

PRAIRIE HILL COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 133
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 26, 2010
6:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Board Vice-President Jeff Aronson called the Regular Board of Education meeting of January 26, 2010 to order at 6:30 p.m. with a roll call vote and the following members answered aye to signify their presence: Mr. Aronson, Mr. Barenbaum, Mrs. Servant, and Mrs. Stitt. Also in attendance were Mr. Rehl, Superintendent, Mr. Michowski, Principal, Mr. Heiar, Principal, and Mrs. Houghton, Mrs. Hand, Mrs. Forsythe and Mr. Rogers representing PHFT. Mr. Bolin, Mr. Sorenson and Mrs. Larsen were absent. Mrs. Larsen arrived at 6:53 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Aronson, Board Vice-President.

RECEPTION OF COMMUNICATION AND AUDIENCE OF VISTORS

Letters were read from Mrs. Houghton and Mrs. Forsythe requesting maternity leave. Mrs. Mary Mackenthun notified the Board of her intention to retire at the end of the 2009-2010 school year. Thank you notes from the Palmer and McClellan families were read.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Barenbaum made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 15, 2009, December Treasurer's Report, December Imprest Fund, December Student Activity Fund, Special Meeting Minutes of December 28, 2009 and January 12th, 2010, Closed Session meeting minutes from January 12, 2010; January bills, and January payroll as presented. Mrs. Stitt seconded the motion and the motion carried by a roll call vote with all Board members present saying aye. There were no opposing votes. Mr. Bolin, Mr. Sorenson and Mrs. Larsen were absent.

PRINCIPALS' REPORT

Mr. Heiar reported:

- The annual Geography Bee was won by seventh-grader Ellie Rosenwinkle.
- The Varsity Boys Basketball team took second place in the Conference tournament.
- Girls Basketball is underway; tryouts were well attended with 34 girls vying for just 24 spots.
- Quiz Bowl tryouts were similarly popular, with 16 people trying for just 8 spots.
- WMS now has a School Store. Mrs. Carroll is running this project. Seed money for the store came from the Delta Kappa Gamma Teacher's Action Award which Mrs. Carroll won.

Mr. Michowski reported:

- Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Coomer had their first observation by the Golden Apple evaluators this week. Selection of the 5 winners will be in March.
- The Young Author project got underway with a visit from children's book author Kevin Luthardt. Grades K-4 attended workshops with him and left inspired to begin creation of their own books. Many thanks to Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Faye Johnson for organizing the event.
- There are phones in each classroom that can call out but not yet receive calls. Mr. Michowski is ensuring that the transition goes as smoothly as possible.
- The Eco Lab grant cycle has begun for this year. Typically many teachers apply for these grants; the board hopes that trend will continue. The submission deadline is March 12, 2010.

Mrs. Larsen arrived at 6:53 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

The Prevailing Wage Resolution was discussed. Mr. Barenbaum moved to adopt said resolution. Mrs. Servant seconded the motion which passed by a roll call vote with all members present answering aye. There were no opposing votes. Mr. Bolin and Mr. Sorenson were absent.

EDUCATION

Currently we have four sections of each grade at PHS. Pre-school screenings will be held March 29th and 30th which should give us an estimate of how many kinders we will get next year. In grades 5-8, some sections are larger than Mr. Heiar would like. He will keep Mr. Rehl up to date.

Mr. Barenbaum moved to accept the maternity leave requests from Mrs. Forsythe and Mrs. Houghton, and the notice of retirement from Mary Mackenthun. Mrs. Servant seconded the motion which passed unanimously by a voice vote. Mr. Bolin and Mr. Sorenson were absent.

POLICY

Review of Policies 4:55 and 4:60.

TRANSPORTATION

Mrs. Servant and Mrs. Bell attended the transportation bid opening on January 19th at Rockton grade school. Illinois Central and First Student were the only firms submitting bids. Mr. Rehl is reviewing the bids and will make a recommendation to the board at the February meeting.

BUILDING

No Report this month.

MISCELLANEOUS

The board self-evaluation workshop held on January 12th was valuable to older board members as well as new members. Ms. Toney compiled a list of “legacy statements” that members came up with which will be distributed to the board.

OLD BUSINESS

Curriculum mapping work is continuing throughout the district. The administrators are meeting with Barbara Suhadolnik from Curriculum Mapper to plan the way forward. The board will approve pieces of the curriculum as staff has them ready. The Education Committee would like an update at their next meeting, February 9, 2010 at 7:00 a.m.

The Parent Teacher Committee will have its first meeting January 28th at 4:30.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:39 p.m. Mrs. Larsen moved to enter closed session for the purposes of discussing litigation as allowed by 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11). Mr. Barenbaum seconded the motion which carried unanimously by a voice vote. Mr. Bolin and Mr. Sorenson were absent.

At 7:57 p.m. the meeting returned to open session.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Barenbaum made a motion to adjourn at 7:58 p.m. Mrs. Servant seconded the motion and the motion carried with all members present answering aye. Mr. Bolin and Mr. Sorenson were absent.

The next regularly scheduled Board of Education Meeting will be held Tuesday, February 23rd at 6:30 p.m. at Willowbrook Middle School’s library.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nathan Bolin, Secretary

TJ Larsen, President