

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**PERU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 124**  
**JUNE 21, 2023, 6:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the month of June of the Board of Education of Peru Elementary School District 124, LaSalle County, Illinois, was called to order in the Learning Resource Center at Parkside School by Board President Patti Leynaud, on Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Leynaud led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Members Josanne Bruins, Simon Kampwerth, Austin Taylor, and President Patti Leynaud.  
ABSENT: Vice President Rob Ankiewicz, Member John Atkins, and Member Alison Goode.

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Jamie Craven and Megan Baltikauski

**MOTION:** Moved by Simon Kampwerth, seconded by Austin Taylor, to approve the meeting agenda of June 21, 2031. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Taylor, Leynaud, and Bruins. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There was no public comment, correspondence or announcements this evening.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Taylor, seconded by Member Bruins, to approve the following items in the Consent Agenda:

- May 17, 2023 Board of Education Meeting Minutes
- May 17, 2023 Executive Session Minutes
- Financial Reports
- Treasurer's Report
- District Bills
- Required Board and Employee Travel Expense Reimbursements

ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Taylor, Bruins, Kampwerth, and Leynaud.

NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

**REPORTS, UPDATES AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**Administrative Reports:**

**Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Craven reported:

- Bill Newkirk and Associates will be in the district tomorrow to begin the audit process. This is a pre-audit meeting where they spent the day onsite reviewing necessary paperwork and documents making sure they have all materials they need to begin. During the week of July 24th, they will return to complete the full financial portion of the audit. This year, like the past couple of years, the audit will be a little more comprehensive given the amount of federal grant

dollars which have flowed through our budget. Bill will attend a fall board meeting to provide his report.

- At the June 6th Peru Education Foundation meeting the board approved seven grant requests totaling \$6,294.
- After tonight we will begin the budgeting process for the FY24 budget. Next year we will still have some ESSER III dollars available for district use, approximately \$250,000. A preliminary budget will be presented at the regular July board meeting, the working budget will be placed on public display, an update will be provided at the August meeting, a public hearing will be held at our September meeting where the budget will be adopted.
- All summer projects are underway or at least scheduled. Parkside parking lots have been seal coated and re-stripped. In early July the gymnasium will be painted and the week of July 17th the gym floor will be refinished. Other work items identified by the building and grounds will be addressed as well. As of today, the custodians report that they are on schedule with summer clearing.
- The 2023 Joint Annual Conference in Chicago is November 17-19.
- A review of the 2022-2023 budget summary fund balance percent report and projected end balances was provided to the Board.

### **Phonics Committee Report- Reading Horizons Curriculum**

Committee members started to meet during the winter of 2022 and continued into the spring of 2023 with a total of meeting together 8 times in all. The committee narrowed down two programs: Wilson's Foundations and Reading Horizons. The committee's hope is that when a new program is implemented, they maybe able to downsize to just having grades K-2 use this program and then grades 3-4 for Tier 2 and Tier 3 intervention only.

### **Jump Start Summer School Update**

Summer School will be held at Northview School during the week of July 17-August 4. The total number of recommended students for grades K-4 was 79 with a total of 54 attending.

### **Handbook Revisions Overview**

The 2023-2024 Combined Parent and Student Handbook, Employee Handbook and Substitute Handbook revision recommendations were provided to the Board. Updates include any new staff changes, the 2023-2024 school district calendar, fee waiver updates, attendance and procedures updates, employee code of ethics updates to reflect Erin's Law and Faith's Law, student ID's at Parkside, water bottles, health and wellness updates, and special programs and services 504 plans updates.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Approval of Authorization to Prepay Remaining June and July District Bills**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to approve the authorization to prepay remaining June and July District bills. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Kampwerth, Leynaud, and Taylor. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

#### **Approval of Fiscal Year 2024 Investment Depositories and Investment Managers**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Taylor, to approve the fiscal year 2024 investment depositories and investment managers as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Taylor, Leynaud, and Bruins. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

**Approval of the 2023-24 Combined Parent & Student Handbook Revisions**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Taylor, to approve the recommended 2023-24 combined parent and student handbook revisions as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Taylor, Kampwerth, and Leynaud. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

**Approval of the 2023-24 Employee Handbook Revisions**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Taylor, to approve the recommended 2023-24 employee handbook revisions as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Taylor, Leynaud, and Kampwerth. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

**Approval of the 2023-24 Substitute Handbook Revisions**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Bruins, to approve the recommended 2023-24 substitute handbook revisions as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Bruins, Leynaud and Taylor. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

**Approval of Dissolution of Mowing & Trimming Contract**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Bruins, to approve the dissolution of the mowing and trimming contract between Turftamers and Peru ESD #124. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Bruins, Taylor, and Leynaud. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

