PELIANT VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Bettendorf, LeClaire, Riverdale  
UNOFFICIAL MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION, REGULAR MEETING, BELMONT ADMINISTRATION CENTER  
Monday, March 23, 2015 – 6:00 P.M C.D.S.T.  
MEMBERS PRESENT: Cournoyer, Dickson, Isbell, Paulsen, Wagle, Witters. Absent – Bullock.  
Also present: Jim Spelhaug, Brian Strusz, Mike Clingingsmith, Stephanie Judkins, Christine Harvey, Jackie Stepaniak, Jenny Halupnik, Kevin Swanson and others.  
AGENDA APPROVED: Motion by Cournoyer, second by Paulsen that the agenda be approved as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.  
EXEMPT SESSION APPROVED: Motion by Isbell, second by Dickson 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 – Isbell, Paulsen, Wagle, Witters, Cournoyer, Dickson. 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 Cournoyer congratulated the boys basketball team and its coaches for an excellent season.  
Mr. Strusz introduced Jenny Halupnik, who presented information on the district’s performance at the State Reflections Program. She reported that PV had 106 state entries. Out of those, 34 received an award. Thirteen first place awards will be forwarded on to the national competition with results in May. She thanked the district PTA’s for their ongoing support of the program.  
The board thanked and applauded Mrs. Halupnik for her efforts.  
Dr. Spelhaug expressed the board’s and district’s sympathies to the family of Fred Bailey, a former employee, who served the district as a custodian at Cody for nine years; and the family of Cherish Stickel, Pleasant View aide, whose husband died recently.  
CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Dickson, second by Wagle that the consent agenda be approved as presented. All ayes. Motion carried. The consent agenda consists of the employment of Kelsey Allbaugh as a second grade teacher at Riverdale Heights, Abby Brown as a kindergarten teacher at Hopewell, Kateeya Brown as a third grade teacher at Bridgeview, Brant Clausen is recommended for an increase from 5/6 to 6/6 as a science teacher at the high school, Collin Daniels as a mathematics teacher at PVCHS, John Hoty as an English teacher at PVCHS, Bethany Hovland as a K-3 special education resource teacher at Pleasant View, Jena Howerton as a first grade teacher at Riverdale Heights, Jacqueline Kreiner as a first grade teacher at Riverdale Heights, Abbey Wilson as a first grade teacher at Bridgeview – all for the 2015-2016 school year; the regular employment of Johnnie Bunce as a part-time custodian at Hopewell and Chelsey Thomsen as a special education aide at Pleasant View; the extra-curricular add of Cassidy Peterson as head varsity volleyball coach and the extra-curricular drop of Stacey Ruff as head varsity volleyball coach.
EXPENSES APPROVED: Motion by Isbell, second by Dickson that General Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $663,629.94 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Wagle, second by Paulsen that Nutrition Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $5,809.11 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dickson, second by Isbell that Elementary/Junior High Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $8,422.27 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Cournoyer, second by Isbell that High School Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $20,630.25 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Paulsen, second by Isbell that PPEL Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $20,312.74 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Paulsen, second by Dickson that Internal Service Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $3,375.00 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Cournoyer, second by Isbell that Trust Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $1,108.55 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

SITE VISIT FOLLOW-UP: Mr. Strusz thanked the board for their participation in the Department of Education Site Visit. Over-all the site visit went very well. The State Department is currently writing their final report and will provide the district with the strengths, weaknesses and recommendations in the very near future.

2015-2016 CALENDAR: Dr. Spelhaug and Mr. Strusz presented a draft of a calendar with an August 31 start which would be the default start date if the Legislature does not make a decision on the school start date. This August 31 start date draft pushes everything back five days from the August 24 model that has been worked on. The issues this draft presents are: 1) that it has five days less before winter break and this may change whether the “point in time” semester exams before winter break still make sense; 2) the issue of having only 67 days of instruction for AP exams second semester (Should they still be offered? Should the schedule structure be changed?); 3) this takes the district out of the traditional graduation date during Memorial Day weekend and instead it would take place on Sunday June 5. The district has conveyed to the legislative representatives that if they cannot arrive at an agreement to allow local control, the August 24 start date is the next most desirable.

