
Also present: Jim Spelhaug, Brian Strusz, Stephanie Judkins, Mike Clingingsmith, Deborah Dayman, Mike Zimmer, Don Fry, and Heather Keppy.

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

COMMUNICATIONS: President Witters welcomed everyone, and read the vision of the district: It is the vision of the Pleasant Valley Community School District that we shall provide the finest academic and extra-curricular programs in the state – not in some things, but in everything; not for some students, but for every student.


Director Cournoyer also congratulated students and thanked the district’s music teachers and directors for outstanding winter programs. She recognized the over 200 students who participated in the Robotics Showcase on December 6 at PVHS, and thanked the many volunteers.

Mr. Strusz also congratulated the Fine Arts students and teachers for wonderful holiday performances.

Dr. Spelhaug extended sympathy to the family of student Jarret Fossum, who passed away in November.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Cournoyer, second by Wagle that the consent agenda be approved as presented. All ayes. Motion carried. The consent agenda consists of the following:

- MINUTES: The approval of minutes of the November 23, 2015 regular meeting.

- PERSONNEL: The following personnel items were recommended for approval: Brandon Tolle is recommended for employment as an Industrial Technology teacher at Pleasant Valley High School effective January 18, 2016.
Elizabeth Campbell, currently Teacher Librarian/ELP at Hopewell, is recommended for employment as the PK-6 Instructional Coach beginning the start of the 2016-2017 school year.

Stephen Retzl, part-time custodian at Pleasant Valley High School, completed his probationary employment December 15, 2015 and is recommended for regular employment starting December 16, 2015.

Wendy Clifton has submitted her resignation as a Food Service Worker at Riverdale Heights Elementary School effective December 22, 2015.

Kathy Jepsen is recommended for transfer from Cook’s Assistant at Pleasant Valley Junior High to Food Service Worker at Pleasant Valley Junior High School effective January 4, 2016.

Jennifer Voss is recommended for probationary employment as Cook’s Assistant at Pleasant Valley Junior High School starting January 4, 2016.

Rebecca Cernin is recommended for regular employment as a food service worker at Riverdale Heights Elementary School starting January 4, 2016.

Chelsea Sheley has submitted her resignation as a Special Education Aide at Pleasant Valley High School effective December 16, 2015.

Jennifer Assadi is recommended for probationary employment as a Special Education Aide at Riverdale Heights Elementary School starting January 4, 2016.

Lindsay Moore is recommended for probationary employment as a Special Education Aide at Riverdale Heights Elementary School starting January 4, 2016.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR:

ADDS: Bethany Hovland, Assistant Junior High Swimming; Bill Sandry, Head Varsity Baseball; Kristin Oppel, Assistant Junior High Swimming; Neal Green, Assistant Sophomore Boys Basketball; Ryan Pillow, Head 8th grade Boys Basketball; Sarah Geis, Assistant Junior High Boys Basketball; Rebecca Meyer, Assistant High School Bowling. DROPS: Eric Royer, Head 8th grade Boys Basketball.

• OPEN ENROLLMENT: Three open enrollment applications in from Bettendorf for the 2015-16 school year.

• 2015-16 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (SIAC): The following individuals have agreed to serve on the council for the 2015-16 school year: Joe Adam, Community Member/Business; Lane Bleeker, Parent; Trampus Budde, JH Principal; Marcus Cavanagh, Teacher; Bennett Cournoyer, Student; Chris Cournoyer, Board/Parent; Ladonna Czachowski, Technology Facilitator; Zach Day, Teacher; Eric Dippel, Parent; Jarrin Flores, Student; Jennifer Gertson, Principal; Deb Hartman, Teacher; Gma Howze, Parent; Stephanie Judkins, Director of Literacy and Elementary Curriculum; Ann Kardell, Parent; Jordan Keyes, Student; Olivia Peters, Student; Katherine Ramsdell, Parent; Bailie Rasmussen, Teacher; Karen Reed, Parent; Stephanie Risius, Teacher; Jeff Rose, Community Member/Business; Barbara Schadt, Parent/Teacher; Deb Schwake, Parent; Steve Sorensen, Community Member/Business; Jim Spelhaug, Superintendent; Brian Strusz, Assistant Superintendent; Matt Stuttenberg, Teacher; Celal Tekeli, Parent; Christine Thompson, Teacher/Counselor; Maggie Tinsman, Community Member/Business; Todd Vershaw, Community Member/Business; Tina Young, Parent/Teacher; Mike Zimmer, HS Principal.
EXPENSES APPROVED:

Motion by Isbell, second by Hoskins that General Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $599,016.33 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hoskins, second by Wagle that Nutrition Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $90,041.64 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Wagle, second by Anderson that Elementary/Junior High Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $11,302.08 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Cournoyer, second by Hoskins that High School Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $24,967.20 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Isbell, second by Wagle that Management Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $16,470.00 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Cournoyer, second by Anderson that Capital Projects Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $1,620,978.96 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hoskins, second by Anderson that PPEL Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $246,791.48 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Isbell second by Cournoyer that Trust Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of $1,139.10 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

FINAL READING OF BOARD POLICY 802.4 “DEBT MANAGEMENT POLICY” AND BOARD POLICY REGULATION 802.4R “POST-ISSUANCE COMPLIANCE POLICY FOR TAX-EXEMPT OBLIGATIONS”: The board undertook the third and final reading of new/modified board policies as recommended by Bond Counsel as the district embarks upon borrowing for current and future building additions. The first reading occurred at the November 9, 2015 meeting; the second at the November 23, 2015 meeting. Board Policy 802.4 currently titled “Sale of Bonds” is retitled “Debt Management Policy” and Board Policy Regulation 802.4R “Post-Issuance Compliance Policy for Tax-Exempt Obligations” is added.


