

Monday, February 9, 2015

The Pierce Public Schools Board of Education met for their regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the High School Conference Room. Members present were Dan Unseld, Dave Lienemann, Ron Woslager, Ted Krienke, Robert Hoffmann, and Kevin Flesner. Also present were Superintendent Kendall Steffensen, High School Principal Mark Brahmer, Assistant Principal/Activities Director Johnnie Ostermeyer, and fourteen guests.

A welcome was extended to the public and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The Open Meetings Act was pointed out. There was no correspondence or communication from the public.

Mr. Brahmer explained the “Huddle” sports video exchange program and costs and Mr. Steffensen went over his bills for food and lodging.

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

Sydney Silhacek, Collin Freeman, and Tatym Rowley gave the High School Student Council Report. They talked about Winter Royalty, pop machine issues, raffling two Husker basketball tickets, and a canned food drive in March.

The FFA Report by Emily Lambrecht included livestock judging, dress up day, State FFA contests, and the Work a Day Auction.

Shelby Ronspies and Sydney Acklie gave the FCCLA Report about District and State Star competitions, FCCLA week, and candy grams.

The e-mailed Superintendent’s Report summary of his activities included attending state and local meetings, ESU 8 meetings, and interviewing cook candidates and English teacher candidates.

The e-mailed Elementary School Report by Mr. Patrick included State Writing Assessment, spring pictures, a snow day, One School-One Book program, 2:00 dismissal on February 19th, no school on February 20th, parent-teacher conferences on March 3rd, and a packet on the teacher workshop.

The e-mailed High School Report by Mr. Brahmer was about State Writing Test, Winter Royalty Dance, Honor Roll, Principal’s Honor Roll breakfast, failures, parent-teacher conferences, freshman-parent registration, class registration, Teammates Mentoring Program, Stepping Stones Program, student assembly with Mike Smith on February 23rd, and having school on the Monday after Easter to make up for bad weather days.

The e-mailed Activities Report by Mr. Ostermeyer included Mid States basketball tournament, Mid States wrestling tournament, basketball subdistricts, state dance and cheer, Bluejay speech team, FCCLA, FFA, honor band and choir, spring sports practice, and the NSIAAA spring convention.

Discussion items included Mr. Steffensen talking about State Aid equaling needs minus resources. It is possible the district might lose \$850000 in aid. It won’t be known until all the Legislative bills are voted on.

A tentative date for a Board of Education/Administration Retreat was made for March 16, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

A tentative 2015/16 school calendar was discussed with a first day of school on Tuesday, August 11, 2015.

Action Items included discussion of an early separation incentive program policy review and availability.

Hoffmann moved and Lienemann seconded a motion to provide an Early Separation Incentive Program #4059. Voting unanimous, motion carried.

Unsel moved and Woslager seconded a motion to approve up to five applications per year for the first three years of the Early Separation Incentive Program #4059. Voting unanimous, motion carried.

Mr. Steffensen in observing, working alongside, and evaluating the school principals, had no reservations in recommending the extension of their contracts for the 2015/16 school year.

Hoffmann moved and Unsel seconded a motion to extend contracts to Mr. Brahmer, Mr. Patrick, and Mr. Ostermeyer. Voting unanimous, motion carried.

The Pierce Education Association accepted the sixth offer provided by the Board of Education which included a \$1000 base salary increase, health insurance premium increase, in house substitute pay at 25% of the daily substitute rate, character education pay at \$20 per hour, limit vertical step movement to one step, eliminate movement to the MA27 column after September 1, 2016, bereavement leave of 5 days for immediate family and 3 days for other family per occurrence, and eliminate the April 25th release date language.

Lienemann moved and Flesner seconded a motion to approve the 2015/16 negotiated agreement and end negotiations. Voting unanimous, motion carried.

Mr. Steffensen told of professional growth opportunities for Board of Education development.

Topics for next month's meeting include adopting the school calendar and vacation and sick log for the Superintendent.

Unsel moved and Lienemann seconded a motion to adjourn. Voting unanimous, meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be on Monday, March 9, 2015 in the High School Conference Room. 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