

PLEASANT VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Bettendorf, LeClaire, Riverdale

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION, REGULAR MEETING, BELMONT ADMINISTRATION CENTER

Monday, January 12, 2015 – 6:00 P.M. C.S.T.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bullock, Cournoyer, Dickson, Isbell, Paulsen, Wagle, Witters. Absent – None.

Also present: Jim Spelhaug, Deborah Dayman, Mike Clingingsmith, Stephanie Judkins, Brian Strusz, Beth Marsoun, Bettendorf Mayor Bob Gallagher, and Pat Eikenberry.

EXECUTIVE SESSION APPROVED: Motion by Paulsen, second by Wagle that the Board hold an exempt session for the purpose of negotiations as provided in section 20.17(3) of the Code of Iowa. Roll call vote. Ayes – Bullock, Cournoyer, Dickson, Isbell, Paulsen, Wagle, Witters. Nays – none. Motion carried.

AGENDA APPROVED: Motion by Paulsen, second by Isbell that the agenda be approved as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: President Witters welcomed everyone, and read the mission of the district: The mission of the Pleasant Valley Community School District, as a premier innovative district in the Midwest, is to prepare students to succeed in diverse, global society by providing superior quality opportunities in a safe environment for each student to become a life long learner and by continuously improving and customizing the educational experience.

Dr. Wagle expressed appreciation and congratulations to the drama club for hosting the annual children's workshop, and indicated he received positive feedback from participants. He also congratulated the 21 band members selected to participate in the Southeast Iowa Bandmasters Association (SEIBA) honor band:

Lexie Aguilar, Reid Barlow, Zach Corrigan, Emily Fuller, Jonathan Hahm, Kendall Hengst, Michael Hudachek, Melanie Kessler, Susan Li, Bobbi Malmgren, Patrick McMonagle, Matthew Nelson, Sarah Oswald, Carrie Peterson, Millenama Prasai, Jenna Ruccolo, Claire Thomsen, Keshav Wagle, and Ellie Zupancic. Congratulations to the following students for being accepted to the South East Iowa Honor Jazz Band: Peter Mills, Cooper Schou.

Mrs. Cournoyer informed the board that the board tour of the M.A. Ford facility is scheduled for Monday, February 23 at 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Strusz thanked the Teacher Leadership and Compensation (TLC) committee for their service and offered his congratulations. On December 19, the district was awarded the Teacher Leadership grant, and the plan designed by the committee will be implemented in 2015-2016. This grant will allow the district to improve student achievement by better training, coaching, and retaining teachers.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Dickson, second by Paulsen that the consent agenda be approved as presented. All ayes. Motion carried. The consent agenda consists of the regular employment of Michelle Lastine as library/aide at Hopewell, Ashlee Martin as a special education aide at Hopewell, Jacqueline Stepaniak as a special education aide at Cody, Mary Bunce as Head Cook at PVHS for the 15-16 school year, and the probationary employment of Chelsey Thomsen as a special education aide at Pleasant View. The extra-curricular employment of Theresa Barber as robotics coordinator and sponsor at Riverdale Heights, Jay Thompson and Kevin Cox as co-robotics sponsors at Bridgeview, Chris Cournoyer as robotics sponsor at

Cody, Nic Stader as a JH assistant boys basketball coach, Brandon Nau as head sophomore baseball coach, Eric Belby and Nic Sacco as co-assistant boys track and field coaches and the resignation of Garrett Alderson as assistant girls soccer coach.

EXPENSES APPROVED: Motion by Cournoyer, second by Isbell that General Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$1,006,137.62 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Isbell, second by Dickson that Nutrition Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$114,965.38 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dickson, second by Bullock that Elementary/Junior High Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$6,055.38 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Bullock, second by Wagle that High School Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$58,765.61 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Paulsen, second by Dickson that Management Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$13,924.00 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Wagle, second by Cournoyer that Capital Projects Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$193,986.18 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dickson, second by Bullock that PPEL Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$255,027.28 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Isbell, second by Paulsen that Debt Service Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$1,798.33 in payment of invoices presented.

Motion by Paulsen, second by Bullock that Internal Service Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$4,556.00 in payment of invoices presented.

Motion by Cournoyer, second by Wagle that Trust Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$4,578.48 in payment of invoices presented.

REVIEW OF 2013-2014 AT-RISK REPORT AND MODIFIED SUPPLEMENTAL AMOUNT APPLICATION FOR DROPOUT PREVENTION (MSA/DOP):

The Pleasant Valley School District provides a continuum of support to advance the academic achievement and overall development of all students. This support includes alternative educational opportunities of “At - Risk” programming. Mr. Clingingsmith reviewed how the district is disadvantaged by a funding cap that was put in place several years ago and the impact that has had on the general fund budget. Mr. Strusz reviewed At-Risk documents, comparing the most recent data with the previous year’s information, highlighting notable differences. He noted that the At-Risk committee has analyzed data and reviewed parent and student surveys to identify improvements to programming. He emphasized the importance of strong student/teacher relationships. A goal of the committee is to offer At-Risk students better access to career and technical training. Also, to increase participation and relevance, adjustments to summer enrichment programs are being considered.

Motion by Cournoyer, second by Paulsen that the Board approve the At-Risk report as presented. Roll call vote. Ayes – Cournoyer, Paulsen, Bullock, Dickson, Isbell, Wagle, Witters. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion by Dickson, second by Isbell that the Board approve the Modified Supplemental Amount Application for Dropout Prevention report in the amount of \$741,137.00 as presented. Roll call vote. Ayes – Dickson, Isbell, Paulsen, Wagle, Witters, Bullock, Cournoyer. Nays – none. Motion carried.

