

PRAIRIE CENTRAL COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 8
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES
OPEN SESSION

PENDING APPROVAL

July 17, 2008

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Prairie Central Community Unit School District No. 8, Ford, Livingston, and McLean Counties, was held on July 17, 2008 and was called to order by President Roger Brown at 7:00 PM in the Prairie Central Community Unit School No. 8 conference room.

Board members present: Roger Brown, Dan Froelich, Patricia Haberkorn, Joe Koehl, Barbara Schlatter, and Ann Steidinger

Board members absent: Brett Johnson

Administrators present: Dr. John Capasso, Superintendent

Employees or PCEA members present: None

Guests present: Parents in a discussion of a student

Press present: None

Public Comment

None

Visitors Arranged in Advance

None

Executive Session

Action

To enter executive session Moved by Steidinger and seconded by Haberkorn that we enter into executive session at 7:10 PM for purposes of discussing a student matter under 5 ILCS 120/2 (9).

Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, absent; Koehl, yea; Schlatter, yea; Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

To return to open session Moved by Koehl and seconded by Haberkorn that we return to open session at 7:53 PM from having discussed a student matter in executive session under 5 ILCS 120/2 (9).

Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, absent; Koehl, yea; Schlatter, yea; Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

Discussion

During the Superintendent's Report, Dr. Capasso updated the board on . . .

- ◆ **FOOD SERVICES.** Director Joni BesGrove reviewed the year in the cafeterias. She reported a small budget deficit for the first time in several years, owing to the increased cost of supplies and transportation, and delays in collecting meal fees. An audit of the food service was conducted by the ISBE in the late spring. Only minor problems were cited and were quickly remedied. The full report is attached.
- ◆ **TRANSPORTATION.** New vehicles and the price of fuel were prominent in director Pam Weeks' review of the year in transportation. She spoke of bus cameras and the new software package, the condition of the fleet, the roster of drivers, aggregate mileage, and field trips. The Board discussed the possibility of installing a 5,000-gallon tank for the purchase of bulk diesel fuel, given the high price of diesel. Mr. Froelich agreed to research tank information. The full transportation report is attached.
- ◆ **ISBE/LEGISLATIVE NEWS.**

- o The State Budget. Most of the standard monies schools rely on from the State of Illinois managed to survive the Governor's line-item veto. The construction grant was eliminated, but Prairie Central does not participate in that program. The state aid formula foundation level will be increased by \$225 and full categorical funding is promised.
- ◆ **BUDGET REVIEW**. The Superintendent presented end balances from FY08 and reported a shortfall in expected McLean County taxes and State reimbursement combining to more than \$1 Million. The result was smaller-than-anticipated end balances, particularly in OBM and transportation. He shared that the education fund, as well as the aggregate fund, arrived at June 30 well under the expenditure budget. Capasso repeated his concerns about the condition of OBM which, in spite of reductions, was still more than \$93,000 over budget in 08. Transportation is quite reliant on State monies and, when those monies are short, the fund suffers, as it did in 08. Capasso described the difficulty in planning the 09 budget, given poorly timed tax distributions and the State's inability to meet its financial obligations to schools.
- ◆ **CURRICULUM**. Response to Intervention (Rtl), gifted education, writing curriculum, student ambition, and drug education are all on the docket for the coming year.
- ◆ **TECHNOLOGY**. Capasso told the Board that the tech crew was busy assembling the new laptop lab at the Junior High, placing smartboards in all the buildings, transferring the writing lab at the High School, and working on the bandwidth problem at the UE and MB - which will have a positive effect on Chatsworth.
- ◆ **TAX INCREMENT FINANCING**. Board members received packets of correspondence regarding both the Chatsworth and Chenoa TIF districts. The Board will review the information and discuss its options while dialogue continues with both city councils.

