

June 18, 2020 Board Meeting

In Attendance

Board members: **Ted Bachtold, Dana Kafer, Lori Schahrer , Mark Slagel, Brian Plenert and John Wilken**; administrators: **Paula Crane, Tonya Dieken**; Prairie Central employees: **Angie Kratochvil, Nicole Joiner, Katie Ricketts, Caren Appel, Matt Razo, Taylor Lagel, Kay Shols, Sandy Ropp, Naddene Pilgrim, Casey McCullough and Kelly Honegger**; Guest: **Chris Wilder**; Press: **Kent Casson**.

Guests: None

Comments (Public) Two letters were read from employees voicing concern about the possibility of stipends not being fully paid for those activities that do not take place due to COVID-19.

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

Minutes

The Board approved minutes of the May 21, 2020 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:  
Update on School Reopening: We were supposed to receive guidance on this by Monday, or early in the week, but have yet to see this. In an email received 6-18-20, the Illinois State Board of Education stated that guidance would be released "in the coming days to support safe transition back to in-person learning this fall". Senate Bill 1569 created a Blended Remote Learning Day option that gives additional flexibility in the delivery of instruction, and again allows 5 remote learning planning days. In meetings with both the McLean County and Livingston County Health Departments, masks as well as social distancing was emphasized. Social distancing will be extremely difficult in our schools, and enforcing the use of masks at all ages will be problematic. We will further await guidance before we begin our planning.

Funding Update: The governor has passed a budget which includes level funding for EBF as well as mandated categorical payments and early childhood programs, as well as an increase in special education reimbursement. This is great news. Unfortunately, we just learned that we are losing approximately \$90,000 in Title funds, because Prairie Central Primary West did not qualify for these funds for next year.

CARES: We are planning to spend this money on water bottle filling stations, disinfectant guns and chemicals, hand sanitizer, thermometers, face masks, remote learning software, hot spots, mental health services, headphones with microphones for teachers to help with remote learning, and technology to replace those machines that were lost or damaged during this year's remote learning. Total will be \$285,878

Project Updates: Bleachers have been removed and work continues. Some wires/fiber that were recently run by Popejoy for the project were inadvertently cut, so this was a bit of a setback. Roofs are progressing as well. Mike expressed some concern about wrinkles on all three roofs, and this will be addressed. This was also addressed by the Johns Manville inspector. Mike also noted occasional insulation under the rubber that was not properly fastened. Mr. Middleton will address these issues with the company. Rubber is complete on all three roofs, and all three still need flashing and metal work. The metal that the company began using was not correct. There was some galvanized used in Chenoa, but the company was made to remove it and install the correct .040" aluminum.

Athletic Booster Club Update: We have revised our concession stand workers proposal, and Mr. Wenger has taken it to the Booster Club. We will continue to meet on this until we have an agreed-upon plan to begin the 20-21 school year.

New State/School Holiday: November 3<sup>rd</sup> has been declared a legal state holiday in Illinois, and we will not be allowed to be in session on that day. We cannot waiver out of this day. Furthermore, the legislation requires schools to be used as polling places if requested y the local election authority.

#### Old Business

- The board approved the amended FY20 budget as presented.

#### New Business

- The board was presented with the "Phase 1" plan from the music and athletic departments on how to return to conditioning/rehearsing. The plans were written to adhere to all IHSA guidelines.
- The board approved the Sports and Music "Phase 1" Return to Conditioning/Rehearsing plans.
- The board viewed the 5Essentials Survey data for the district. This is a survey of learning conditions taken by teachers, students and parents. The survey rates each school (and, in aggregate the district) in the areas of Effective Leaders, Collaborative Teachers, Supportive Environment, Involved Families, and Ambitious Instruction. Data will be available to the public in the coming months. Prairie Central scored very well on the survey in all areas.
- The board authorized Superintendent Crane to prepare the FY21 budget.
- The board agreed to renew its Illinois Association of School Boards membership for FY21.
- The board approved its meeting dates for FY21.
- The board discussed the possibility of a finance committee.

#### Personnel

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

- Accepted the resignation of Abbey Kendall, PCE paraprofessional effective the end of the 2019-20 school year.
- Accepted the resignation of Amber Johnson, newly hired PCHS social studies teacher and cross country coach effective immediately.
- Accepted the resignation of Denice Masters, PCE and PCJH secretary effective the end of the 2019-20 school year.
- Accepted the resignation of Hilary Bauman, PCE secretary effective the end of the 2019-20 school year.
- Accepted the resignation of Tory Farney, PCHS Football Assistant Coach effective immediately.
- Accepted the resignation of Shelby Gresham, PCJH interventionist and librarian, effective the end of the 2019-20 school year.
- Appointed Rita Meister as summer school teacher effective immediately.
- Appointed Kathy Anderson as PCHS co-head scholastic bowl coach effective the 2020-21 school year.
- Appointed Julie McArdle as PCJH science teacher effective the 2020-21 school year.
- Appointed Maxwell Crowninshield PCHS social studies teacher effective the 2020-21 school year.
- Appointed Maxwell Crowninshield as PCHS head cross country coach effective the 2020-21 school year.
- Appointed Brendan Vincent as instrumental music teacher with summer stipend and instrumental music stipend effective the 2020-21 school year.
- Appointed Tonya Chester as PCE Head Cook effective the 2020-21 school year.
- Appointed Emily Davis as PCE secretary effective the 2020-21 school year.
- Appointed Wade Czerwonka as PCJH principal pending successful contract negotiation effective the 2020-21 school year.
- Internally transferred Katie Urick, newly hired PCP East Interventionist to PCE Special Education Teacher effective the 2020-21 school year.

#### Adjourn

The Board adjourned at 9:50 pm.