Pleasant Valley Community School District  
Bettendorf, LeClaire, Riverdale

Unofficial Minutes

Board of Education, Regular Meeting, Belmont Administration Center  
Monday, February 10, 2014 – 6:00 P.M. C.S.T.

Regular meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Witters.


Also present: Jim Spelhaug, Christine Harvey, Mike Clingingsmith, Brian Strusz, Sheri Coder, Jim and Gunda Davis and Ray LaFrentz.

Agenda Approved: Motion by Bullock, second by Dickson to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Communications: Director Cournoyer congratulated two PV First Tech Challenge (FTC) teams (Deviation from the Norm and Robots R Us) and a QCESC sponsored team 7233 “Technicool” and their coaches Audrey Holland, Matt Stutenberg and Kim Gasaway for their accomplishments at the PVHS qualifier event recently. She also thanked Mike Zimmer, Jason Koch and the high school custodial staff for their efforts in the set up and hosting of the competition.

Dr. Spelhaug thanked the board and community for their support in the passage of the Instructional Support Levy and the Physical Plant and Equipment Levy renewals.

Dr. Spelhaug introduced Jim and Gunda Davis. They are long-time residents of the district and have three grown children (Sybil, Matt, and Andy) who graduated from PVHS. Jim is also a founding member and continues to serve on the Pleasant Valley Schools Educational Foundation Board. Mrs. Davis is the author of Pumpkin Soup & Shrapnel. The Davis family has donated a beautiful grand piano, used by each of their children and grandchildren, to the district. This extraordinary donation will benefit PV students for years to come. The Board thanked Mr. & Mrs. Davis for their very generous gesture.

Consent Agenda: Motion by Dickson, second by Cournoyer that the consent agenda be approved as presented. All ayes. Motion carried. The consent agenda consists of: the resignation/retirement of Marcia Bortleson as a food service worker at Pleasant View and the resignation of Laura Mohs as the theater technician at PVCHS both effective the end of the 2013-14 school year, the regular employment of Michael Collins as a buildings/grounds mechanic’s assistant and Joshua Stewart as a custodian – part-time at PVJH, and Connie Schlabach’s Letter of Assignment is recommended for a transfer from laundress-school year only to laundress/custodian –year round, with an additional hour per day.
EXPENSES APPROVED: Motion by Wagle, second by Bullock that General Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $638,431.53 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Bullock, second by Wagle that Nutrition Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $57,885.33 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Paulsen, second by Bullock that Elementary/Junior High Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $2,639.06 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dickson, second by Cournoyer that High School Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $7,668.84 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Bullock, second by Paulsen that Management Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $53.00 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 $42,735.93 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Paulsen, second by Dickson that Capital Projects Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $70,882.62 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Wagle, second by Cournoyer that Trust Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $30,913.33 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

SECOND AND FINAL READING OF BOARD POLICY REVISIONS: The second and final reading of the 500 series of board policies was held. Dr. Spelhaug noted when completed, the board will be presented with an administrative procedures attachment to policy 502.8, “Dangerous Weapons”. Also, the new last sentence of board policy 503.10 “Transportation to Student Activities” is as follows: Students will return to the school district by the same means of transportation unless prior arrangements are made personally by the parent or guardian with the activity sponsor.

DISCUSSION OF THE 2014-2015 PROPERTY TAX LEVY RATE: Dr. Spelhaug informed the board that they need to make a decision on what dollar amount to set the levy rate at no later than the March 10 board meeting in order to give the business office sufficient time to provide documents required to meet publication guidelines. Key points were reviewed with documents that outlined the district’s taxable valuations (the district’s has increased 5.59% in a year) and solvency ratio (increased from 8.28% to 9.72% in the last year). This solvency ratio calculation includes money reserved to repurchase busses should the district ever decide to no longer outsource bus services. If that figure is factored out, the solvency rate is 5.48%.

Also discussed was the impact of the change in the residential rollback. The current levy rate is $14.74 per $1,000 taxable valuation (rounded to nearest penny) and preliminary discussions included a reduction in the levy in a range from $0.25 - $0.43.

A discussion of this agenda item will continue at the February 24 board meeting.

2014 KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION: Kindergarten registration will be held on February 28 at 9:00 a.m. at each elementary school. A kindergarten class is kept at no more than 22 students enrolled. Indications are that the district will be over-subscribed at the three (3) section level at Hopewell. It appears there will be sufficient room at Pleasant View and Riverdale Heights to accept overflow students. Dr. Spelhaug and the board discussed the variables involved. This will also be an agenda item at the February 24 board meeting.

REVIEW FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PROJECT BUDGETING PLAN: With the Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL) and Instructional Support Levy (ISL) referendums concluded, the district will begin providing an update on the financials (mostly new taxable valuations) and review what has earlier been contemplated by previous board. This will also be an item at the February 24 board meeting.

APPROVAL OF VEHICLE REPLACEMENT BID: The administration recommended acceptance of the low bid for a one ton pick up truck with a snow plow as part of our scheduled vehicle replacements. The vehicle to be traded is a white 2006 Ford 4 X 4 F250 with a snow plow. The trade in allowance from the low bidder was $13,000.

Motion by Dickson, second by Cournoyer that the Board approve the low bid of $29,240.00 from Lindquist Ford for a 2015 one ton truck with snow plow as presented. Roll call vote. Ayes – Dickson, Paulsen, Wagle, Witters, Bullock, Cournoyer. Nays – none. Motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED: The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

FUTURE DATES: Monday, February 24, 2014 6:00 p.m. – Regular Board Meeting, Belmont Administration Office, 525 Belmont Road, Bettendorf, IA 52722.

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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.

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**eFile For a Fast Income Tax Refund!**

Get your Iowa income tax refund in 10 days or less when you file electronically. eFiling is fast, safe, and easy!

The IA 1040A short form – a form which couldn’t be filed electronically – has been eliminated for tax year 2013. This change will allow filers who used the IA 1040A in the past to eFile.

Most students are eligible to eFile for free! Beginning in late January, the Iowa Department of Revenue website (www.iowa.gov/tax) will feature links to software companies offering online filing of income tax returns. File your federal and Iowa income tax returns together from the Department’s website.

**File electronically! Good for the environment. Good for you.**