

July 18, 2019 Board Meeting

In Attendance

Board members: **Ted Bachtold, Dana Kafer, Tim McGreal, Lori Schahrer, Mark Slagel, and John Wilken**; administrators: **Paula Crane, Tonya Dieken, Lisa Bounds**; Prairie Central employees: **Charisse Price, Joni Besgrove**.

Guests: **None**

Comments (Public) **None**

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

Minutes

The Board approved minutes of the June 20, 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.

Annual Reports: The Board was presented with the annual reports for the transportation and food services departments. Joni Besgrove presented the food services annual report, and Charisse Price presented the transportation report.

Superintendent's Report: The Board heard from Superintendent Crane on the following topics:

*Legislative Update: We have not yet learned how much Evidence Based Funding money we will receive for FY20. There has, however, been additional money allocated to help pay the mandated categoricals, including transportation, which impacts Prairie Central significantly.

*Federal Grants: We will receive \$295,935 in Title I money (down from \$314,093 originally allocated for FY19), \$53,233 in Title II money (same as last year), \$19,879 in Title IV money (a little more than the \$15,833 last year), and \$230,270 in Preschool For All money (same as last year). Title I money is generally used for "at risk" students who struggle in reading and/or math. Title II funds are allocated for use in improvement of instruction, including professional development for teachers. Title IV money is "safe schools" money, but is used also for college and career counseling as well as safe and healthy students. Preschool For All money is used to fund a large portion of our preschool program.

*Progress continues on the High School secure office project, with new doors cut, windows and studs installed and drywall beginning soon.

*Maintenance projects have been progressing well, including work on a new high school special education space (which includes electrical and plumbing work). Air conditioning has been installed in the Junior High band room in order to protect instruments, and the Junior High special education room work (including removing the old Family and Consumer Sciences appliances, electrical and plumbing shut off work, and painting) is approximately 75% complete. The buried tank at the old Meadowbrook property has been sealed off temporarily for safety purposes until the tank can be properly removed. Bushes have been trimmed throughout the district, and weed removal/spraying has begun. Several buildings are receiving new flooring in

designated rooms and progress continues on this. The UE flooring is complete, whereas the PCE flooring is approximately 75% complete and the Junior High flooring should be completed by 7-19. There has also been significant progress on gym floors: the High School and UE are complete and are in the drying/curing process, and the Junior High floor has been sanded to the wood and is awaiting paint and sealant. Chatsworth and Chenoa have not yet been started.

*Bus disposal for those buses included in the EPA grant is finished, and documentation will be sent to EPA to receive reimbursement.

*Our mascot, Huey, may be in need of a bit of updating. A committee meeting was held Wednesday night with 21 people present to gather information about how Huey could be updated. Generally, the consensus was that Huey is well liked, and should not be changed to an unrecognizable state. A few minor updates are desired, however, with the addition of adopting a district "logo" and perhaps a smaller part of Huey (such as just his head or talons, etc) as an option for t-shirts, etc as well. The goal is to achieve a district "branding", and to have our actual mascot better utilized.

Old Business

- The board discussed possible FY20 goals, with the intention of approving them at the August regular meeting.
- A tentative budget was presented to the board, which will be available for viewing at the Unit Office. The budget will be adopted in September.

New Business

- The board heard an overview of the new Prairie Central mentoring program, which will begin this school year.

Personnel

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

- Accepted the resignation of Sonia Gradberg, 7th grade girls basketball coach, effective the end of the 2018-19 school year.
- Accepted the resignation of Sandy Ropp, 8th grade volleyball coach, effective the end of the 2018-19 school year.
- Accepted the resignation of Scott Saffer, Junior High science teacher, effective the end of the 2018-19 school year .
- Accepted the resignation of Brenda Mingee, High School special education teacher, effective the end of the 2018-19 school year.
- Appointed Kim Retter, transportation secretary, beginning the 2019-20 school year.
- Appointed Scott Hannagan, Junior High science teacher, beginning the 2019-20 school year.

Adjourn

The Board adjourned at 11:14 pm.