

October 18, 2018 Board Meeting

In Attendance

Board members: **Tim McGreal, Mark Slagel, Corey Steffen, Ann Steidinger, and John Wilken**; administrators: **Paula Crane, Tonya Dieken**; Prairie Central employees: **Lisa Bounds, Katie Travis, Emily Jones**; press representative **Kent Casson, *The Blade***.

Guests: None

Comments (Public) None

Comments (Visitors Arranged in Advance) None

Minutes

The Board approved minutes of the September 20, 2018 regular meeting.

Consent

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

Superintendent's Report

The Board heard from Superintendent Crane on the following topics:

*ESSA/School Report Card: The state school report cards have been put on hold. School "designations" were not correct on the initial data sent by the state. Once this has been resolved, the correct designations and data will be sent to superintendents for review before the October 31st release to the public.

*Funding Report: Evidence Based Funding has been arriving regularly and on time! This is great news. Categoricals have been vouchered, but checks have not yet been sent. We will await payment, which the comptroller has promised to treat with priority.

*Evaluation update: The administrative team has completed several activities to help calibrate evaluation ratings. All evaluators have trained together by watching videos and rating, then discussing evidence and comparing outcomes. Evaluators are also doing "exchange" observations, where two evaluators pair up and complete an observation together in each of their schools. This will also help evaluators raise awareness of teaching methods and strategies used in different buildings, and at different grade levels.

*School safety: The Board was given more information about the cost of a school resource officer, which would most likely be between \$70,000 and \$80,000. The Board would like more information as well as input from the community on such an investment. A survey will be developed for this purpose.

*Teacher Shortage: The Board was given statistics about teacher certification tests, demonstrating the near crisis-level teacher shortage.

*McLean County Bond update: A letter to our Chenoa-McLean residents has been posted on our website to help try to explain the bond extension errors made by the McLean County Clerk's office. Because these errors will not be evident to Chenoa citizens until next year, we will keep the letter up, or re-run the letter close to that time.

Old Business

The Board

- Will wait until a more appropriate time to let bids for fuel, which is presently at a four-year high.
- Approved a job description for Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology.
- Will let bids for the purchase of 9 new buses, including one wheelchair bus.
- Asked for a survey to be given to community members to help collect information about school safety priorities, including hiring a school resource officer.

New Business

- Approved the FY18 audit and Annual Financial Report.
- Approved a short term substitute training agreement with ROE 17.

Personnel

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

- Appointed Sandy Ropp as 8th grade volleyball coach.
- Transferred Kirsten Smith to 7th grade volleyball coach (from 8th).
- Appointed Marie Weiser as café worker at PCE
- Released Teresa Palen as bus driver.
- Accepted the resignation of Lisa Schmidgall with intent to retire at the end of the 2018-19 school year.

Adjourn

The Board adjourned at 10:13 pm