**Approval of 2-year Mowing & Trimming Contract**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Kampwerth to approve the 2-year mowing and trimming contract between TNT Lawn and Snow, LLC and Peru ESD #124. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Kampwerth, Leynaud, and Taylor. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

**Approval of Reading Horizons Phonics Curriculum**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Taylor, seconded by Member Kampwerth to approve the Reading Horizons Phonics Curriculum as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Taylor, Kampwerth, Leynaud, and Bruins. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Taylor, to adjourn to Executive Session at 6:53 p.m. for the discussion of information regarding the employment, performance, or dismissal of employees or district legal counsel; and discussion of information related to employee salaries, benefits, and issues related to collective bargaining. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Taylor, Kampwerth and Leynaud. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

Member Austin Taylor exited the room at 7:01p.m. for the discussion of the Independent Contractor Agreement and returned to the room at 7:04 p.m.

**RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Bruins, to return to Regular Session at 7:23 p.m. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Bruins, Taylor, and Leynaud. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

**ACTION ITEMS AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Approval of Resignations**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to approve the resignation of Jen Znaniecki a the PreK Parent Coordinator and Paraprofessional at Northview Elementary at the completion of the 2022-23 school term. AYE 4, NAY 0. **The motion carried 4-0.**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Taylor, to approve the resignation of Sarah Breyne as the Music Teacher at Northview Elementary at the completion of the 2022-23 school AYE 4, NAY 0. **The motion carried 4-0.**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Taylor, to approve the resignation of Lexy Rebholz as a First Grade Teacher at Northview Elementary effective June 21, 2023. AYE 4, NAY 0. **The motion carried 4-0.**

### **Approval of Employment**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Kampwerth to approve the recommendation to employ Tara Wright as a nurse assistant/health aide for the 2023-24 school year. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Kampwerth, Taylor, and Leynaud. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Taylor, seconded by Member Bruins to approve the recommendation to employ Natalie Lindig as the Music Teacher at Northview Elementary for the 2023-24 school year. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Taylor, Bruins, Leynaud, and Kampwerth. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Bruins to approve the recommendation to employ Lisa Michael as the Special Education Cross Categorical Teacher at Northview Elementary for the 2023-24 school year. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth Bruins, Leynaud, and Taylor . NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Leynaud to approve the recommendation to employ Carlie Kowalski as a First Grade Teacher at Northview Elementary for the 2023-24 school year. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Leynaud, Taylor, and Kampwerth. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Taylor to approve the recommendation to employ Sydney Kasperski as a Math Intervention Paraprofessional at Northview Elementary for the 2023-24 school year. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Taylor, Kampwerth, and Leynaud. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Bruins to approve the recommendation to employ Anna Burre as an Autism Paraprofessional at Northview Elementary for the 2023-24 school year. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Bruins, Leynaud, Taylor, and Kampwerth. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Taylor, seconded by Member Bruins to approve the recommendation to employ Lisa Donnell as a Paraprofessional at Parkside Middle School for the 2023-24 school year. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Taylor, Bruins, Kampwerth, and Leynaud. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 4-0.**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Taylor, seconded by Member Kampwerth to approve the recommendation to employ Tina Buffo as a full-time Paraprofessional at Northview Elementary for the

2023-24 school year. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Taylor, Kampwerth, Leynaud, and Bruins NAYS: None.

**The motion carried 4-0.**

**Approval of Updated Paraprofessional Personal & Sick Days**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Taylor to approve the recommended schedule for the District’s Paraprofessionals personal and sick days as presented, effective July 1, 2023. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Taylor, Leynaud, and Bruins. NAYS: None.

**The motion carried 4-0.**

**Approval of 2023-24 Updated Extracurricular Assignments**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Taylor, to approve the 2023-24 Updated Extracurricular Assignments. AYE 4, NAY 0.

**The motion carried 4-0.**

**Approval of Request for Retirement**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Bruins, to approve the request for retirement of Dave Meyers as a Custodial Service Employee for Peru ESD 124 effective June 15, 2023. AYE 4, NAY 0. **The motion carried 4-0.**

**Approval of Independent Contractor Agreement**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Bruins, to approve the Independent Contractor Agreement between Peru ESD #124 and Jamie Taylor as the PreK Parent Coordinator for the 2023-24 school term. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Bruins, and Leynaud.

Abstain: Taylor. NAYS: None.

**The motion carried 3-0.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Kampwerth, to adjourn at 7:32 p.m. AYE 4, NAY 0. **The motion carried 4-0.**

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Patti Leynald, Board President

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Megan Baltikauski, Board Secretary