

REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRAIRIE DU CHIEN BOARD OF EDUCATION

Public notice is hereby given as required by law that a Meeting of the Prairie du Chien Board of Education will convene on March 7, 2011 in the City Hall Council Chambers, 214 West Blackhawk Avenue, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by President, Brian Edwards at 6:30p.m.

Achenbach- present

Atkins-present

Edwards- present

Quamme- present

Forsythe-present

Ruskey- absent

Rutherford-present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Ron Quamme seconded by Mark Forsythe to move the student travel under New Business up to being the first item on the agenda and to adopt the rest of the agenda with all in favor. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

(The School Board may approve all items with one motion or any Board Member can simply request to remove certain items for later discussion)

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. February 14, 2011 Regular Board Meeting
 - b. February 24, 2011 Special Board Meeting
 - c. February 24, 2011 Building and Grounds Meeting
 - d. February 28, 2011 Special Board Meeting
 - e. March 2, 2011 Finance Committee Meeting
2. Financial Report: Approval of Payment Request Retreat
(The Prairie du Chien Board of Education does hereby accept and agree to pay invoices for the last month as presented, included are dated bills to avoid late charges.)
3. Personnel
 - a. Approval of Phil Stiemke resigning as head spring drama director (Phil is stepping down for one year but will remain as assistant director for this year)
 - b. Approval of Substitute Teacher Jessica Boylen
 - c. Approval of Linda Shihata Soccer Coach, Jonathan Boyle and Nicholas Darnick Assistant Track Coaches
 - d. Continuing Contracts (if any)
 - e. Pre- Approval of Long Term sub for Speech/Language Pathology (have a posting but would like to start March 30, 2011 before next meeting and posting closes March 23, 2011)
4. Continuing Contracts (if any)

Motion by Joe Atkins seconded by Ron Quamme to approval all items with all in favor. Motion carried.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

NONE

CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ITEMS (action if appropriate)

1. Upcoming Meetings and Board Items

- a. March 10, 2011 Special Board Meeting
 - b. March 16, 2011 WASB Day at the Capitol (Madison)
 - c. March 21, 2011 Planning Meeting at Peoples State Bank
 - d. April 5, 2011 Spring Election
 - e. April 7, 2011 Canvassing Spring Election in the District Office
 - f. April 8, 2011 2011 Effective Bargaining in Madison
 - g. April 11, 2011 Regular Board Meeting
2. Information Items

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION (action if appropriate)

1. Superintendent/Building Administrator's Report/presentation
 - a. Update on Central Courtyard Project at the High School
 - b. Update on Phone Systems
 - c. Update on State budget
 - d. Possible new grade 3 reading Initiative and BAK Data in anticipation of the new testing as outlined in the State Budget

Drew Johnson and Laura Stuckey showed a PowerPoint of a-d above.

OLD BUSINESS (action if appropriate)

1. Counselor Services Discussion

Kristine Rutherford- We say that we want to help children, but we don't want a counselor in the lower level and Bluff View. We pay to transport students on field trips, we pay for sports, we want to raise tests scores, but think we can do so without a counselor. Not talking about career counselors. Teachers can't do it all. A guidance counselor should be a priority. Other areas that can be cut find a guidance counselor????

Gene Carlson- Counselors are important!! We may not know what the link is between school and home, because maybe the teachers, Admin are not trained to identify what those links are. Counselors are trained to identify those links.

Sue Boldt-David- There are troubled students out there that need help. She worries about them, is not trained to deal with it all, but does the best that she can, along with all of the other teachers.

Jamie Wagar- Two main roles of a counselor 1. Safety net and 2 parent liaison. There are different roles for guidance counselors, depending on the age of students and the issues that go with that age-group. Budget is tight, but can we hire a 50% counselor?

Drew Johnson- Willing to set up a committee to research this. Not convinced that the problems that students are having can be solved by a school guidance counselor. Can we contract out with the County for Social Work Services. Get data from Stephanie on her "take" on this issue.

Cindy Sheetz- Stephanie Foster can't be there for all of the students. When she has tried to reach out to Stephanie to give a heads up on issues going on with her daughter, she has had a hard time connecting with her via phone. Drew said 2 years ago that he would review data, facts, statistics and I don't think that this has been done.

2. Final Layoff notices for budgetary and excess staffing reasons to Emily O'Brien and Nicholas Darnick

Motion by Joe Atkins seconded by Mark Forsythe to layoff Emily O'Brien and Nicholas Darnick for budgetary reason with all in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS (action if appropriate)

1. Grants & Donations read into record and approved (if any)
 - a. 3M donated \$17,200 to PLTW- required to have 3M in your community to qualify for this grant.

2. Any items removed from Consent Agenda for further discussion-**NONE**
3. Possibly re-open retirement window for PEA members per existing contract (the PEA Union has done an informal e-mail survey and has found that there may be about six teachers interested in pursuing early retirement if the window is re-opened)
4. High School Graduation Requirement Changes
5. Student Travel (if any)
 - a. International Club traveling to Greece/Italy would like transportation paid for by District

Motion by Joe Atkins seconded by Mark Forsythe for Finance Committee to review and make decision on #3 with all in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Joe Atkins seconded by Ron Quamme to approve the International Trip transportation with all in favor. Motion carried.

SPECIAL LISTENING SESSION (no discussion or action allowed)

1. Since the State Budget and related law has not passed the School Board has no new information on which to proceed.
2. The School Board will listen (15 minutes maximum)
 - a. The PEA Union has requested: "The PEA bargaining team would like to meet with each of you to discuss the ramifications of the Budget Repair Bill as it relates to our members. We feel that an open discussion will benefit both sides of the table, and hope that you will be willing to meet with us sometime before March 11, 2011."

-Not looking at strapping the district

-\$6,000 loss with health and WRS per teacher

-Don't want to lose good teachers when they are not ready to retire

-Teachers will not retire if the board agrees to contract extension

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ron Quamme seconded by Lonnie Achenbach to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 p.m. with all in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Brian Edwards, President

Notes taken by Vicki Waller