

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Palestine Community Unit School District No. 3 was held at Palestine Grade School at 205 S. Washington Street, Palestine, Illinois on Monday, March 19, 2007. The meeting was called to order by President Biggs at 6:31 p.m.

Secretary Shari Eckert called the roll with the following members answering present: Gary Buser, Jim Bush, Shari Eckert, James Ellis, Susan Hawkins, Donald Wagoner and Corie Biggs. Administration present was Mr. John Hasten, Mrs. Arlene Lindsay, and Mrs. Sheila Mikeworth. Others in attendance were: Tangi Waldrop, Amber Ramsey, Kathy Morrow, Katherine Mendenhall, Christina Provines, Stephanie England, Barbara Potts, Rhonda Green, Carson Green, Jody Decker, Patty Neff, Sandra York, Michelle Wagoner, Lauren Wagoner, Josh Brown (Daily News), and Denise Dart.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Jim Bush and seconded by Don Wagoner. Roll call voting on the motion was as follows: Aye: Buser, Bush, Eckert, Ellis, Hawkins, Wagoner, and Biggs. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Gary Buser made a motion, seconded by Susan Hawkins, to approve the consent agenda. Roll call voting on the motion was as follows: Aye: Buser, Bush, Eckert, Ellis, Hawkins, Wagoner, and Biggs. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Recognition of Faculty and Staff:

Kathy Morrow and junior class member, Katherine Mendenhall, presented prom invitations to the board members.

Stephanie England and Christina Provines announced the Drama Club's upcoming performance of "Murder by the Book" on April 20 & 21 at 7:00 p.m. and invited the board members to attend.

Mrs. Potts reported 90 Respect for Sportsmanship coupons were given out in February. March will be Trustworthiness. Mrs. McCrillis was the staff member of the month. Chuck Roach will present a team building presentation in March. May 18 will be Character Ed movie day. Perfect attendance has consistently increased over the last few years.

There were no committee reports.

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PHS Building News:

Mrs. Lindsay reported that students have been tested twice on ThinkLink and scores are showing a dramatic increase in the percentage of students meeting and exceeding standards.

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She gave a summary of the Connections Conference attended by Mrs. Lindsay and Mrs. Fritchley in mid March. Twin Rivers covered most of the conference costs.

Books have been ordered through Illinois Textbook Loan Program for Spanish, Art, Drama, Parenting and Child Development totaling over \$5,000.

A newsletter is being prepared to mail monthly to parents.

PHS has been busy during the month being host to a blood drive and assisting with the PAF Basket Bingo. The sophomores also attended a Career Day at LTC.

Students and staff were recognized for their achievements. Mark Catt was named February Teacher of the Month. Patrick Eller was honored at the IPA Wabash Valley Student Recognition Banquet. Illinois State Scholars: Ashlei Friedrich, Justin Rice, and Jessie Polk were honored at the annual banquet in Olney. WYSE team members Justin Rice and Calvin Wagoner placed 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> respectively in Chemistry and will compete in state competition in March.

#### PGS Building News:

Mrs. Mikeworth, PGS Principal, reported on events at PGS including the ISAT Pep Rally prior to the testing on March 12-16. The Jr. High had a team building program with Chuck Roach. Bidy Ball was held on Saturday's during the month of March. Book Fair was March 19-23. Project Rain Forest had a successful Fazoli's Dinner event.

She also reported on several community events. An Appreciation Supper was held for the PTO, PAF members, football field workers, and playground volunteers. A Family ISAT Night and Character Counts Family Reading Night were held. The Veteran's Appreciation Program has also been rescheduled for March.

Mrs. Patty Neff, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade teacher, was recognized as Teacher of the Month and Mr. Carson Green was recognized as the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade IPA Award Recipient.

Mrs. Mikeworth reported on the School Improvement Day meetings and activities. Mrs. Burkett and Mrs. Beabout presented an inservice on United Streaming. She also reported that Mrs. Burkett has been accepted to the Star Teacher Program.

She also updated the Board on the 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation issue. Twenty-five students wanted caps and gowns and four did not. Also the class trip will be to Springfield for a tour of the city and historical sites.

Parents in attendance were recognized and spoke concerning the graduation issue.

#### Superintendent's report:

Mr. Hasten noted that Election Day is April 17<sup>th</sup>. The new board members must be seated by May 15<sup>th</sup>. He suggested moving the May meeting to May 14<sup>th</sup>.

A construction update was provided noting the overall project was on budget. B & S issues were discussed. He also reported that Sloan had worked on the wells.