Director Bullock arrived at 6:26 p.m.

The decision to align spring break for 2015-2016 with Easter (the week of March 21) a week later than usual is not a permanent position of the board. Easter occurs early in the 2015-2016 school year and the board agreed to align spring break with Good Friday (which is a contractual day off). This saves a day of instruction. It also had less choppiness to the schedule. Aligning spring break with Easter will not happen every year. The district tries to align spring break with Bettendorf and North Scott.

Kevin Swanson was present and expressed his views on the negative impact moving spring break later has on spring sports.

Dr. Spelhaug recommended keeping the 2015-2016 spring break placement. He emphasized that this is not a permanent placement. He encouraged families to contact their legislators. There will be another
meeting where there is a public hearing for the calendar whenever the decision is made by the Legislature. There is a board forum on Monday, April 6, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the PVCHS Library where people can also express their opinions.

Dr. Wagle emphasized that the Board is trying to balance the calendar from an educational standpoint as well as an activity standpoint. The district’s spring break placement will not be permanently tied to Easter.

**PLEASANT VIEW AND BRIDGEVIEW PROJECT BIDS:** The Pleasant View bids were rejected at the March 9 board meeting and were re-bid as just the addition on Thursday, March 12, 2015. Bids were received from five general contractors. The bids ranged from $919,400 to $1,055,000. The low bid was Todd Hackett Construction (the same low bidder for the HS STEM addition).

The district had the low bidder for the Bridgeview project (Precision Builders, Inc.) provide a construction addendum to remove the remodeling of the office and lounge/conference room area. This removed $119,304 from the base bid. This still allows the district to complete the most critical aspects of this remodeling and addition and gets the two projects within budget, albeit without getting as much remodeling done at both locations. The administration recommended accepting alternates #2 (painting the metal facing for $8,472) and alternate #3 (creating a regional detention pond for $31,190) as part of the Bridgeview project. Alternate #3 is a partnership with LeClaire and will be paid by the city.

Motion by Dickson, second by Isbell that the board approve the low bid of $919,400 from Todd Hackett Construction for the Pleasant View Elementary School Addition. Roll call vote. Ayes – Dickson, Isbell, Paulsen, Wagle, Witters, Bullock, Cournoyer. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion by Wagle, second by Cournoyer that the board approve the amended base bid of $2,785,696 from Precision Builders, Inc. for the Bridgeview Elementary School addition and remodel. Roll call vote. Ayes – Wagle, Witters, Bullock, Cournoyer, Dickson, Isbell, Paulsen. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion by Bullock, second by Dickson that the board approve the alternate bids #2 and #3 from Precision Builders, Inc. in the amounts of adding $8,472 and $31,190 respectively to the base bid price for the Bridgeview Elementary School addition and remodel. Roll call vote. Ayes – Bullock, Cournoyer, Dickson, Isbell, Paulsen, Wagle, Witters. Nays – none. Motion carried.

**AUTHORIZATION TO PUBLISH PROPOSED 2015-16 CERTIFIED BUDGET AND ESTABLISHMENT OF DATE FOR 2015-16 CERTIFIED BUDGET HEARING:** Based on discussions at the past three board meetings and a motion that was made at the March 9th board meeting, the board has come to consensus to lower the district’s overall property tax levy rate by $0.15 (rounded to the nearest penny) for the 2015-16 fiscal year. This reduces but does not entirely negate the impact of the rollback on residential property owners.

