

Monday, September 8, 2014

The Pierce Public Schools Board of Education met for a Budget Hearing at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Conference Room. Members present were Dan Unseld, Kent Hanlin, Dave Lienemann, Robert Hoffmann, Ted Krienke, and Jacque Collison. Also present were Superintendent Kendall Steffensen, Activities Director/Assistant Principal Johnnie Ostermeyer, Elementary School Principal Adam Patrick, and three guests.

A welcome was extended to the guests and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The Open Meetings Act was pointed out. Mary Zimmer thanked the board for the Ipads at the Elementary School.

Mr. Steffensen discussed the 2014/15 Budget. The general fund budget increased by approximately \$649,000 to account for increased operating expenses as well as transfers to the depreciation fund.

Unseld moved and Collison seconded a motion to adjourn. Voting unanimous, meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

At 6:15 p.m. a Property Tax Request Hearing was called to order. All members were present. Also present were Mr. Steffensen, Mr. Ostermeyer, Mr. Patrick, High School Principal Mark Brahmer, and twelve guests.

Clayton Fischer talked about valuations going up thirty percent, the budget going up, and taxes going up. He stated that the board should set the budget and then ask for the money to run the school. He also said that taxes were too high and the board should look to cut back expenses. Mr. Steffensen said that people should contact Senator Kate Sullivan to change the system for school funding.

Mr. Steffensen explained the property tax request. The tax request will be approximately \$493,000 more than last year with a tax levy approximately nineteen cents lower at ninety-five cents.

Collison moved and Unseld seconded a motion to adjourn. Voting unanimous, meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Pierce Public Schools Board of Education was called to order at 6:34 p.m. All members, administrators, and twelve guests were present. There was no communication or correspondence from the public.

Collison moved and Hoffmann seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda of minutes of the previous meeting and special meeting, claims and payment of bills, and financial reports. Voting unanimous, motion carried.

The Elementary School Student Council Report by Ben Brahmer included the names of new members, jobs by council members, paper recycling, and Funky Fridays.

The High School Student Council Report by Sydney Silhacek and Collin Freeman included activities and a planned Color Run for September 21.

The FCCLA Report by Brianna Hoffman and Courtney Hansen included the kick off meeting, officer work night, a joint fundraiser with the Student Council for ALS and Make a Wish, a leadership workshop in Lincoln, a Buddy Walk for Down Syndrome awareness, and a member meeting.

The FFA Report by Emily Lambrecht included working at the Threshing Bee, Tractor Drive, Blood Drive, Husker Harvest Days, a new member picnic, and up coming fruit sales.

Mr. Patrick's Elementary School Report was about student tests, picture day, Constitution Day, Parent-Teacher Conferences, and student scores for NeSA tests.

Mr. Ostermeyer's Activities Report included softball, football, girl's golf, volleyball, cross country, speech and play production, instrumental music, marching band, conference meeting, and Pierce hosting quiz bowl and all-conference softball selections.

Mr. Brahmer's High School Report was about achievement tests, homecoming week, community service day, Nebraska state test results, ACT test results, and Parent-Teacher Conferences.

Mr. Steffensen's Superintendent Report included his time spent preparing the budget, meetings, and up coming meetings for board member improvement.

Action Items;

Collison moved and Hanlin seconded a motion to approve the 2014/15 budgets. Voting unanimous, motion carried.

Hanlin moved and Collison seconded a motion to approve the 2014/15 tax request. Voting unanimous, motion carried.

Unsel moved and Lienemann seconded a motion to authorize Mr. Steffensen to sell or dispose of unused items as needed. Voting unanimous, motion carried.

Hoffmann moved and Unsel seconded a motion to go into executive session to discuss litigation. Voting unanimous, motion carried at 6:58 p.m. At 7:08 p.m. the board came out of executive session.

Collison moved and Unsel seconded a motion to proceed with mediation in the roof litigation. Voting unanimous, motion carried. Collison and Hanlin will be on the mediation committee with Mr. Steffensen.

Hoffmann moved and Lienemann seconded a motion to adjourn. Voting unanimous, meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be in the High School Conference Room on Monday, October 13, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. These meetings are open to the public. A current agenda is available in the Superintendent's Office at the High School.

Robert Hoffmann, secretary
Pierce Public Schools
Board of Education, District 2
Pierce, NE 68767