Action

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| To amend agenda | Moved by Koehl and seconded by Steidinger that we amend the agenda to include an executive session for purposes of discussing a student matter under 105 ILCS 120/2 (9).
Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, absent; Koehl, yea; Schlatter, yea; Steidinger, yea. Motion carried. |
| To approve minutes | Moved by Schlatter and seconded by Haberkorn that we approve the minutes of the June 26, 2008 regular meeting as presented.
Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, abstain; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, absent; Koehl, yea; Schlatter, yea; Steidinger, yea. Motion carried. |
| To approve consent agenda | Moved by Schlatter and seconded by Steidinger that we approve the consent agenda, which includes the monthly treasurer's, activity fund, petty cash, investment, financial, and cafeteria reports; and current and interim bills.
Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, absent; Koehl, yea; Schlatter, yea; Steidinger, yea. Motion carried. |

Action - Old Business

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| To approve handbook amendments | Moved by Froelich and seconded by Haberkorn that we approve student handbook changes for 2008-2009 as presented (attached).
Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, absent; Koehl, yea; Schlatter, yea; Steidinger, yea. Motion carried. |
| To approve Board goals | Moved by Schlatter and seconded by Koehl that we approve Board goals for 2008-2009 as presented.
Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, absent; Koehl, yea; Schlatter, yea; Steidinger, yea. Motion carried. |

Action - New Business

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| To approve tentative budget | Moved by Steidinger and seconded by Koehl that we (1) approve the tentative fiscal year 09 budget as presented, (2) authorize it to be placed on display in the unit offices for 30 days, (3) schedule the FY09 budget hearing for September 18, 2008, and (4) direct the Superintendent to place a legal advertisement in a newspaper of general circulation announcing said hearing. |
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Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, absent; Koehl, yea; Schlatter, yea; Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

Personnel Action

To accept resignation

Moved by Froelich and seconded by Haberkorn that we accept the resignation of **Kathy Thyne** as a café worker at Westview Elementary School and a district bus driver, effective at the close of the 2007-2008 school term.

Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, absent; Koehl, yea; Schlatter, yea; Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

To appoint employees

Moved by Haberkorn and seconded by Steidinger that we appoint **Candace Liotka** as a part-time special education teacher at Prairie Central Upper Elementary School for the 2008-2009 school term, in accordance with the current Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, absent; Koehl, yea; Schlatter, yea; Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

Moved by Steidinger and seconded by Koehl that we appoint **Paul Meister** as assistant varsity boys' basketball coach at Prairie Central High School for the 2008-2009 school term, in accordance with the current Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, absent; Koehl, yea; Schlatter, yea; Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

Moved by Koehl and seconded by Schlatter that we appoint **Danielle Rathbun** as a language arts teacher and fall play director at Prairie Central High School for the 2008-2009 school term, in accordance with the current Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, absent; Koehl, yea; Schlatter, yea; Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

Moved by Schlatter and seconded by Brown that we appoint **Rachel Strike** as a special education paraprofessional at Prairie Central High School for the 2008-2009 school term, in accordance with the current Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, absent; Koehl, yea; Schlatter, yea; Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

Moved by Brown and seconded by Froelich that we appoint **Donna Maurer** as a part-time (3 hour/day) café worker at Prairie Central Upper Elementary School and a district bus driver for the 2008-2009 school term, in accordance with the current Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, absent; Koehl, yea; Schlatter, yea; Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

Moved by Froelich and seconded by Haberkorn that we appoint **Miranda Miller** as sophomore volleyball coach at Prairie Central High School for the 2008-2009 school term, in accordance with the current Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, absent; Koehl, yea; Schlatter, yea; Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

Moved by Haberkorn and seconded by Steidinger that we appoint **David Baird** as an instrumental music teacher at Prairie Central Junior High School (principal assignment), Prairie Central Upper Elementary School, and Prairie Central High School for the 2008-2009 school term, in accordance with the current Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, absent; Koehl, yea; Schlatter, yea; Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

To adjourn

Moved by Steidinger and seconded by Koehl that we adjourn at 10:04 PM.

Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, absent; Koehl, yea; Schlatter, yea; Steidinger, yea. Motion carried.

President

Secretary