	STEFFEN	SLAGEL	YEA	ABSENT	YEA	YEA	YEA	YEA	YEA	CARRIED

TO ACCEPT RESIGNATION FROM:

VOTING

RESULT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION/ SITE</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>	<u>MOTION BY</u>	<u>SECOND BY</u>	<u>BACHTOLD</u>	<u>MCGREAL</u>	<u>PLENERT</u>	<u>SLAGEL</u>	<u>STEFFEN</u>	<u>STEIDINGER</u>	<u>WILKEN</u>	
JENNIFER STEIDINGER	6 TH GRADE TEACHER/PCUE	END OF 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR	WILKEN	BACHTOLD	YEA	ABSENT	YEA	YEA	YEA	YEA	YEA	CARRIED
KATE WALTER	4 TH GRADE TEACHER/PCE	END OF 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR	PLENERT	STEIDINGER	YEA	ABSENT	YEA	YEA	YEA	YEA	YEA	CARRIED

TO APPROVE LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR:

VOTING

RESULT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION/ SITE</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>	<u>MOTION BY</u>	<u>SECOND BY</u>	<u>BACHTOLD</u>	<u>MCGREAL</u>	<u>PLENERT</u>	<u>SLAGEL</u>	<u>STEFFEN</u>	<u>STEIDINGER</u>	<u>WILKEN</u>	
TRICIA DOZIER	2 ND GRADE TEACHER/PCPW	APRIL 1-END OF 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR	WILKEN	PLENERT	YEA	ABSENT	YEA	YEA	YEA	YEA	YEA	CARRIED
AMBER EDWARDS	6 TH GRADE TEACHER/PCUE	APRIL 1-MAY 6, 2019	STEFFEN	SLAGEL	YEA	ABSENT	YEA	YEA	YEA	YEA	YEA	CARRIED

GENERAL ACTION

TO ADJOURN:

Moved by Wilken and seconded by Plenert that we adjourn at 9:30 PM.

VOTING: BACHTOLD, YEA; MCGREAL, ABSENT; PLENERT, YEA; SLAGEL, YEA; STEFFEN, YEA; STEIDINGER, YEA; AND WILKEN, YEA. MOTION CARRIED

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

PRAIRIE CENTRAL COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 8

BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES
EXECUTIVE SESSION (5 ILCS 120/2)

January 17, 2019

1. Name of unit of government

Prairie Central CUSD #8

2. Date and time of closed meeting or closed portion of meeting

1/17/2019

8:34 PM – 9:25 PM

3. Names of all members of the public body present during the closed meeting or closed portion of meeting

Mark Slagel, Corey Steffen, Brian Plenert, John Wilken, Ted Bachtold, Ann Steidinger

4. Each specific exception cited for closing the meeting (5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1, 10)

a. Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of personnel

5. For each of the exceptions cited, provide a general description of the subject matter discussed during the closed meeting or portion of a closed meeting

a. Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of personnel

1. Discussion of appointments

2. Discussion of resignation

3. Discussion of leaves of absence

Certification

I certify that I understand Section II of the Illinois Open Meetings Act and that to the best of my knowledge and belief no other topic was discussed during the closed meeting, or closed portion of the meeting, in violation of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

President

Secretary