2015-2016 BOARD MEETING DATES: The board discussed the 2015-16 board meeting schedule. Meetings will generally occur on the second and fourth Mondays of each month, with the exception of November, when a meeting will also be held on November 30 instead of in December so that conflicts with holiday concerts might be avoided. Consistent with prior years, one meeting will be held in July. The board will finalize the meeting schedule after the school calendar is finalized.

2015-2016 CALENDAR:

Governor Branstad's unprecedented announcement prohibiting local boards of education from establishing school start dates forces the board to reconsider the previously approved 2015-16 school calendar.

Mr. Strusz reviewed student ITBS/Iowa assessment data, as well as student dropout rate data spanning 15 years which supports the fact that the district's earlier start date improves student achievement.

Other considerations:

AP – By starting later, AP instructional time (up to 13 days) is lost as testing dates are determined at the national level.

Concurrent Courses – Courses offered concurrently with Scott Community College will be adversely affected as the Governor's announcement does not impact college schedules.

The Value of Wednesday Starts – The district has come to believe the mid-week start after summer is an excellent way to begin the year. The full week start will negatively impact the instructional and learning energy of week one.

Extra-Curricular Participation – Given the fact that fall game dates do not change (as they are determined by tournament play, which is not set locally), fall practice will continue to start in early August. Given the gap between that and the start of school, it is anticipated that, over time, fewer students will decide to participate in fall activities. On the back side, it is equally likely that this will be the beginning of the end of summer baseball and softball. If these are pushed into the spring, fewer students will participate because of conflicts with track, soccer, golf and tennis. Compelling data indicates increased academic success among students involved in extra-curricular activities.

Items to be considered prior to potential revision of the calendar:

- 1) Is the granting of a waiver still possible?
- 2) Might certain school holidays be eliminated? (Wednesday before Thanksgiving, Martin Luther King Day, President's Day, Good Friday)
- 3) Should the length of spring and winter breaks be reduced, or in the case of spring break, eliminated?
- 4) What level of importance shall be placed on the role of final exams in our goal of preparing students for the rigors of university?

The district strongly believes this step by the Governor is an inappropriate intrusion on local control and that it will negatively impact academic achievement. Board members and district residents are encouraged to express their views to Governor Brandstad, Iowa Department of Education Director Buck, or your legislator. E-mail contact information can be found at the end of this document.

CHANGE ORDER 2-RESTROOM REMODELING PVHS: “Air blade” hand dryers were deemed to be a valuable addition to the High School restroom remodeling project.

Motion by Bullock, second by Dickson that the board approve Change Order #2 in the amount of an add of \$5,389.63 for the PVHS Restroom Remodel as presented. Roll call vote. Ayes –Bullock, Dickson, Cournoyer, Isbell, Paulsen, Wagle, Witters, Nays – none. Motion carried.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS: Mr. Clingingsmith presented the monthly financial reports for November, 2014. Through November, General Fund revenue totaled \$16,055,122 and expenses totaled \$11,922,104. The fund balance in the General Fund at November 30, 2014 was \$8,714,379. He also presented reports on the Management, PPEL, Capital Projects, Debt Service, Nutrition, Internal Service, and Activity Funds. There were no significant variances from projections in the financial reports.

Motion by Cournoyer, second by Wagle that the board accept the monthly financial reports for November as presented. Roll call vote. Ayes –Cournoyer, Wagle, Dickson, Isbell, Paulsen, Witters, Bullock. Nays – none. Motion carried.

BETTENDORF 2023 PRESENTATION – MAYOR GALLAGHER & PAT EIKENBERRY: Mayor Bob Gallagher & Committee Member Pat Eikenberry presented to the Board the City’s long range economic development plan “Transformation Bettendorf 2023” and their perception of the role Pleasant Valley and Bettendorf Community School districts will play in helping move that plan forward, particularly in the areas of lifelong learning and educating the districts regarding local industry staffing needs.

The Committee would like the Board to sign a letter of endorsement relative to the District’s support of this plan. This will be included as an agenda item at the next board meeting.

EXEMPT SESSION – NEGOTIATIONS: The board met in exempt session from 7:57 p.m. until 8:06 p.m. for the purpose of negotiations.

MEETING ADJOURNED: The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

FUTURE DATES:

Monday, January 26, 2015 Regular School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m. Belmont Administration Office.

GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATOR E-MAIL CONTACT INFORMATION:

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS - 2015

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Terry Branstad	Governor of Iowa	https://governor.iowa.gov/constituent-services/register-opinion
Brad Buck	Dept. of Education Director	brad.buck@iowa.gov

OPEN ENROLLMENT

Open Enrollment is the process by which a parent or guardian residing in an Iowa school district may enroll their child into a public school district other than the one in which they reside. The deadline for filing an Open Enrollment Application for students in grades 1-12 is March 1st prior to the school year of requested attendance. The deadline for filing an open enrollment request for an incoming kindergarten child is September 1st of the year open enrollment is first requested. For more information on Open Enrollment, please visit the district website at www.pleasval.k12.ia.us, email or call Kelly Hatler, hatlerk@pleasval.k12.ia.us at the Administration Center at (563)332-5550.