

**Minutes for Regular Called Meeting
Pope County CUSD #1
Board of Education
J. H. Hobbs Memorial Library
December 17, 2015
7:00 p.m.**

Meeting was called to order at 7:48 pm by Board President Clay and the following members were present: Hansen, Hogg, Coen, Simmons, Richerson, Collier, and Clay.

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

Motion was made by Coen and seconded by Collier to approve the consent agenda including the following: 1) Approve Minutes of Board Meetings on 11/12/15 and 11/17/15; 2) Approve Closed Session Minutes; 3) Approve Bills for Payment; and 4) Accept Financial Reports. All members present voted yea.

At this time the Board recognized Mrs. Brandi Robinson. Mrs. Robinson addressed the Board wanting some answers regarding the bus route issue that was presented at the previous meeting. She stated she contacted the Secretary of State Transportation Department regarding this issue and received some answers on how to move forward. She stated the next call will be to the Regional Superintendent's office. Board President Clay addressed Mrs. Robinson stating

the district is continuing to look for improvements for the route and has delayed the route five minutes.

Under Administrative reports, Mr. Blankenship reported the following: 1) 2nd round of Discovery Assessment testing has been completed; 2) The Spelling Bee was held on November 19th. Travis Dukes was our winner this year; 3) The janitors will be replacing filters in all heating/air units, touching up paint where needed, cleaning the carpets, and scrubbing the hall floors during Christmas break; 4) The Student Council headed up “Change for Eli” to collect money for Eli Presser’s family. The total amount collected was \$1,433.03 with the 5th grade class collecting the most. We will be having a student assembly on December 21st to give Eli and his family the donation; 5) The Student Council will be holding a Christmas dance on December 22nd between 6 and 8 pm; 6) We have released our 2015 PARCC scores on December 10th. All scores were as good as the neighboring schools if not better; and 7) Current enrollment is 379 as of December 9th.

Mr. Fritch reported the following: 1) PARCC results were given out to students on the 10th; 2) Boys basketball team is currently 3-5 and 1-2 in the G.E.C.; 3) Girls basketball team is currently 1-5 and 1-0 in the G.E.C.; 4) Concert Choir and Madrigal Cast “Sounds of the Season” performance will air on television the following times: Junior High Choir at 6:28 pm on December 18th, High School Choir at 5:28 pm on December 17th, and Madrigal Singers at 10:28 on December

18th. They will also be shown in the full program, which is held at the following times: Sunday, December 21st at 12 pm and Tuesday, December 25th at 12:05 pm (basically midnight of Christmas Eve.) Shout out to Mrs. Hosfeldt for a great job; 5) Scholar Bowl Team currently is J.V. 2-4 and Varsity 2-4; 6) Semester exams will be given on 12/21/15 (odds) and 12/22/15 (evens); 7) Homecoming will be on December 18th starting with girls varsity at 5 pm followed by J.V. boys and varsity boys with Homecoming coronation beginning after the varsity boys game; 8) Enrollment is currently 156: Freshman – 36, Sophomores – 40, Juniors – 44, and Seniors – 36. 9) If Illinois passes a budget, they will have the funds to give the SAT for Juniors beginning next school year; and 10) We have the opportunity to purchase a 3D printer with the use of a grant through the CVE program.

Mr. Bleyer reported the following: 1) Last week, the federal government reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and installed the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). This act effectively ends the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) era. Therefore, there is no more adequate yearly progress (AYP) that was used to compare schools with each other. In the larger context, most roles that were previously controlled by the federal government, have been returned to the states. Although this development is positive on the surface, the state of Illinois will now be expected to assume a leadership role and provide direction for the districts. Living in the state for the last few years has given me pause on the capability and ability to progress, but I will continue

to hope for the best; 2) The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) score were released last week. The release was completely mismanaged by the state and left the districts in a terrible predicament. We distributed the scores last week. As we disaggregate the data, we have been pleased with the outcomes and are already making adjustments to better prepare the students for this school year's test; 3) The high school had a gas leak that caused the school to be evacuated. This led to the discovery of some damaged valves on some of our rooftop units. Additionally, further inspection by Botarf confirmed the failure of another furnace that serviced the A.D. office, community room kitchen and meeting room. This furnace is being replaced; 4) I want to thank Laura Hosfeldt and Lisa Reed for preparing the choirs for their performances. The evening Christmas concert was fantastic. Additionally, the Madrigal was magical. The food and service were great, and the performers were amazing. It truly was a fun time for all; 5) I also want to thank Janice Wallace for conducting the Spelling Bee. The event was well prepared and was smoothly executed; and 6) More and more great things are happening at Pope County CUSD #1. This is an exciting time for the District and the students. Additionally, I continuously receive comments from the community about how they are happy with the direction of the district and want to see a continued commitment to progress.

Motion to enter executive session for the purpose of personnel employment and performance was made by Collier and seconded by Coen. All members present voted yea. Board entered executive session at 8:12 pm.

Motion to return to regular session was made by Richerson and seconded by Collier. All members present voted yea. Board returned at 9:26 pm.

Motion to approve the proposed Board meeting dates was made by Richerson and seconded by Simmons. All members present voted yea.

Motion to hire Mrs. Kala Bonnell as head cook was made by Richerson and seconded by Coen. All members present voted yea.

Motion to hire Mrs. Amber Presser for Individual Aide was made by Richerson and seconded by Coen. All members present voted yea.

Motion to post for cook was made by Simmons and seconded by Coen. All members present voted yea.

Motion to approve Resolution of Governing Body Unincorporated Association 15-12-17B was made by Coen 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.

Under Old Business, the Board discussed the tax levy at length weighing all options. Richerson made a motion to levy 104.99% seconded by Hansen. Roll call vote was as followed: Hansen, yea; Hogg, nay; Coen, nay; Simmons, yea; Richerson, yea; Collier, nay; and Clay, yea. Motion carried with 4-3 vote.

With no further business to be discussed, a motion was made by Collier and seconded by Richerson to adjourn the meeting until the next scheduled meeting to be held on Thursday, January 21, 2016 at 7:00 pm in the J.H. Hobbs Memorial Library. All members present voted yea.

Meeting adjourned at 10:01 pm.

Allen Clay, President
Board of Education

Paula Baker, Secretary
Board of Education