

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
PERU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 124
January 15, 2025, 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the month of January 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, January 15, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Jamie Craven, Megan Baltikauski, Eric Heagy, Brent Ziegler, Sara McDonald, Brent, Gina and Chase Martin, Chloe Cinotto, Kelli Funfsinn, Beth Haskell, Carlie Kowalski, Michele Meyer, and Leslie Rudnicky.

MOTION: Moved by Rob Ankiewicz, seconded by Simon Kampwerth, to approve the regular meeting agenda of January 15, 2025. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Ankiewicz, Kampwerth, Leynaud, Taylor, Atkins, and Bruins. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT, CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Ziegler introduced Parkside student Chase Martin and his parents to everyone in attendance. Chase is the recipient of the January LaSalle County Schools Committee's Student Excellence Award. He and his parents attended the LaSalle County Board Meeting on January 9th to be recognized. Chase is an excellent representative of Parkside Middle School.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Moved by Member Atkins, seconded by Member Ankiewicz, to approve the following items in the Consent Agenda:

- December 19, 2024 Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes
- December 19, 2024 Executive Session Meeting Minutes
- January 8, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes
- January 8, 2025 Special Meeting Executive Session Minutes
- January 9, 2025 Building & Grounds Committee Meeting Minutes
- January 11, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes
- January 11, 2025 Special Meeting Executive Session Minutes
- Financial Reports
- Monthly Treasurer's Report
- District Bills
- Required Board and Employee Travel Expense Reimbursements

ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Atkins, Ankiewicz, Bruins, Leynaud, Taylor, and Kampwerth. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

REPORTS, UPDATES AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Quarterly Treasurer's Report

Eric Heagy provided the District's Quarterly Treasurer' Report. The cash basis account is earning 96 basis points with an overall weighted average rate of 2.50%. There is an expectation of rates going down, but time will tell. All funds are in a surplus.

Standards Based Learning Presentation

Mrs. McDonald and the First Grade Team provided a Standards Based Learning presentation to the Board of Education. Team members each took turns explaining how it all began, where we are now, what did the work look like for the grade level teams, what the benefits of SBL are, obstacles to overcome, and what the next steps are. 2nd grade will implement SBRC in FY26, 3rd grade during FY27 and 4th grade during FY28.

Building & Grounds Committee Meeting Update

The committee provided information from the January 9th meeting that contained the following information:

- Potential addition at Northview
- Northview's 10 Year Health Life Safety Update
- The District's 5 Year Facilities Plan
- Fall and Spring landscape cleanup needs
- Northview and Parkside campus flowerpots

Administrative Reports

Mrs. McDonald's reported:

- IReady Diagnostic Math Assessments were administered the week before winter break. Fastbridge tests are administered to K-4 this week. The week of February 10th will be ACCESS testing for our English Language Learners.
- Project success has been started for students in grades 2-4 after Thanksgiving and Parent Teacher Conferences.
- Preschool screenings at Northview were held on January 15th. There are 16 new students on the screening list.
- Preschool received their official letter from ExceleRate Illinois stating that Northview Elementary School's Early Childhood Education Program met the requirement for the Gold Circle of Quality.

Mr. Ziegler Reported:

- Math diagnostics were administered prior to winter break. Fastbridge benchmarking started on January 13th. SAEBRs Screening was completed on January 10th with results to be reviewed by our SEL committee.
- The January 6th Teacher Institute was centered on classroom management training conducted by the ROE. Topics included developing relationships with students, recognizing trauma, and how to not be a trigger when working with kids. The presentation also covered teacher well ness and how everyone needs to work together. Also, IT director, Tony Carlson presented teacher tools provided by AI resources.

- Spelling Bee grade level winners competed on January 15th at Parkside. 32 students will compete to determine a representative for online completion. Dinelle Freschi is the sponsor.
- Rehearsals have started for the spring musical, Peter Pan Jr. The spring musical is on March 21-22, 2025.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Craven Reported:

- Throughout the fall and winter, we have experienced an uptick in new student registration.
- The next Foundation meeting is scheduled for January 22nd at which time they will begin Trivia Night planning. Trivia Night this year is on March 15, 2025.
- Mr. Craven provided a review of the action items on the agenda which include the approval of the 2024 Annual Disclosure Report for the Series 2015, 2015A, 2016, 2019, 2022A and 2022B Bonds, the tax abatement resolution, approval of the 2024-25 licensed faculty and support staff seniority lists, the proposed 2025-26 school district calendar and the resolution in support of Illinois Vision 2030.

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

There were no updates to provide at this time.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of 2024 Annual Disclosure Report for the Series 2015, 2015A, 2016, 2019, 2022A and 2022B Bonds for Peru Elementary School District 124

MOTION: Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Atkins, to adopt the 2024 Annual Disclosure Report as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Atkins, Ankiewicz, Kampwerth, Leynaud, and Taylor. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Adoption of Resolution Providing for the Abatement of Certain Taxes Levied for the Payment of the Principal and Interest on General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) for Series 2015A, and General Obligation Bonds Series 2015 and General Obligation School Refunding Bonds (ARS) Series 2022B of Peru Elementary School District 124

MOTION: Moved by Member Taylor, seconded by Member Ankiewicz, to approve the tax abatement resolution as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Taylor, Ankiewicz, Kampwerth, Bruins, Leynaud, and Atkins. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of 2024-2025 Licensed Faculty and Support Staff Seniority Lists

MOTION: Moved by Member Atkins, seconded by Member Taylor, to approve the 2024-2025 staff seniority lists as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Atkins, Taylor, Ankiewicz, Kampwerth, Bruins, and Leynaud. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of Recommended 2025-2026 School District Calendar

MOTION: Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Ankiewicz, to approve the recommended 2025-2026 school district calendar as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Ankiewicz, Atkins, Taylor, Kampwerth, and Leynaud. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Adoption of Resolution in Support of Illinois Vision 2030

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Atkins, to adopt the resolution in support of Illinois Vision 2030 as presented. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Atkins, Bruins, Ankiewicz, Taylor, and Leynaud. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Moved by Member Ankiewicz, seconded by Member Atkins, to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:34 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; and discussion regarding denial of access to school property as it related to board policy 8:30. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Ankiewicz, Atkins, Bruins, Taylor, Kampwerth, and Leynaud. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

MOTION: Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Atkins, to return to Regular Session at 8:18 p.m. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Atkins, Ankiewicz, Kampwerth, Leuynaud, and Taylor. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

ACTION ITEMS AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

Authorization to Release Executive Session Minutes of Meetings Held on the Dates Provided

MOTION: Moved by Member Kampwerth, seconded by Member Atkins, to not release the executive session minutes of meetings held on the dates provided. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Kampwerth, Atkins, Ankiewicz, Leynaud, Taylor, and Bruins. NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Authorization of Destruction of Verbatim Audio Records from Executive Session Minutes Held Prior to July 1, 2023, per the Illinois Open Meeting Act, 5 ILCS 120

MOTION: Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Ankiewicz to authorize the destruction of verbatim audio records from executive session minutes held prior to July 1, 2023. ROLL CALL, VOTING AYE: Bruins, Ankiewicz, Kampwerth, Atkins, Leynaud, and Taylor. and NAYS: None. **The motion carried 6-0.**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Member Bruins, seconded by Member Atkins, to adjourn at 8:19 p.m. AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Patti Leynaud, Board President

Megan Baltikauski, Board Secretary