

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PAXTON-BUCKLEY-LODA COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10 BOARD OF EDUCATION OF FORD, CHAMPAIGN, VERMILION, IROQUOIS, AND LIVINGSTON COUNTIES OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS HELD WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2010 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE PAXTON-BUCKLEY-LODA BOARD ROOM IN PAXTON, ILLINOIS.

President Mike Short called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Upon roll call, the following board members answered present: Mike Short, Dawn Bachtold, Jeff Jarboe, Dean Swan, Shawn Young, Dave Dowling, and Cris Thompson.

Others present were Cliff McClure, Trent Eshleman, Stan Daro, Amy Teske, Marilyn Weber, Tara Wienke, Andy Bennett, Mike Brehm, Eric Brackmann, Jeff Graham, Barry Wright, Josh Didier, and Alan Hopkins.

Jeff Jarboe made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous month. Dawn Bachtold seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all board members being present, the vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Dave Dowling made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Dean Swan seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all board members being present, the vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Dean Swan made a motion to approve payment of all current bills. Dave Dowling seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all board members being present, the vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Dean Swan read a letter dated November 10, 2010 from Emilie Ross requesting a medical leave of absence beginning November 24, 2010 and ending on January 3, 2011.

Dean Swan read a letter dated November 2, 2010 from Kimberly Smith resigning as guidance secretary at PBL High School effective November 16, 2010.

Dean Swan read an article from the Paxton Chamber of Commerce newsletter regarding the Chamber sponsoring a golf outing in which the net proceeds were used to help purchase a new softball field scoreboard.

There were no visitors.

Mr. Didier addressed the Board with regard to the recent Policy Review Committee meeting. He stated the Committee members are Stan Daro, Trent Eshleman, Kristin Oyer, Jeanne Peterson, and Jeff Jarboe. Most of the policies for the Board to review are mandated policies, and the Committee is in the process of catching up on these. Mr. Didier advised that the Committee will be looking into early graduation requirements, weighted grading, and distribution of any promotional materials throughout the schools. Mr. Didier said the next Policy Review Committee meeting is scheduled for December 8, 2010 at 8:30 a.m. in the Board room.

Ms. Wienke addressed the Board with regard to school improvement and Larry Bell. She advised that the District has begun implementation of this program, and each school has hosted a variety of kick-offs to re-energize the students and staff, such as assemblies and teaching during Music and P.E. classes. Ms.

Wienke stated there is a lot of momentum with the program, and the students have been very receptive to this program.

Ms. Wienke advised that she met with Mr. Graham and Mr. McClure to do some research prior to the Board meeting. She stated they drafted an action plan for the District's grading policy with a potential fall implementation date with Board approval. Ms. Wienke stressed that this action plan is strictly a draft and welcomed Board input. She advised the main reason the District should look into a grading policy is due to lack of consistency with our current grading policy. Ms. Wienke stated that this is a hot topic in many districts at the moment, and the District is utilizing other school district's grading policy models to try and form them into a new grading policy. She stated that data will be collected with the help from teachers, parents, and possibly some students. The District is looking to implement the new grading policy next school year. Mr. Jarboe has some questions with regard to weighted grading, and Ms. Wienke replied that this issue is being addressed and researched. She again stressed that the action plan is a draft and will be a slow, cumbersome project that will require a lot of research. Ms. Wienke added that the High School grading policy will be somewhat different than those being using in the elementary buildings. Mr. McClure stated that the drafted action plan strictly addresses concerns and ideas on how to motivate students to take the most rigorous courses offered at the High School. Ms. Wienke reiterated that the District is open to any and all ideas and suggestions from the Board and that the teachers have relayed that they would like consistency in the grading policy.

Ms. Wienke explained to the Board the process the District went through last school year of implementing its mission and vision statements. She said the next step is for the Board of Education to set up academic goals for the administration. This will show the community and students that the administration and Board are focused united. This will also ensure the Board is aware and understands that is going on in the classrooms and set goals for the administration and staff. Ms. Wienke stated that in turn this will give administration and staff motivation and something to strive for. Mr. McClure stated that he feels strongly about this and that the Board needs to stay informed. This will also show the community and students that the direction and message is coming from the Board. Mr. McClure suggested a work session meeting for the Board to draft their baseline goals for the next year for administration and staff.

