

PLEASANT VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Bettendorf, LeClaire, Riverdale

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION, REGULAR MEETING, BELMONT ADMINISTRATION CENTER
Monday, February 23, 2015 – 6:00 P.M. C.S.T.

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

Also present: Jim Spelhaug, Brian Strusz, Mike Clingingsmith, Stephanie Judkins, Christine Harvey, Beth Marsoun, Pam Cinadr, Mike Zimmer, and Matt Burst.

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

EXEMPT SESSION APPROVED: Motion by Bullock, second by Paulsen 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.

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.

Director Isbell thanked Mrs. Cournoyer for arranging the board tour of M.A. Ford prior to the meeting. He also expressed thanks and appreciation on behalf of the board and administration to M.A. Ford for hosting this tour.

Director Cournoyer congratulated Matt Stutenberg, PVHS Industrial Technology teacher, for receiving the STEM Teacher of the Year award and Theresa Barber, District Robotics Coordinator, for receiving the STEM Volunteer of the Year award from Quad City Engineering and Science Council.

Pleasant Valley High School First semester honor roll: The 2014-2015 first semester honor roll has been reposted and adjusted to include a student's weighted GPA. To see the new list, please visit the high school home page at www.pleasval.org or go to the following Bettendorf News link. http://qctimes.com/news/local/bettendorf/pleasant-valley-high-school-honor-roll-with-weighted-grades/article_16771cb8-d31f-58f3-9cbf-750b6a91cfad.html

On behalf of the board and district, Dr. Spelhaug congratulated and thanked Rita VanWetzinga who has announced her retirement at the end of the current school year after serving the district for nine years.

Dr. Spelhaug informed the board that the district has received guidance from the Scott County Health Department regarding measles and plans to put protocols in place in anticipation of the possibility of an occurrence impacting the district. The district plans to notify two groups. The first group is the district's non-immune students (i.e. students who have an MMR waiver). The purpose of this letter is to make sure this group of parents is aware of exclusion protocols. The second group is faculty and staff. PVCHS nurse Pam Cinadr was present to answer questions from the board.

Brian Strusz reminded the board of the Iowa Department of Education School Improvement Site Visit March 10th and 11th.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Wagle, second by Bullock that the consent agenda be approved as presented. All ayes. Motion carried. The consent agenda consists of the resignation of Kelly Christman as a social studies teacher at PVCHS effective the end of the 2014-2015 school year and the retirement of Rita Van Wetzinger as a special education aide at the end of the 2014-2015 school year when she will have completed nine years at PV; the employment of Grant Housman as an industrial technology teacher and Catherine Keech as a French/ESL teacher, both at PVCHS for the 2015-2016 school year; the employment of Melinda Whigham as PVJH nurse for the 2015-2016 school year and Debra Blankens as a food service worker at the high school; the regular employment of Elizabeth Marsoun as communications director/foundation secretary; the probationary employment of Lori Krug as a food service worker at Riverdale Heights; the increase in the Letter of Assignment of Sylvia Zuiderveen as a special education aide at Riverdale Heights by one and one-half hours per day through the 2014-2015 school year; the extra-curricular drop of Julie Bartlett as high school theatre technical advisor, the extra-curricular adds of Adam Pfluger as co-high school theatre technical advisor, Bill Myatt as co-high school theatre technical advisor, Steve Dougherty as assistant boys track and field coach, Sophie Haarhues as assistant girls track and field coach, Joe Youngbauer as junior high track coach and approval of the IHSAA Cooperative Swimming Agreement – Swimming and Diving with North Scott schools.

EXPENSES APPROVED: Motion by Isbell, second by Dickson that General Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$318,932.01 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Paulsen, second by Isbell that Nutrition Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$29,979.35 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Cournoyer, second by Wagle that Elementary/Junior High Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$17,839.72 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dickson, second by Bullock that High School Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$14,444.22 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Bullock, second by Isbell that Management Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$11,587.00 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Wagle, second by Dickson that Capital Projects Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$203,923.14 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Cournoyer, second by Bullock that PPEL Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$53,740.79 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Paulsen, second by Isbell that Trust Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$302.66 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

2015-2016 CALENDAR: This issue has not been resolved at the state level. Dr. Spelhaug presented a calendar draft for the board's review using a start date of August 24, should the Legislature approve this date. The district is not proceeding with a request for a waiver as previously indicated as data did not adequately meet the standards established by the state. The board agreed with the spring break proposal (spring break includes Good Friday). Other key dates include school being in session the day before Thanksgiving, not having a two week winter break, and not having the Friday off before spring break.

DISCUSSION OF THE 2015-2016 PROPERTY TAX LEVY RATE: The board and administration continued discussion of the district's property tax levy rate and its solvency ratio.

