

PLEASANT VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Bettendorf, LeClaire, Riverdale

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

BELMONT ADMINISTRATION CENTER

Monday, February 13, 2017, 5:30 P.M. C.S.T.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dickson, Cournoyer, Wagle, Isbell, Witters, Hoskins. Absent: Anderson.

Also present: Jim Spelhaug, Brian Strusz, Cindy Lewis, Mike Clingingsmith, Deborah Dayman, Eric Larew, Don Fry, Mike Zimmer, Jennifer Gertson, Tammy Koppedryer, David Barber, Douglas Peterson, Caroline Christophersen, JR Pourin, Tena Mahoney, and others.

AGENDA APPROVED: Motion by Dickson, second by Isbell that the agenda be approved as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

MOTION FOR EXEMPT SESSION: Motion by Wagle, second by Hoskins that the Board hold an exempt session for the purpose of negotiations as provided in section 20.17(3) of the Code of Iowa. Roll call vote. Ayes – Witters, Hoskins, Dickson, Cournoyer, Wagle, Isbell. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Director Anderson arrived at 5:32 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS: President Witters welcomed everyone, and read the following message to the community:

Across the last couple weeks, much attention has been focused on an order by the federal government to impose restrictions on the ability of immigrants and refugees from certain countries to come to the United States. This has directly and indirectly impacted Pleasant Valley students and families.

To all of our students who are immigrants or refugees – and to their friends, classmates and teachers who are also concerned because of these recent events – know that the Pleasant Valley Community School District stands by you. We serve all families in our District and we want our students to be safe, to feel welcome, and to learn and succeed in our schools and community. The Pleasant Valley Community School District does not condone nor support any action that demonstrates intolerance, bigotry, or that promotes discrimination. As a District, we remain committed to celebrating and embracing our diversity, as that diversity makes us stronger.

As a district, we place great value in building an inclusive culture of learning where all students and families feel welcome, safe, and secure. We view our diversity as a strength and celebrate the fact that over 35 languages are spoken throughout our buildings. In the Pleasant Valley Community School District, we welcome all as our students, families, neighbors and friends. We are proud to stand by, support and celebrate each and every unique individual within our District.

(Adapted with permission from the Iowa City Community School District)

Don Fry, PVHS faculty member, addressed the board regarding Chapter 20 reform bills currently before the Iowa legislature which would redefine collective bargaining in the state. Mr. Fry feels the changes would be devastating to teachers and teaching which undermines student learning. He urged the board and community to unite against the proposed changes.

Tena Mahoney, representing the Quad City Blues hockey team and Quad City Hockey Association, asked that the district consider granting varsity athlete status to their hockey players and that their athletes be awarded varsity letters for successful participation. She shared information regarding youth hockey and participation standards.

Director Wagle congratulated PVHS band students who participated in the University of Northern Iowa honor band, and thanked our directors for their dedication.

Director Cournoyer commended the vocal music department's district choral festival, which featured 540 students, grades 6-12. She also congratulated students who participated in the FIRST Tech Challenge Super Regionals competition held last weekend at Pleasant Valley High School. She thanked Pat Barnes of John Deere, Grant Houseman, PVHS technology teacher, custodians and staff for their leadership and assistance. Team 6093 received the Rockwell Collins innovate award, and Team 7196 placed second for the best engineering notebook. Both teams will advance to the state competition.

Brian Strusz commended the boys swim team for a very successful season. The team placed 10th in state competition.

Dr. Spelhaug shared on behalf of the board and the greater community condolences upon the passing of district parent Ramanathan Sugumaran.

On Monday, January 30, 2017, the board toured new construction at the Maintenance Center, Pleasant Valley Junior High, and Cody Elementary. All board members were in attendance. No board action was taken.

RECOGNITION: Riverdale Heights Principal Jennifer Gertson and faculty members Tammy Koppedryer and David Barber were recognized for being honored for the 3rd time in as many years for reducing the achievement gap. This year, Riverdale Heights was recognized by the state due to the fact that 73% of African American students were proficient in reading and math, compared to a statewide average of 54%. In the previous two years, Riverdale Heights was honored due to the achievement of Hispanic population. The district is honored and proud of the good work in supporting the learning of all students.

The Breaking Barriers to Teaching and Learning Award was created to recognize successful efforts to eliminate achievement gaps in math and reading. Five Iowa schools were honored at a reception hosted by the State Board of Education on January 19, 2017, for their work to raise achievement among groups of students who traditionally face challenges in the classroom.

CONSENT AGENDA, January 23, 2017: Motion by Cournoyer, second by Anderson that the consent agenda be approved as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

The February 13, 2017 consent agenda consists of the following:

- MINUTES: The approval of minutes of the January 23, 2017 regular meeting.
- PERSONNEL:

CERTIFIED: Devin Hanson, Art Teacher at Pleasant Valley High School, has submitted his resignation effective the end of the 2016-17 school year; Lindsey Roath, Language Arts Teacher at Pleasant Valley Junior High, has submitted her resignation effective the end of the 2016-17 school year; Robert Williams, Vocal Music Teacher at Pleasant Valley High School, has submitted his resignation effective the end of the 2016-17 school year.

CLASSIFIED: Amera Brewer, Special Education Aide at Hopewell Elementary, has resigned her position effective February 3, 2017.