UPDATE ON HIGH SCHOOL WELLNESS OPT OUT POLICY: Mr. Strusz updated the board on the thinking to date regarding opt out options. At the foundation of this thinking are two strongly held beliefs:
1. We believe in the value and benefit of supporting all students being involved in our wellness program.
2. We believe in the benefits of weight training for students in our athletic program. These benefits include care and prevention of injuries and program involvement.

Four options offering various scheduling flexibilities were presented to the board. Administrative opt out will only be considered if an extreme and unusual variable has caused no other options to work. The administration will continue to research and evaluate options. The board will respond to the current reflective thinking options at the January 11, 2016 board meeting.

No required motion.

**PUBLIC HEARING 2016-17 CALENDAR:** President Witters opened the required public hearing at 6:46 p.m. Dr. Spelhaug answered questions from the board regarding early out days, and the public hearing closed at 6:52 p.m. Critical dates are as follows: August 23 – first day of school; December 23-January 2 – winter break; March 13-17 – spring break; May 28 – graduation; May 30 – last day of school.

Motion by Isbell, second by Anderson that the board approve the 2016-17 calendar as presented. Roll call vote. Ayes – Hoskins, Cournoyer, Anderson, Witters, Wagle, Isbell. Nays – none. Motion carried.

**IOWA REPORT CARD:** Brian Strusz provided additional insight into this new state accountability mandate. The state is still developing background information to assist districts in interpreting this data. As this is provided, the district will continue to utilize the information in any way it can be useful to improving our educational programming. He illustrated a likely shortcoming in the data by comparing Hopewell, which had the very highest rating, to Pleasant View, which had a lower rating. This is an interesting result as Pleasant View has equal or better outcomes compared to Hopewell in every measure other than “closing the achievement gap”. Much of this result comes from the fact that the special needs population at Pleasant View is different from that of Hopewell and/or the other elementary schools. The important point is that it is a mistake to make sweeping conclusions from these school-to-school ratings. It is essential to look deeply into the scores in order to draw accurate conclusions.

No required motion.

**NEW HIGH SCHOOL COURSES:** Mr. Zimmer presented new courses to be offered in the 2016-17 school year, including Digital Electronics, the study of electronic circuits that are used to process and control digital signals; Computer Science Applications, focusing on integrating technologies across multiple platforms and networks; Micro Computer Applications, an online course which will teach Microsoft Office programs including Word, Publisher, Excel, and PowerPoint; and Advanced Manufacturing Career Academy, offered in conjunction with the Blong Technology Center/Eastern Iowa Community Colleges, in which students will explore manufacturing careers and learn valuable electronics skills.

CHANGE ORDER #1, PLEASANT VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL ADDITION AND RENOVATION: Dr. Spelhaug outlined changes required in the high school STEM addition and HVAC upgrade projects. $3,717 related primarily to HVAC damper and duct testing work. $6,243 related to the STEM addition, the majority due to over excavation required due to poor soil conditions.

Motion by Cournoyer, second by Hoskins that the board approve Change Order #1 for the Pleasant Valley High School STEM addition and HVAC renovation project in the amount of an add of $9,960. Roll call vote. Ayes – Anderson, Witters, Wagle, Isbell, Hoskins, Cournoyer. Nays – none. Motion carried.

PURCHASE OF 2016 SUBURBAN FLEET VEHICLE: Dr. Spelhaug presented the recommendation to purchase (without trade-in) a new fleet vehicle. As we grow and our extra-curricular groups continue to succeed, the number of times we run short of vehicles (and are required to rent) continues to grow.

Motion by Hoskins, second by Anderson that the board approve the purchase of a 2016 nine passenger Chevrolet Suburban from low bidder Mills Chevrolet, total cost $41,672.00. Roll call vote. Ayes – Cournoyer, Anderson, Witters, Wagle, Isbell, Hoskins. Nays – none. Motion carried.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS: Mr. Clingingsmith presented the monthly financial reports for November 2015. Through November, General Fund revenue totaled $18,472,275 and expenses totaled $12,973,397. The fund balance in the General Fund at November 30, 2015 was $10,901,761. Also presented were Management, PPEL, Capital Projects, Debt Service, Nutrition, Internal Service, and Activity Funds reports. No significant variances from projections were noted.

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

IASB CONVENTION DEBRIEF: Directors Witters, Cournoyer, Wagle, and Hoskins attended the IASB State Convention November 18th and 19th. Each shared with the board ideas and impressions. Director Cournoyer shared talking points to be shared with state legislators.

No required motion.

MEETING ADJOURNED: The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

FUTURE DATES:
Monday, January 11, 2016 Regular School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m. Belmont Administration Center

Monday, January 25, 2016 Regular School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m. Belmont Administration Center
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.

2015-2016
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