Monday, December 11, 2023

The Pierce Public School Board of Education met for the regular monthly meeting at 6:30 pm in the board room of Pierce High School. Members present were Dan Unseld, Todd Wragge, Ryan Collison, Craig Peters, and Lisa Freeman. Adam Venteicher was absent. Wragge motioned and Collison seconded to excuse Venteicher. Voting Unanimous, motion carried, Venteicher absent.

Also present were Superintendent Kendall Steffensen, Elementary Principal Trent Suehl, High School Principal Mark Brahmer, and three guests. Notice of the meeting was printed in the Pierce County Leader and posted on Pierce Public Schools website.

A welcome was extended to the public, the open meetings act pointed out, roll call taken, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Jack Moles of Lincoln representing the Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association relayed an overview of the services provided by their organization.

Collison moved and Wragge seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of the approval of minutes from the previous meeting, approval of claims and payment of bills, and financial reports. Voting Unanimous, motion carried, Venteicher absent.

Trevor Montgomery reported for FFA. This month the group participated in an LDE competition, conducted fruit sales, worked on CDE, preparing for livestock judging, and visited the nursing home.

Reports were provided by the high school and elementary principals.

In his report Superintendent Steffensen relayed staff interviews have been conducted with CWP, an overview the breakout sessions at the State Education Conference he attended, the jazz band did a wonderful job performing at UNL, and a reminder that the incumbent filing deadline is February 15, 2024.

The first discussion item was to schedule a Board of Education/Administration retreat, which will be held on January 15, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

The second discussion item was the addition of a special education teacher. Superintendent Steffensen was given the direction to hire an additional teacher.

The third discussion item was an overview of the continuous improvement process and our school district's data by the principals.

For the first action item, Freeman moved and Collison seconded to accept the annual report. Voting unanimous, motion passed, Venteicher absent.

For the second action item, Freeman moved and Collison seconded to approve the annual review of the district's safety and security plan. Voting unanimous, motion passed, Venteicher absent.

The fourth discussion item was teacher negotiations. Wragge moved and Collison seconded to enter executive session to protect the public interest and the school district's bargaining position. Voting unanimous, motion passed, Venteicher absent. Executive session began at 8:04 p.m. and ended at 8:38 p.m.

Collison moved to adjourn and Freeman seconded. Voting unanimous, motion passed, Venteicher absent. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Kendall Steffensen on behalf of Adam Venteicher, Secretary Pierce Public Schools Board of Education, District 2 Pierce, NE 68767