Monday, February 13, 2023

The Pierce Public School Board of Education met for the regular monthly meeting at 6:30 pm in the board room. Members present were Dan Unseld, Ryan Collison, Todd Wragge, Adam Venteicher, Lisa Freeman, and Craig Peters. Also present were Superintendent Kendall Steffensen, High School Principal Mark Brahmer, Elementary Principal Trent Suehl, Activities Director Darren Sindelar, and several 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 meeting act pointed out, roll call taken, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

During the public correspondence portion, Hadar village board representative Dillion Kraft spoke to the board concerning the busing situation.

Venteicher moved and Wragge seconded the 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.

Zaylah Pfanstiel reported on proficiency awards, FFA Alumni grants for students' supervised ag experiences (SAE), and Career Development Events.

Amber Shefl gave the Student Council report. They have had the half time committee and March Madness meetings. Proceeds from events will go towards the city pickleball courts.

Elementary Principal Trent Suehl's report stated the current PK-6 enrollment is 332 students. There will be a staff in-service and 1:00pm dismissal on February 8th and no school February 17th.

High School Principal Mark Brahmer reported of the Winter Royalty Dance, class registration, Stepping Stones Program, Teammates Mentoring Program, Salute to a Student program, ACT preparations, and teacher in-services. He also reported 251 of 351 (71.5%) students earned Honor Roll and of them 165 earned Principal's Honor Roll.

Activities Director Darren Sindelar's report included a list of all the upcoming activities and games for the month of February.

In his report Superintendent Steffensen gave an overview of the happenings in the Nebraska state legislature. He has been in contact with Heartland Counseling regarding expanding the counseling services offered to the students. The parking lot project is first on the contractor's list to be completed soon as the ground conditions allow.

To prioritize meeting items, the board did not follow the same order as the agenda. As the second discussion item on the agenda directed, the school board reviewed the school calendar for the 2023-2024 school year.

The first action item was to evaluate the status of the principals' contracts. Venteicher moved and Wragge seconded to extend Mr. Brahmer and Mr. Suehl's contracts for the 2023-2024. Voting unanimous, motion carried.

For the second action item, Wragge moved to accept the resignations of Tanner Johnston, Laurel Lackas, and Katie Leapley with regret. Collison seconded. Voting unanimous, motion carried.

As the third action item directed, Collison moved and Venteicher seconded to accept the review of Board of Education policy sections 1,000, 2,000, and 3,000. Voting unanimous, motion carried.

For the final action item, Freeman moved and Collison seconded to use NDE as its school improvement review method. Voting unanimous, motion carried.

For the third discussion item to take place, Wragge moved and Collison seconded to enter executive session to discuss non-certified employee compensation to protect the district's bargaining position. Voting unanimous, motion carried. The board entered executive session at 7:06 pm and came out of executive session at 7:35 pm.

For the first discussion item, the board reviewed remaining retreat items of committees and finances. Unseld appointed Collison, Venteicher, and Wragge to a transportation committee.

Venteicher moved and Wragge seconded the motion to adjourn. Voting unanimous, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.

Adam Venteicher, Secretary Pierce Public Schools Board of Education, District 2 Pierce, NE 68767