

February 20, 2020 Board Meeting

In Attendance

Board members: **Ted Bachtold, Tim McGreal, Dana Kafer, Lori Schahrer, Mark Slagel, Brian Plenert and John Wilken**; administrators: **Paula Crane, Tonya Dieken, and Lisa Bounds**; Central Office Employee: **Cheryl Hoffman**; Prairie Central employees: **Angie Kratochvil and Kelly Honegger**

Guests: **None**

Comments (Public) **None**

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

Minutes

The Board approved minutes of the January 16, 2020 regular meeting and the February 3, 2020 special 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:

- Maintenance projects update:
 - The Junior High gym floor boards have had some "movement" and the dark paint is cracking in spots. The painted areas can be lightly sanded and re-painted this summer, however there is no guarantee that it will not happen again.
 - An email has been sent to the Fairbury Fair to see if they are in need of bleachers, as parts of the high school used bleachers can be salvaged and re-used.
 - An additional contact has been made to gather more information about the repair of the south parking lot at the high school. Because of drainage issues, water (ice) sits on the surface, causing a safety hazard. The hope is to get it fixed this summer.
- District Website: The board was introduced to "Apptegy", a company we will contract with to develop a new website and mobile-app for the district. The app will be free to anyone wanting to use it, and will provide updated information about the district and schools within it. The app and website can be managed by administrators and teachers through computers or mobile phones. The app is also capable of sending out alerts through text, voice, and email. It is hoped that this will allow more relevant and timely information to be distributed to families and community members in a more efficient manner.
- The board discussed the possibility of allowing the use of a fundraising website (such as Donor's Choose) to schools within the district. The board does not wish to have an abundance of fundraising in the district, so the use would be limited to projects that would benefit an entire school, the entire district, or an entire academic program.
- A new hiring bonus legal document was reviewed. A hiring bonus is available to offer when the district cannot fill a vacancy for an extended period of time. The legal

document is a contract between the Board of Education, the Prairie Central Education Association, and the newly hired teacher.

- Mrs. Dieken updated the board on the recent teacher's institute and the professional development offered throughout the day.
- Mrs. Dieken provided an update on the reading pilot taking place in our 2nd-4th grade classrooms, and the expansion of the pilot for next year. She also discussed the math coaching that is currently taking place, benefiting classroom and mathematics teachers of students in grades 5 through 12. The math coach is made possible through a grant received by Prairie Central Junior High.
- The board was shown an estimation of revenues in the sales tax fund (capital), life safety fund, and building fund, as well as estimations of expenditures for anticipated projects.

Old Business

- The board awarded a bid for bleachers to Vissering Construction Company in the amount of \$541,600. Two alternate bids were also accepted, including an extended sidewalk at a cost of \$25,300 and powder coating for the bleachers (blue) at a cost of \$3,200. Work will begin in May and be completed by August 10, 2020.
- A fuel bid for 40,000 gallons of bio-diesel was awarded to Ken's Oil Service, Inc. at a cost of \$2.308 per gallon of 2% bio-diesel and \$2.315 per gallon for 5% bio-diesel.
- The March regular meeting of the Board of Education was moved from Thursday, March 19th to Tuesday, March 17th. Wear your green.

New Business

- The board approved opening bids for four roofs in need of replacement. Two roofs are on the Prairie Central Primary West building, and two are on the Prairie Central High School building. The roofs will be replaced this summer.
- The "Model 2" school calendar was approved for the 2020-21 school year. The calendar has a begin date (teacher's institute) of August 17th, with students first day August 24. First semester will end December 22nd, with break from December 23rd through January 5th. Spring break will be continuous with Easter, from March 29th through April 5th. The year will end with institute on the 28th of May, barring the use of any emergency days (at latest June 7th using all 5 days).
- A "field trip" was approved for the PCHS FFA Dairy Judging team to represent the United States this summer at competitions in Scotland and England.

Personnel

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

- Appointed Robin Behrends PCJH track coach effective February 21, 2020.
- Appointed Anthony Trippichio PCP East custodian effective February 21, 2020.
- Appointed Mary Ann Harper PCUE special education teacher effective February 21, 2020.
- Appointed Matt Razo JV Baseball coach effective February 21, 2020.

- Appointed Austin Wenger PCHS Athletic Director effective the 2020-21 school year.
- Appointed Morgan Robar PCJH mathematics teacher effective the 2020-21 school year.
- Accepted the resignation of Chris Harper, PCHS Athletic Director, effective the end of the 2019-20 school year.
- Accepted the resignation of Tom Ellis, bus driver, effective January 28, 2020.
- Accepted the resignation of Scott Peterson, PCHS cross country coach, effective the end of the 2019-20 school year.
- Accepted the resignation of Sandy Gonzalez, PCE head cook, with intent to retire at the end of the 2019-20 school year.
- Accepted the resignation of Lisa Gibson, PCE café worker, with intent to retire at the end of the 2019-20 school year.
- Accepted the resignation of Tammy Sanders, PCE café worker, with intent to retire at the end of the 2019-20 school year.
- Accepted the resignation of Marie Weiser, PCE café worker, effective the end of the 2019-20 school year.

Adjourn

The Board adjourned at 10:35 pm.