CLASSIFIED: (information only) Alan Arpy, former full-time 2nd shift Custodian at Pleasant Valley High School, is recommended for employment as Head Custodian at Riverdale Heights Elementary effective March 1, 2017; Monisa Brown is recommended for probationary employment as a Special Education Aide at Bridgeview Elementary effective February 1, 2017; Connie Miller is recommended for probationary employment as a Special Education Aide at Cody Elementary effective January 30, 2017; Neal O'Flaherty is recommended for probationary employment as a Special Education Aide at Hopewell Elementary Effective January 25, 2017.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR:

ADDS:	Lindsay Eisentrout	Assistant HS Girls Soccer Coach
	Melissa Martinez	Assistant HS Girls Track Coach
	Kaz Johnson	Assistant HS Girls Track Coach
	Chris Bryant	Head HS Boys Track Coach
	Brandon Nau	Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach
	Erica Miller	Assistant Sophomore Softball Coach
DROPS:	Justin Harper	Assistant HS Girls Soccer Coach
	Sophie Haarhues	Assistant HS Girls Track Coach
	Victoria Hawley	Assistant HS Softball Coach

- OPEN ENROLLMENT: One open enrollment application IN from Bettendorf, one IN from Davenport.

EXPENSES APPROVED:

Motion by Dickson, second by Wagle that General Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$368,708.64 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Isbell, second by Dickson that Nutrition Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$87,082.26 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Cournoyer, second by Hoskins that Elementary/Junior High Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$6,984.25 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hoskins, second by Anderson that High School Activity Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$31,192.83 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dickson, second by Cournoyer that Management Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$20,842.00 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Wagle second by Isbell that Capital Projects Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$725,143.51 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hoskins, second by Dickson that PPEL Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$143,401.55 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Cournoyer, second by Hoskins that Internal Service Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$25,217.98 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Wagle, second by Isbell that Trust Fund warrants be issued in the total amount of \$1,785.86 in payment of invoices presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

OUTWARD BOUND ROTARY EXCHANGE PROGRAM: Mike Zimmer introduced Rotarian Douglas Peterson, who presented to the board foreign exchange program opportunities available through the Rotary organization. Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) became an official Rotary International program in 1972 and currently exchanges over 8,000 students a year in over 80 countries. Currently, JR Pourin, an RYE student from France, is attending PVHS, and PVHS sophomore Caroline Christophersen plans to participate in a RYE youth exchange in France during her junior year. Mr. Peterson shared a primary goal of RYE: to advance international understanding and world peace – one student at a time. The board expressed interest in expanding our outbound student participation.

No required motion.

Director Dickson left the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

2017-18 PROPERTY TAX LEVY RATE DISCUSSION: Mr. Clingingsmith reviewed data on assessed/taxable valuations, rollback, and shared preliminary thoughts and recommendations for the 2017-18 levy rate. Because of the increase in the residential rollback percentage, taxpayers' property tax bills will be higher even if property assessments were unchanged. A \$0.32 per \$1,000 of taxable valuation levy rate decrease would be required to prevent taxpayers from owing more for the school portion of property tax.

The state legislature has approved Supplemental State Aid (SSA) for 2017-18 of 1.11 percent as compared to 2.25 percent last year, making it difficult for a growing district such as Pleasant Valley to meet expenses associated with that growth. Because a \$0.32 per \$1,000 decrease would exert excessive pressure on the budget, a \$0.16 per \$1,000 levy decrease is recommended. The current levy rate, \$14.14 per \$1,000 (rounded to the nearest penny) would be reduced to \$13.98 per \$1,000 for 2017-18.

The Board will provide final direction to the administration at the next meeting.

No required motion.

EXEMPT SESSION – NEGOTIATIONS, CODE OF IOWA, SECTION 20.17(3): The board entered into exempt session at 6:35 p.m. to discuss negotiations, and returned to open session at 7:30 p.m.

MEETING ADJOURNED: The meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

FUTURE DATES:

Monday, February 27, 2017 Regular School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
Belmont Administration Center

Monday, March 27, 2017 Regular School Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
Belmont Administration Center

OPEN ENROLLMENT

Open Enrollment is the process by which a parent or guardian residing in an Iowa school district may enroll their child into a public school district other than the one in which they reside. The deadline for filing an Open Enrollment Application for students in grades 1-12 is March 1st prior to the school year of requested attendance. The deadline for filing an open enrollment request for an incoming kindergarten child is September 1st of the year open enrollment is first requested. For more information on Open Enrollment, please visit the district website at www.pleasval.k12.ia.us, email or call Kelly Hatler, hatlerk@pleasval.k12.ia.us at the Administration Center at (563)332-5550.

**2016-17
NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION**

It is the policy of the Pleasant Valley Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity, and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. Further, the board affirms the right of all students and staff to be treated with respect and to be protected from intimidation, discrimination, physical harm and harassment.

The district requires all persons, agencies, vendors, contractors and other persons and organizations doing business with or performing services for the school district to subscribe to all applicable federal and state laws, executive orders, rules and regulations pertaining to contract compliance and equal opportunity.

The district is committed to the policy that no otherwise qualified person will be excluded on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, religion, disability, or age. Further, the board affirms the right of all students and staff to be treated with respect and to be protected from intimidation, discrimination, physical harm and harassment.

Inquiries concerning the application of federal and state nondiscrimination statutes and the implementing regulations to the district may be referred to Brian Strusz, who has been designated by the district as Educational Equity Coordinator, or to the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, Department of HEW, Washington, D.C. Mr. Strusz' office is at Pleasant Valley Administration Center, 525 Belmont Rd., Bettendorf, Iowa 52722; telephone (563) 332-5550.



James R. Spelhaug, Ph.D.
Superintendent

<http://www.scottcountyiowa.com/auditor/precinct-finder#>

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