

Monday, November 9, 2020

The Pierce Public Schools Board of Education met for the regular monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the high school gymnasium. Members present were Robert Hoffmann, Dan Unseld, Ted Krienke, Kevin Flesner, Dave Lienemann, and Adam Venteicher. 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 meetings act pointed out, roll call taken, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Callie Arnold gave the Student Council report. She reported that they had decided on committees for a raffle and a halftime activities and that plans for halftime activities are on hold for now because of the covid restrictions.

Morgan Schnoor gave the FCCLA report and said they are planning a memory tree and making plans for the Christmas party.

Elementary principal Trent Suehl reported that there will be two elementary concerts this year to reduce the size of the crowd. K-3rd on Nov. 10th and 4th-6th on May 11th.

High School principal Mark Brahmer reported that the Veteran's Day Program will be November 11th at 10:00 a.m. and Wednesday, November 25th will be a no student day to allow for teacher training in a new research and writing program.

Activities Director Darren Sindelar listed many of the achievements from fall activities and upcoming dates of various activities.

Superintendent Steffensen's written report explained the planning being done for activities. But updated the board saying the governor had announced a new 25% capacity rule earlier in the day and is waiting for clarification on it.

Scheduling of activities was the first discussion item. Superintendent Steffensen relayed that the administration is working to reschedule parent/ teacher conferences to a day other than a wednesday.

The second discussion item was the scheduling of a Board of Education/Administration retreat. The board consensus was to wait until the new members were present in January.

The third discussion item was teacher negotiations which was discussed later in the meeting during the executive session.

The first action item was to review insurance costs. Chuck Micek from Town & Country Insurance presented their bid and gave an explanation of the policy and changes from last year. The board had a bid from Allicap in their packet also. Lienemann moved and Unseld seconded a motion to table a decision on insurance until december so Superintendent Steffensen could get more information on coverage levels and deductibles from Allicap to go with their bid. Voting no: Flesner, Hoffmann. Voting yes: Krienke, Lienemann, Venteicher, Unseld. Motion carried.

The second action item was the annual audit presentation. Superintendent Steffensen said there were zero inconsistencies in the accounting practices and recognized Michelle Meier on her work making sure every transaction was in the proper place. Venteicher moved and Lienemann seconded a motion to approve the annual audit presentation. Voting unanimous, motion carried.

The third action item is a policy update from KSB School Law. The updates are required. Lienemann moved and Flesner seconded a motion to adopt the policies as written. Voting unanimous, motion carried.

At 7:04 p.m. Lienemann moved and Hoffmann seconded the motion to enter executive session to discuss teacher negotiations, conduct a board self-evaluation, and conduct an evaluation of the superintendent. Voting unanimous, motion carried. The board came out of executive session at 7:33 p.m.

Flesner moved and Lienemann seconded the motion to approve the board self-evaluation. Voting unanimous, motion carried.

Hoffmann moved and Flesner seconded the motion to approve the superintendent evaluation. Voting unanimous, motion carried.

The State Education Conference has been changed to virtual only. The Legislative Preview in December is planned to be in person at this time.

Next month's agenda includes a review of the district's annual report, superintendent contract renews on December 15th, disclosure Board of Education members purchasing EHA insurance.

Dan Unseld, Secretary
Pierce Public Schools
Board of Education, District 2
Pierce, Ne 68767

