

**Minutes for Regular Called Meeting
Pope County CUSD #1
Board of Education
J. H. Hobbs Memorial Library
October 15, 2015
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 Richerson and seconded by Simmons to approve the agenda. All members present voted yea.

Motion was made by Collier and seconded by Hogg to amend the consent agenda to include the resignation of Mrs. Jessi Hall as Athletic Director effective October 31, 2015. All members present voted yea.

Motion to approve the consent agenda including the following: 1) Approve Minutes of Board Meetings on 9/24/2015; 2) Approve Closed Session Minutes; 3) Approve Bills for Payment; 4) Accept Financial Reports; 5) Approve the Publication of Annual Statement of Affairs; and 6) Accept Resignation of Mrs. Jessi Hall. After some discussion regarding the bills, all members present voted as followed: Hansen, Hogg, Coen, Simmons, Richerson, Collier, and Clay.

At this time the Board recognized Mrs. Patty Ferrell. Mrs. Ferrell, a 1st grade teacher, addressed the Board with some concerns the teachers have regarding: 1) inability to be able to order engaging, colorful workbooks/textbooks for our children; 2) time involved in copy work; 3) availability of copiers; at least 4 teachers have same plan time; and 4) expense of copies on leased machines. Mrs. Jeanne Clayton, Drivers Ed and Jr. High/High School Health teacher, also addressed the Board with her concerns regarding copying and the future purchasing of scantrons.

Under Administrative reports, Mr. Blankenship reported the following: 1) 1st quarter grade cards will go out on Tuesday, October 20th; 2) The 8th grade parent group will be doing the concession stands for the boy's and girl's games; 3) We hosted a Jr. High Cross Country Invitational on Tuesday, October 13th; 4) Emma Collier, Amy Weaver, Keely Clay, and Clayton Bremer were named to the GEC All Conference Teams; 5) The Girls' basketball team opened their season with the New Simpson Hill tournament and will play their first home game on October 26th; 6) The Boy's basketball will play their first game on October 19th and their first home game will take place on November 2nd; 7) The Student Council had a Hat Day on the 25th of September to raise money for St. Jude Children's Hospital. A little over \$400.00 was raised with the 1st grade classes donating the highest total; 8) Southern Illinois Junk Bank raised and donated several boxes of can goods and \$1126.11 to be used to help families of our students in need from our school; 9) 3rd grade will go to see a play on fairy tales at the Marion Civic Center

on Friday, October 16th. The Jr. High Choir will be going to see the musical James and the Giant Peach at SIC on the same day; 10) Picture retakes and group/team pictures will be taken November 13th; 11) Letters were sent out and appointments are being made for the Parent-Teacher conferences on the evenings of October 22nd and 27th; 12) Patsy Bishop will be doing a raised garden bed project over by the music room providing all supplies and donating the vegetables grown to a local facility; 13) Current enrollment is 371.

Mr. Bleyer reported on the following in Mr. Fritch's absence: 1) English II Class is going to the Carson Center to see "Romeo and Juliet" on October 21st; 2) Donkey Basketball was a huge success! Student Council raised close to \$3,000.00 on ticket sales and concessions; 3) Mrs. Johnson hosted the second annual scholarship night on October 8th. She talked to students and parents about college options and deadlines. She also informed them about our local scholarships- (requirements and deadlines); 4) Fall Baseball has wrapped up its season; 5) Cross Country Regional's are coming up next weekend at Harrisburg. The first Pope County Invitational was held today for the high school and Sheyann Bowles won in the girl's division and Colby Robinson was the first Pope County male to cross the finish line; 6) Boys and Girls Basketball teams have been having open-gym, conditioning, and weightlifting; 7) PTO will be having a Faculty/Alumni vs. Students basketball game on October 23; and 8) Enrollment: Freshman – 37, Sophomores – 40, Juniors – 45, and Seniors – 38; total is 160.

Mr. Bleyer reported the following: 1) On October 7th, I met with Illinois Secretary of Education Beth Purvis. I addressed my deep concerns over the proration of the transportation fund. I asked that she would consider a similar approach that is currently being used for general state aid by providing a hold harmless provision that would put a limit on losses to a district. She was receptive to the idea; 2) At the IASA convention, I also met with Superintendent of School Tony Smith and conveyed the same message that the transportation fund can no further be addressed in a simple proration approach. He agreed and said he has heard this from numerous superintendents. We will see. While at the conference, I was able to attend numerous sessions dealing with the 1% sales tax, the process of selling bonds to build and upgrade facilities, the upcoming implications of the possibility of the Cadillac tax on the horizon, and more information on the possibility of the tax cap. I also made connections with vendors that specialize in renovating and building school structures. The conference also allowed me the professional development hours needed to keep up with my hours mandated by the state; 3) The Lunch Bucket is officially being raffled. A ticket costs \$1; 4) On August 1st of this year, Governor Rauner signed into law the Illinois Balanced Accountability Measures that will rate schools. It will encompass 30% for standardized test scores and 70% of other variables that include financial and instructional practices, connections with families and the community and shared leadership, governance, and success. This type of rating may not be sufficient for federal guidelines; 5) As per requested at the last meeting to get the average cost of a bus route is approximately \$21,500.00; and

6) As per requested to get more information regarding Archview; this would be more than what we need but found another program that looks promising called Bus Boss. They have been contacted and waiting to hear back from them on cost. This program would upload all student addresses in the system and produce a more cost-effective route.

Motion to enter executive session for the purpose of personnel performance was made by Hogg and seconded by Coen. All members present voted yea. Board entered executive session at 8:18 pm.

Mr. Fritch entered executive session at 9:10 pm.

Motion to return to regular session was made by Richerson and seconded by Simmons. All members present voted yea. Board returned at 9:36 pm.

Mr. Bleyer discussed the PRESS updates with the Board pointing out the most important changes and additions during the first reading. No Action was taken at this time.

Motion to accept the FY 2015 School District Audit as presented was made by Coen and seconded by Collier. After some discussion, all members present voted yea: Hansen, Hogg, Coen, Simmons, Richerson, Collier, and Clay.

Motion to approve out-of-state trip for K-2nd grades to attend Junie B. Jones Essential Survival Guide to School On November 5th at the Carson Center in Paducah, KY

Motion to approve overnight, out-of-state trip for Mrs. Hosfeldt and four students to attend the Quad State Choir Honors Festival at Murray State University was made by Richerson and seconded by Hansen. All members present voted yea.

Motion to post for Athletic Director was made by Simmons and seconded by Richerson. All members present voted yea.

Other School Business, a motion to approve Jeff Aly as a volunteer assistant coach for the Jr. High school girls' basketball team as requested by April Hogg was made by Simmons and seconded by Richerson. All members present voted as followed; Hansen, Coen, Simmons, Richerson, Collier, and Clay; yea, Hogg; nay.

Motion for a Special Called meeting to be held on October 27th at 6:00 pm to hire an Athletic Director was made by Richerson and seconded by Simmons. All members present voted yea.

Board member Coen asked how we are doing on the 2015 District goals that were set last year by the Board. He mentioned each goal and received an update on each goal.

With no further business to be discussed, a motion was made by Coen and seconded by Hogg to adjourn the meeting until the next special called meeting to be held on Tuesday, October 27, 2015 at 6:00 pm in the J.H. Hobbs Memorial Library. All members present voted yea.

Meeting adjourned at 10:12 pm.

Allen Clay, President
Board of Education

Paula Baker, Secretary
Board of Education