

August 15, 2019 Board Meeting

In Attendance

Board members: **Ted Bachtold, Dana Kafer, Tim McGreal, and Mark Slagel**; administrators: **Paula Crane, Tonya Dieken**; Prairie Central employees: **None**; Press: **Kent Casson (The Blade)**

Guests: **None**

Comments (Public) **None**

Comments (Visitors Arranged in Advance) **None**

Minutes

The Board approved minutes of the July 18, 2019 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:

\*Evidence Based Funding: Prairie Central has remained a "Tier II" district, and will receive an additional \$80,000 in Evidence Based Funding this year. We are now, according to ISBE, at 76% adequacy (as opposed to 72% last year). Our total EBF will be \$6,153,187.

\*Maintenance Projects: The office project is coming along, however it will go "down to the wire" in getting it ready for Wednesday. Main projects yet to complete are flooring and cabinetry in the main office. We will have an ROE inspection on Monday afternoon to be allowed occupancy, and will begin moving the office from the library as soon as possible.

\*The new communication/intercom system installation is also progressing nicely, with the High School nearing completion. Additional training will be needed.

\*Opening Institute: Monday's institute day will be spent in buildings, and the entire staff will receive training on Tuesday. Tuesday's lunch and poverty training will take place at the Walton Center in downtown Fairbury. Additional trainings will take place at the High School, including training on our new student information system, Infinite Campus, and collaboration time with Professional Learning Communities.

\*Infinite Campus Registration: Despite late registration and after some tweaking in a few instances, registration continues. At this time, the data shows up that we have 1,597 students registered, 54 student registrations started and not completed, and 146 student registrations not yet started. Transitioning to a new student information system is extremely difficult, and our staff has been working diligently through the issues so we are ready for school to begin smoothly.

\*Kindergarten: We have had more students register at PCP West than expected and need to open an additional section. We are working on a room and teacher at this time. This increases West to 5 sections of Kindergarten.

\*Title 1003(a): We will again be receiving grant money from the state for a school that will be designated as "Underperforming". We are planning to use some of the funds for a mathematics instructional coach. More information will follow.

\*Screening: We have recently purchased a visitor screening system which will help us identify visitors who have restrictions on entering our schools. Once the system is set up, all visitors will be asked to present a State ID or Driver's License, which will be scanned for

screening. The screening will identify sex offenders and those in our buildings with guardianship and/or custody issues as well as restraining orders. Title IV (Safe Schools) grant money was used to purchase the system.

#### Building/Grounds Committee

- The building and grounds committee reported on progress made this summer throughout the district, and on possible future projects.
- The district is still awaiting its 10-year life-safety inspection report, which will dictate some of the projects, along with a timeline for completion. Once this is received, a short and long-term CSFT plan will be developed.

#### Old Business

- The board was reminded of the Board Goals that were viewed last month, as well as revisions made at the last meeting. These goals were approved.
- The board again reviewed and discussed the new district mentoring program, which targets new teachers in their first and second years. The program was approved.

#### New Business

- The board was presented with a new position job description “Student Support Specialist”. The new position is created to fill a void left by unfilled school social worker and school psychologist positions. Our special education co-op, Livingston County Special Services Unit, is also experiencing a shortage in these positions. If a qualified certified social worker and/or school psychologist emerges, we also plan to fill those positions. The Support Specialist position will help with counseling of students as well as support teachers dealing with problem behaviors in the classrooms.
- The board approve the “Student Support Specialist” position and job description as presented.

#### Personnel

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

- Accepted the resignation of Seth Welch (HS Assistant Football and Assistant Wrestling Coach), Patricia Martinez (recently hired Kindergarten teacher for PCP East), and Kacey Harrison (Kindergarten teacher at PCP East) all effective immediately.
- Appointed Kayla Smock, JV Volleyball Coach at PCHS effective 2019-20 school year.
- Appointed Ashley Mueller, Kindergarten teacher at PCP East effective 2019-20 school year.
- Appointed Cheryl Hoffman, Auxiliary Volleyball Coach at PCHS effective 2019-20 school year.
- Appointed Ashley Benton, UE and JH art teacher effective December 16, 2019.
- Appointed Somar Preussner, Kindergarten teacher at PCP East effective 2019-20 school year.

- Appointed Jenny Johnson, Student Support Specialist for the district, effective 2019-20 school year.
- Appointed Kyann Henry, Bus Driver for the district effective 2019-20 school year.

Adjourn

The Board adjourned at 8:40 pm.