Ms. Wienke briefly summarized the High School improvement plan for the Board and the reasons why the High School needs an improvement plan. She complimented Mr. Eshleman for working with his staff and PST who researched what could be affecting AYP. Ms. Wienke stated the High School needs to see a boost in the middle-range students, curriculum alignment to the ACT exam, and staff doing this through Curriculum Mapper. She stated that the District needs to make sure that by the time students are Juniors they have been exposed to core subjects that will be in the ACT test. Ms. Wienke advised that students will be focusing on non-fiction reading and doing something with it so that they realize that reading isn't just utilized in Reading class but will be a skill students will use throughout their lives.

Ms. Wienke stated that Gretchen Courtney will be coming back in February to discuss Reading strategies. She stated that Mr. Eshleman and his staff have spent collaboration time well and have done a great job. Mr. Eshleman stated that an English professor from Parkland College came in to help us in areas where the High School is lacking. This professor also reinforced some areas that the High School was looking into as a beginning point. Mr. Eshleman advised that the staff at the High School is very focused right now and buying into becoming better. He stated the first nine weeks has been a training period, and now we are moving on to data analysis to see how they are implementing this in the classroom. Mr. Eshleman advised that he has put together an intervention team that meets every Monday morning for students on

the radar. He stated the High School has Ms. Schuler and Ms. Cook and a representative from the Special Education Department so we can work on case management. He advised there are still a lot of things the High School can do to be more efficient and communicate better with students. Ms. Wienke stated that staff will start instructing academic vocabulary in the spring.

Ms. Wienke stated she will try and present the other buildings' improvement plans at next month's Board meeting. Dave Dowling made a motion to approve the Paxton-Buckley-Loda High School improvement plan. Jeff Jarboe seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all board members being present, the vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Mr. McClure went over the Levy with the Board. He stated that IMRF has gone down quite a bit, and he has increased FICA and Tort Liability. Mr. McClure advised that the Tort Fund balance is quite small due to increased insurance costs. The District's estimated EAV increased by \$1.5 million over last month's Levy due to updated numbers from Ford County. Iroquois County has not finalized everything yet, so Mr. McClure is hopeful that he has finalized numbers from Iroquois County by the next Board meeting. Mr. McClure stated that farmland has increased by ten percent, and everything else will be a small increase. The total aggregate has to be over five percent in order to conduct a Truth in Taxation hearing, but Mr. McClure advised that he wants to plan on a hearing anyways. Dave Dowling made a motion to approve the 2010 Levy. Dawn Bachtold seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all board members being present, the vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Dean Swan made a motion to approve December 15, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. as the date and time for the 2010 Truth in Taxation hearing. Dawn Bachtold seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all board members being present, the vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Mr. Didier informed the Board that parent/teacher conferences at Clara Peterson were a success. He stated if parents could not attend on parent/teacher conference evenings their conferences were held on a different date so attendance was at 100%.

Mr. Wright stated that 326 parent/teacher conferences were held at Eastlawn Elementary. He advised that parent/teacher conferences continue as teachers seek out parents they have not met with yet.

Mr. Graham advised that the Junior High is still conducting parent/teacher conferences every day. The conferences are held in team meetings. Mr. Graham stated that 72 team meeting conferences have been held so far in the Junior High.

Mr. Eshleman stated that the High School held 115 parent/teacher conferences which place the High School at 25% attendance. However, Mr. Eshleman advised that there are other informal contacts made by parents and teachers throughout the school year.

Mr. McClure advised the Board that he has spoken with Bob Martensen at which time he informed him that the Board was going to approve the intergovernmental agreement at tonight's Board meeting. He stated that Chris Miller is comfortable with the insurance language in the agreement. Dean Swan made a motion to approve the intergovernmental agreement with the Paxton Park District. Jeff Jarboe seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all board members being present, the vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Mr. McClure informed the Board that he would like to utilize Health/Life Safety funds for replacing tile in the High School classrooms and purchasing new student lockers at the High School. He stated that most of the flooring in the High School are old asbestos tile, and the District needs to begin replacing them. Mr. McClure suggested that the District replace the tile in two classrooms during the winter break. With regard to student lockers, Mr. McClure advised that the District needs to get a Health/Life Safety amendment approved for this project because the student lockers are in very poor condition. Dawn Bachtold made a motion to approve replacing the tile in the High School classrooms and replacing the student lockers in the High School both utilizing Health/Life Safety funds. Dave Dowling seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all board members being present, the vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Mr. McClure stated the Building and Grounds Committee will be meeting on December 1, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. in the PBL Board room.

