

**Minutes for Regular Called Meeting  
Pope County CUSD #1  
Board of Education  
J. H. Hobbs Memorial Library  
December 15, 2016  
7:00 p.m.**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Board President Clay and the following members were present: Hansen, Hogg, Coen, Simmons, Richerson, Collier, and Clay.

Motion was made by Collier and seconded by Richerson to approve the agenda. All members present voted yea.

Motion was made by Richerson and seconded by Hogg to approve the consent agenda including the following: 1) Approve Minutes of Board Meetings on 11/15/16 and 11/25/16; 2) Approve Closed Session Minutes; 3) Approve Bills for Payment; and 4) Accept Financial Reports. All members present voted yea.

Under Administrative reports, Mr. Blankenship reported the following: 1) Spelling Bee was held on November 17<sup>th</sup>. Shawna Eubanks was our winner this year. She will advance and compete in Evansville, Indiana sometime in February; 2) The janitors will be replacing filters in all heat/air units, touching up the paint where needed, cleaning the carpets, and scrubbing the hall floors during Christmas break; 3) Student Council will be holding a Christmas dance on December 21<sup>st</sup> between 6:30 and 8:30 pm; 4) Christmas Program: Grades 3-5 on

Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, Grades K-2 on Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, Both programs are scheduled to start at 1:30 pm; 5) Jr. High Choir will be one of the school choirs on the Sounds of the Season sponsored by WSIL-TV 3; and 6) Current enrollment is 378 as of December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Fritch reported the following: 1) PSAT results are coming in and are being distributed to students but only 18 of the 36 have been sent back. 16 of the test have been lost and the State is looking for them; not sure what happened; 2) Boys basketball team is currently 3-5 and 1-1 in the G.E.C; 3) Girls basketball team is currently 1-5 and 0-2 in the G.E.C.; 4) Concert Choir and Madrigal Cast “Sounds of the Season” performance will air on television the following times:

**WSIL TV 3**

December 16th: 6:58 a.m., high school choir

December 20th: 6:58 a.m., madrigal singers

December 20th: 5:28 p.m., junior high choir

December 18th, 4:00 p.m. -- all groups

December 24th, 6:00 p.m. -- all groups

December 24th, 11:30 p.m. -- all groups

You can also catch us on WSIL if that's your preference!

December 19th, 8:00 p.m. -- all groups

December 25th, 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. --all groups

5) Scholar Bowl Team is currently J.V. 4-4 and Varsity 4-4; 6) Semester exams will be given on 12/20, 12/21, and 12/22; 7) Homecoming will be on January 13, 2017. J.V. boys will play at 5:00 pm followed by the varsity girls and then varsity boys. Homecoming coronation will begin after the varsity boys game; 8) Enrollment: Freshmen – 45, Sophomores – 38, Juniors – 34, and Seniors – 39; total 156. Also want to share that we have two girls that have been chosen to

represent Pope County High School at the Illinois Student Council State Convention. Natalie Bonnell has been chosen as a Discussion Leader and Allie Hughes has been chosen as a Round Table Moderator. Congratulations to both of them.

Mr. Bleyer reported the following: 1) The gym roof replacement is ongoing. They started on the west side and working toward the east and have  $\frac{3}{4}$  of it completed. They plan to be completed with the roof on Tuesday and then work on the gutters and snow shield next week; 2) Last month I attended the Triple I Conference (IASA, IASB, IASBO) in Chicago. While there I attended seminars and workshops on school safety, managing multi-phase construction projects, technology, legislative procedures and updates, family engagement, managing risk and insurance, evidence-based funding model, budget forecasting, and managing student-data privacy; 3) The welding class has been assigned the task of removing the old boiler in the high school. While they are cutting it out piece by piece, they are gaining actual on the job experience. Once the boiler has been removed, the room will be cleaned and set up as an actual work station for the custodians. This is a great upgrade to our facilities while allowing our students to improve on their welding skills; Member Richerson requested that any money earned from scrapping the metal go to the Ag fund; 4) On Tuesday of last week, I meet with Pope County Sherriff, Jerry Suits, and Jon Pulley of Illinois Emergency Management Administration and Chris Hahn of Pope County Emergency Management Administration to discuss the upcoming eclipse on

August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017 that will occur from 1:30 pm to 3:15 pm. The total eclipse will have an endurance time of 2 minutes and 40 seconds. I would like the Board to consider allowing me to cancel school on that day. Johnson County Schools have already decided to close. IEMA and EMA have recommended that we close due to safety and potential transportation issues. Mr. Bleyer added that he applied for a grant through State Farm Insurance for 25 laptops and received word that we were approved. The laptops have to be picked up in Bloomington, Illinois.

Motion to enter executive session for the purpose of personnel employment, performance, and procedures was made by Richerson and seconded by Simmons. All members present voted yea. Board entered executive session at 7:21 pm.

Motion to return to regular session was made by Simmons and seconded by Richerson. All members present voted yea. Board returned at 8:12 pm.

Motion to approve the proposed Board meeting dates with a start time of 7 pm was made by Hansen and seconded by Richerson. All members present voted yea.

Motion to hire Mrs. Jan Garner as full-time cook was made by Simmons and seconded by Richerson. All members present voted yea.

**Motion to approve the waiver of the Illinois School Code to waive tuition for students of District employees was made by Coen and seconded by Hansen. All members present voted yea.**

**Mr. Bleyer presented the PRESS updated and briefly explained the changes. No action was needed at this time and the updates will be displayed in the Unit Office for public viewing for 30 days.**

**Motion to approve the Continuous District Improvement Plan was made by Richerson and seconded by Coen. All members present voted yea.**

**Motion to post for part-time individual aide was made by Richerson and seconded by Simmons. All members present voted yea.**

**Motion to post for full-time bus driver was made by Hansen and seconded by Richerson. All members present voted yea.**

**At this time, Mr. Bleyer distributed a packet to each member containing his yearly superintendent evaluation. The members will mail the completed evaluation to Board President Clay and will discuss at the January Board meeting in closed session.**

**Under Old Business, the Board discussed the tax levy that was presented at the last Board meeting and Hansen made a motion to approve the tentative 2016 tax levy as presented, seconded by Hogg. All members present voted yea.**

**Other school business was brought to the Board regarding the purchasing of used weight room equipment. A gym in Paducah was closing and offering equipment at a really low price. Mr. Bleyer requested the purchase of a squat rack for \$300 and didn't really need any other equipment, nor would it fit in the current weight room. Motion was made by Richerson and seconded by Hogg to purchase the squat rack for \$300. All members present voted yea.**

**Mr. Bleyer reported that the heating unit in Mr. Blankenship's office was not working and needed to be repaired or replaced. A bid of \$5,200.00 was given by Botarf to have the unit replaced. The Board agreed to have the unit replaced.**

**Member Hansen reported that the Pope County Youth League had a meeting last week and Chris Bevis is the new President. Hansen shared with the Board that the Youth League is willing to help repair/replace the concession stands at the ball fields. They are willing to donate \$5,000.00 toward the project and asked that the Superintendent get some plans in motion and look at different options, portable buildings or built on-site buildings.**

**With no further business to be discussed, a motion was made by Hansen and seconded by Simmons to adjourn the meeting until the next scheduled meeting to be held on Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the J.H. Hobbs Memorial Library. All members present voted yea.**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.**

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**Allen Clay, President  
Board of Education**

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**Paula Baker, Secretary  
Board of Education**