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Electric rates were discussed. The district is saving money by using Illinois Energy Consortium. Gary Buser is analyzing the bills and looking for improvements. An environmental products project is being considered through a solar cell grant to allow students to see how electricity is made. We have many "green activities" in place and are pursuing more.

Mr. Hasten reported that both buildings made AYP last year. Copies of the report cards were included in the board packets for review.

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A motion was made by Donald Wagoner and seconded by Jim Bush to reschedule the May regular board meeting from May 21, 2007 to May 14, 2007. Roll call voting on the motion was as follows: Aye: Buser, Bush, Eckert, Ellis, Hawkins, Wagoner, and Biggs. Nay: None. Motion carried.

It was moved by Shari Eckert and seconded by James Ellis to approve policy amendments for polices #: 2:90 (delete), 2:120, 2:120-E, 2:250, 2:250-AP, 2:260, 4:90, 4:90-AP, 4:160, 4:160-AP, 5:40, 5:150, 5:160 (delete), 5:170, 5:170-AP1, 5:170-AP2, 5:170-AP3, 5:280, 5:300, 5:320, 5:330, 6:30, 6:70, 6:80, 6:130, 6:145-E (delete), 6:150, 6:170, 6:210, 6:220 (delete), 6:230, 6:280, 6:290, 6:330, 7:80, 7:90, 7:100, 7:190-AP3, 7:220, 7:310, 7:310-AP, 7:340, 8:40. Roll call voting on the motion was as follows: Aye: Buser, Bush, Eckert, Ellis, Hawkins, Wagoner, and Biggs. Nay: None. Motion carried.

The report cards for the District, Grade School and High School were presented for review.

On a motion by Jim Bush and seconded by Shari Eckert the proposed calendar for 2007-2008 school year was adopted as presented. Roll call voting on the motion was as follows: Aye: Buser, Bush, Eckert, Ellis, Hawkins, Wagoner and Biggs. Nay: None. Motion carried

It was moved by Jim Bush and seconded by Gary Buser to approve a donation of \$200.00 to the Post Prom Committee. Roll call voting on the motion was as follows: Aye: Buser, Bush, Eckert, Ellis, Hawkins, Wagoner and Biggs. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Gary Buser made a motion to enter into Closed Session at 7:21 p.m. for the purpose of discussion of employment, appointment, resignation, evaluation of personnel, matters relating to an individual student and negotiations. Jim Bush seconded the motion. Roll call voting on the motion was as follows: Aye: Buser, Bush, Eckert, Ellis, Hawkins, Wagoner, and Biggs. Nay: None. Motion carried.

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The Board returned to Open Session at 9:28 p.m. on a motion by Gary Buser and seconded by Susan Hawkins. Roll call voting on the motion was as follows: Aye: Buser, Bush, Eckert, Ellis, Hawkins, Wagoner, and Biggs. Nay: None. Motion carried.

It was moved by Jim Bush and seconded by Donald Wagoner to award tenure to Michelle Smith effective the beginning of the 2007-2008 school year. Roll call voting on the motion was as follows: Aye: Buser, Bush, Eckert, Ellis, Hawkins, Wagoner, and Biggs. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Susan Hawkins made a motion, seconded by James Ellis, to rehire the following as teachers for the 2007-2008 school year: Travis Blank, Bob Enigk, Erika Coffman, Stephanie England, Chris Macke, Alisan Mendenhall, Michele Mendenhall, Joe Sornberger, Patty Neff, Amber Ramsey, and Robin Rinard. Roll call voting on the motion was as follows: Aye: Buser, Bush, Eckert, Ellis, Hawkins, Wagoner, and Biggs. Nay: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Gary Buser and seconded by Jim Bush to adopt the attached Resolution Reference the Dismissal of Education Support Personnel for the honorable dismissal of the following aides: Dessie Carr, Mary Ann Clay, Jana Halter, Lori Knoblett, Jamie Lowe, Jodi Parker, Linda Rich, Erin Sparks, Carol Watts, and Kathy Wesley. Roll call voting on the motion was as follows: Aye: Buser, Bush, Eckert, Ellis, Hawkins, Wagoner, and Biggs. Nay: None. Motion carried.

It was moved by James Ellis and seconded by Donald Wagoner to regretfully accept the resignation of Mary Beth Smeltzer effective March 23, 2007. Roll call voting on the motion was as follows: Aye: Buser, Bush, Eckert, Ellis, Hawkins, Wagoner, and Biggs. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:32 p.m. on a motion by Jim Bush and seconded by Susan Hawkins. Roll call voting on the motion was as follows: Aye: Buser, Bush, Eckert, Ellis, Hawkins, Wagoner, and Biggs. Nay: None. Motion carried.

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Corie Biggs, President

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Shari Eckert, Secretary