

**Minutes for Regular Meeting
Pope County CUSD #1
Board of Education
J. H. Hobbs Memorial Library
Thursday, January 28, 2016
7:00 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order at 6:59 pm by President Clay and the following members were present: Hansen, Hogg, Coen, Simmons, Richerson, Collier, and Clay.

A motion was made by Coen and seconded by Collier to approve the agenda with the change of date to January 28, 2016. All members present voted yea.

A motion was made by Hogg and seconded by Richerson to approve the consent agenda including the following: 1) Approve Minutes of Board Meeting on 12/17/15; 2) Approve Closed Session Minutes; 3) Approve Bills for Payment; 4) Accept Financial Reports; and 5) Approve destruction of Closed Session Meeting CDs more than 18 months old. After some questions regarding the bills, all members present voted yea.

At this time, the Board recognized Mrs. April Hogg representing the 5th and 6th grade girls basketball program. Mrs. Hogg asked that the Board provide transportation for the girls and boys basketball teams for the away games; 5 regular season games and a three-day tournament at Cypress. The girls and boys play on the same night at the same place so only one bus would be needed. She mentioned that some of the girls have said they wouldn't be able to make it to away games without transportation provided. Mrs. Hogg also asked that the teams be incorporated with the school so they would be held under the same rules as the regular school athletic teams in hopes to bring more structure to the program.

Under Administrative Reports, Mr. Blankenship reported the following: 1) We did the Winter testing in Aimsweb for grades K-3 on January 12-14; 2) Progress

Reports for the 3rd quarter will go out on February 12th; 3) Jr. High Boys: - Play the first round on Thursday, Jan. 14th, if they win they will play on the 20th and 21st. Regional is scheduled to start on Jan. 26th. Jr. High Girls: - Regional is scheduled to start on Jan. 13th; 4) Discovery Assessment for grades 4-8 will take place between Feb. 4th and Feb. 19th; 5) Dental Safari is scheduled for January 29th for dental exams; 6) Update on the Engaged New York Math Program – Copies of the teacher modules are being made. We hope to have the teachers the program by February; and 7) Current Enrollment 383 of January 27th.

Mr. Fritch reported the following: 1) Progress reports go out on February 12th, 2016; 2) Received word from SIC that they will be using the PARCC scores for college placement; 3) Boys basketball team is currently 4-12 1-5 in the G.E.C. Conference Tournament at S.I.C. Jan. 25th -30th; 4) Girls basketball team is currently 2-10 and 1-2 in the G.E.C. Conference Tournament at Galatia on Feb. 1st - 4th; 5) Scholar Bowl Team currently: J.V. 7-8 Varsity 3-6 Finished 3-3 in the GEC Tournament; 6) Enrollment: Freshman- 35 Sophomores- 41 Juniors- 44 Seniors- 35 TOTAL: 155; and 7) February 18th will be Senior Night for the Boys Basketball and Cheerleaders. We will also be recognizing the 1996 Sweet 16 High School Boys Basketball team.

Mr. Bleyer reported on the following: 1) The ISBE proposed their budget to the General Assembly and the Governor. In their proposal, state aid would be prorated on the financial need of the district - rather than the traditional across the board funding. In this scenario, less wealthier districts would be funded more my GSA than wealthier districts. In our case, Pope County CSD would receive an increase in GSA by \$148,635. Of course, none of this is possible without a state budget; 2) We are continuing to evaluate our curriculum in regards to the new Illinois Learning Standards. As the state continues to use the PARCC standardized test, it is imperative that our students are getting instruction and engagement that better prepares them for such assessments. In addition, the state will be moving toward the pre-SAT and the SAT for the 2016-

17 school year. The pre-SAT will be administered to all eighth graders and the SAT to all juniors. Once again, the administration and faculty are committed to tightly align our curriculum to afford our students the best opportunity to succeed; 3) The state continues to have problems with passing a budget. If any developments occur, I will have more information for the members; and 4) I submitted the Facilitation Coordination in Agricultural Education Grant to ISBE. This will be the second year for this attempt. This grant was written to rewire the agriculture/mechanical room and make improvements to the exhaust system.

A motion to enter closed session for the purpose of superintendent evaluation and personnel employment was made by Richerson and seconded by Coen. All members present voted yea. Board entered executive session at 7:29 p.m.

A motion was made by Richerson and seconded by Coen to return to regular session. All members present voted yea. Board returned at 8:48 p.m.

Under New Business, a motion was made by Collier and seconded by Richerson to approve making all closed session minutes public record. All members present voted yea: Hansen, Hogg, Coen, Simmons, Richerson, Collier, and Clay.

A motion was made to approve the transfer of IPTIP funds from US Bank to our local Banterra Bank by Collier and seconded by Richerson. All members present voted yea.

A motion to hire Sarah Simmons as cook was made by Hogg and seconded by Hansen. All members present voted as followed: Hansen, Hogg, Simmons; yea; Coen, Richerson, Collier, and Clay; nay. Motion failed.

A motion was made by Richerson and seconded by Coen to hire Jamie Mitchell as cook. All members present voted as followed: Hogg, Coen, Richerson, Collier, and Clay; yea; Hansen and Simmons abstained. Motion carried.

Under Other School Business, a motion to approve out-of-state trip for FFA students to attend the Farm Machinery Show in Louisville, Kentucky was made by Collier and seconded by Richerson. All members present voted yea.

A motion to approve the 5th & 6th grade basketball program the use of a bus for away games and to include the program under the school athletic codes was made by Hansen and seconded by Coen. All members present voted yea.

Superintendent Bleyer discussed with the Board the retirement of Mrs. Cathy Broadway, Spanish Teacher, at the end of this school year and her request to be retained as a part-time Spanish Teacher. He explained she would be at a retired teacher status, still only working two hours a day, and no longer part of the Teacher's Union. The other option would be to offer Spanish as a distance learning class but would still need a certified staff member to monitor the class. Mr. Bleyer asked the Board's thoughts on the matter and after some discussion, the Board decided to table the issue until the next Board meeting. Mr. Bleyer told the Board he would provide a cost analysis of both options.

With no further business, a motion to adjourn until the next regular scheduled meeting to be held on Thursday, February 18, 2016 at 5 pm in the J.H. Hobbs Memorial Library was made by Coen and seconded by Hogg. All members present voted yea. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Allen Clay, President
Board of Education

Paula Baker, Secretary
Board of Education