Mr. Eshleman stated the High School fall activities are very extensive. He encouraged the Board to read his paper report because he did not want to leave any activity unreported. Mr. Eshleman advised that Mr. Overstreet is in the process of scheduling meetings with the fall coaches to go over goals for the next school year. Mr. Young asked about the volleyball program and why cuts were made, and Mr. Eshleman replied that the cuts were backed up with rationale and that he would look further into this matter.

Mr. Graham advised that three students from the Junior High were chosen for all honors band and both the boys' and girls' cross country teams were sectional champions.

Mr. Wright stated that Eastlawn's open house had 340 people attending, grandparents day was a huge hit, the 4th graders took a fieldtrip to Springfield, hosted a book fair, celebrated homecoming week at Eastlawn, hosted pint-size heroes where students go out and find adults to donate blood, PIT crew held a 1980s dance, the Twelve Powerful Words assembly was a huge success, observed Red Ribbon week, held parent/teacher conferences, and 46 students are participating in band. Mr. Wright also stated that on December 20, 2010 Eastlawn will perform its holiday concert at the High School gymnasium.

Mr. Didier advised that Clara Peterson's open house was a huge success. Dr. Haggerty came and met with each grade level staff, and this was a huge success as well. Students practiced the Twelve Powerful Words dance, and Clara Peterson's holiday concert is scheduled for December 21, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. McClure informed the Board that Thanksgiving break will be November 25th and 26th.

Mr. McClure mentioned that Katrina Reber, Hillary Sawyer, and Linda Tammen are all members of the Illinois Reading Council with Ms. Reber serving as vice-president.

Mr. McClure informed the Board that Dr. Brehm has been making some changes to the District's website to make it more academic focused. He is receiving some additional training in this area so the District can utilize the website to the fullest extent.

Mr. McClure reminded the Board that the District's Veteran's Day assembly will be tomorrow morning in the High School gymnasium at 8:45 a.m.

Mr. McClure suggested to the Board that the Finance, Personnel, and Transportation Committees need to set up a meeting for some time in January.

Dr. Brehm informed the Board that he has recently met with a representative from Illinois Central Network which company is offering an initiative for installing new fiber optic in the State of Illinois. He stated that the District has been chosen to host. If the District would choose to do this, the District would have unlimited band width and be an internet service provider. Dr. Brehm stated this is a fully funded project, and he feels the District could pursue this option.

Dawn Bachtold made a motion to go into closed session to discuss to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, performance of specific employees of the public body pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)1 and student disciplinary cases pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)9. Jeff Jarboe seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all board members being present, the vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Closed session began at 8:27 p.m.

Dawn Bachtold made a motion to come out of closed session. Dave Dowling seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all board members being present, the vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Closed session ended at 9:09 p.m.

Mr. McClure recommended the Board approve the medical leave of absence request of Emilie Ross from November 24, 2010 through January 3, 2011. Jeff Jarboe made a motion to approve the medical leave of absence request of Emilie Ross from November 24, 2010 through January 3, 2011. Dave Dowling seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all board members being present, the vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Mr. McClure recommended the Board affirm the resignation of Kim Smith as High School guidance secretary. Dawn Bachtold made a motion to affirm the resignation of Kim Smith as High School guidance secretary. Cris Thompson seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all board members being present, the vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Mr. McClure recommended the Board approve the employment of Cecile Ratcliff as a cook. Dave Dowling made a motion to approve the employment of Cecile Ratcliff as a cook. Cris Thompson seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all board members being present, the vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Mr. McClure recommended the Board approve the Addendum A goals for Cliff McClure as superintendent. Dave Dowling made a motion to approve the Addendum A goals for Cliff McClure as superintendent. Dean Swan seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all board members being present, the vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Mr. McClure recommended the Board approve the Addendum A goals for Trent Eshleman as High School principal. Dean Swan made a motion to approve the Addendum A goals for Trent Eshleman as High School principal. Dave Dowling seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all board members being present, the vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Mr. McClure recommended the Board affirm Kyle Buhmaster as a volunteer coach for High School boys' basketball for the 2010/2011 season pending a background check and ASEP certification. Dawn Bachtold made a motion to affirm Kyle Buhmaster as a volunteer coach for High School boys' basketball for the

2010/2011 season pending a background check and ASEP certification. Dave Dowling seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all board members being present, the vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Dean Swan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dave Dowling seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all board members being present, the vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education