The administration's recommendation is to decrease the levy somewhere between \$0.05 and \$0.15. At both levels of decrease, this would still be a tax increase for residential because of a change in the rollback. It would be a tax decrease for commercial.

The board reached consensus to lower the levy rate by \$0.15. This will be an action item at the next meeting. The board reflected on the very difficult position the state was putting the district in by not knowing allowable growth for next year and by proposing a very low allowable growth rate.

REVIEW FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PROJECTS PLAN: As a continuation of a discussion from the February 9 meeting where the board was provided an updated five year capital projects plan (budget and schedule), the board discussed the five year plan again. The plan shows significant borrowing across a three year period. If the district stays on schedule, it would move forward with the Pleasant View, Bridgeview and High School STEM projects during year one; the Junior High and Cody in year two; and the first two phases of the High School "separate but connected" expansion in year three. The key concept is that these projects and the repayment plan would necessitate the need for voter approval (in four or five years) to renew the existing PPEL Levy prior to being able to build Forest Grove Elementary.

Motion by Wagle, second by Bullock that the board approve the five year capital project plan as presented. Roll call vote. Ayes – Wagle, Witters, Bullock, Cournoyer, Dickson, Isbell, Paulsen.

HIGH SCHOOL STEM PROJECT BIDS: The district received bids from four general contractors. The range of bids was from \$1,392,000.00 to \$1,184,000.00. The low bid was from Todd Hackett Construction in Muscatine and is within the budget for the project. The other bidders were Estes Construction, Precision Builders, and Swanson Construction. The two elementary projects are being bid in the next two Thursdays. Todd Hackett Construction was discussed as the district has not previously used them for a project.

Motion by Bullock, second by Cournoyer that the board approve the low bid of \$1,184,000.00 from Todd Hackett Construction Company for the high school STEM and HVAC project. Roll call vote. Ayes – Bullock, Cournoyer, Dickson, Isbell, Paulsen, Wagle, Witters. Nays – none. Motion carried.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS: Mr. Clingingsmith presented the monthly financial reports for January, 2015. Through January, General Fund revenue totaled \$21,911,330 and expenses totaled \$18,887,945. The fund balance in the General Fund at January 31, 2015 was \$7,604,747. 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 Dickson, second by Bullock that the board accept the monthly financial reports for January, 2015 as presented. Roll call vote. Ayes – Dickson, Isbell, Paulsen, Wagle, Witters, Bullock, Cournoyer. Nays – none. Motion carried.

EXEMPT SESSION - NEGOTIATIONS: The board met in exempt session from 7:14 p.m. until 8:05 p.m. for the purpose of negotiations.

MEETING ADJOURNED: The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

FUTURE DATES:

Monday, March 9, 2015 Regular School Board Meeting, **5:30 p.m.** Belmont Administration Office.

GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATOR E-MAIL CONTACT INFORMATION:

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS - 2015

Roby Smith	Iowa Senate District 47	roby.smith@legis.iowa.gov https://www.legis.iowa.gov
Rita Hart	Iowa Senate District 49	rita.hart@legis.iowa.gov https://www.legis.iowa.gov
Linda J. Miller	Iowa House District 94	linda.miller@legis.iowa.gov https://www.legis.iowa.gov
Phyllis Thede	Iowa House District 93	phyllis.thede@legis.iowa.gov https://www.legis.iowa.gov
Norlin Mommsen	Iowa House District 97	norlin.mommsen@legis.iowa.gov
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.

2014-2015

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the Pleasant Valley Community School District to not discriminate in its educational activities on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion, disability, or age.

The district requires all persons, agencies, vendors, contractors and other persons and organizations doing business with or performing services for the school district to subscribe to all applicable federal and state laws, executive orders, rules and regulations pertaining to contract compliance and equal opportunity.

The district is committed to the policy that no otherwise qualified person will be excluded from educational activities on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national

origin, religion, disability, or age. Further, the board affirms the right of all students and staff to be treated with respect and to be protected from intimidation, discrimination, physical harm and harassment.

Inquiries concerning the application of federal and state nondiscrimination statutes and the implementing regulations to the district may be referred to Brian Strusz, who has been designated by the district as Educational Equity Coordinator, or to the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, Department of HEW, Washington, D.C. Mr. Strusz' office is at Pleasant Valley Administration Center, 525 Belmont Road, Bettendorf, Iowa 52722; telephone (563)332-5550.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James R. Spelhaug', written in a cursive style.

James R. Spelhaug, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Asbestos Notice

In compliance with the Abestos Hazard Response Act (AHERA) of 1986 (Public Law 99-519) the School District has had each building inspected by a Certified Asbestos Inspector. In the past year, we have conducted six month periodic surveillance and minor insulation removal at Pleasant Valley High school.