Motion by Cournoyer, second by Isbell that the Board direct the Chief Financial Officer to publish a proposed budget summary reflecting a tax levy rate not to exceed $14.34409 per $1,000 taxable valuation and to establish a date and time of April 13, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. CDT to hold a public hearing and adopt the certified budget for 2015-16. Roll call vote. Ayes – Cournoyer, Dickson, Isbell, Paulsen, Wagle, Witters, Bullock. Nays – none. Motion carried.
MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS: Mr. Clingingsmith presented the monthly financial reports for February, 2015. Through February, General Fund revenue totaled $24,318,797 and expenses totaled $22,299,197. The fund balance in the General Fund at February 28, 2015 was $6,600,961. 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.


EXEMPT SESSION - NEGOTIATIONS: The board met in exempt session for negotiations from 7:19 – 7:46 p.m.

MEETING ADJOURNED: The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

FUTURE DATES:

Monday, April 6, 2015 School Board Forum, 6:30 p.m. PVHS Library.
Monday, April 13, 2015 Regular School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m. Belmont Administration Office.
Monday, April 27, 2015 PV Foundation Golf Event – 11:00 a.m. at Palmer Hills Golf Course

GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATOR E-MAIL CONTACT INFORMATION:

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS - 2015

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>District/District</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roby Smith</td>
<td>Senate District 47</td>
<td><a href="mailto:roby.smith@legis.iowa.gov">roby.smith@legis.iowa.gov</a> <a href="https://www.legis.iowa.gov">https://www.legis.iowa.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rita Hart</td>
<td>Senate District 49</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rita.hart@legis.iowa.gov">rita.hart@legis.iowa.gov</a> <a href="https://www.legis.iowa.gov">https://www.legis.iowa.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda J. Miller</td>
<td>House District 94</td>
<td><a href="mailto:linda.miller@legis.iowa.gov">linda.miller@legis.iowa.gov</a> <a href="https://www.legis.iowa.gov">https://www.legis.iowa.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phyllis Thede</td>
<td>House District 93</td>
<td><a href="mailto:phyllis.thede@legis.iowa.gov">phyllis.thede@legis.iowa.gov</a> <a href="https://www.legis.iowa.gov">https://www.legis.iowa.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norlin Mommsen</td>
<td>House District 97</td>
<td><a href="mailto:norlin.mommsen@legis.iowa.gov">norlin.mommsen@legis.iowa.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terry Branstad</td>
<td>Governor of Iowa</td>
<td><a href="https://governor.iowa.gov/constituent-services/register-opinion">https://governor.iowa.gov/constituent-services/register-opinion</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brad Buck</td>
<td>Dept. of Education Director</td>
<td><a href="mailto:brad.buck@iowa.gov">brad.buck@iowa.gov</a></td>
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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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**2014-2015
NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION**

It is the policy of the Pleasant Valley Community School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity, and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. 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.

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 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 Rd., Bettendorf, Iowa 52722; telephone (563) 332-5550.

James R. Spelhaug, Ph.D.
Superintendent

**IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT PARENTS OR GUARDIANS WITH CHILDREN ATTENDING NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS:**

Per Iowa Code Section 285.3, in order to qualify for parental reimbursement, a parent or guardian of a student attending an accredited nonpublic school who furnishes transportation for the student in accordance with this section, shall submit a notice of nonpublic school attendance to the resident public school district, notifying the district that the student is enrolled in and will attend an accredited nonpublic school during the period for which parental reimbursement is being requested. The notice shall be filed with the resident public school district not later than December 1 for the first semester claim and May 1 for the second semester claim each year. Forms which must be filled out in order to qualify for this parental reimbursement are available at the Belmont Administration Center, 525 Belmont Road, Bettendorf, Iowa 52722 and on the district website at http://www.pleasval.k12.ia.us. Information needed to complete the form includes the parent or guardian’s name and address, the name, age, and grade level of the student, the name of the nonpublic school and its location and the number of miles one way to transport the child from home to school. Iowa Code Section 285.1, subsection 3, limits the number of students that may be eligible for parent reimbursement to a maximum of three (3) elementary students and one (1) high school student per family.