

April 8, 2019

**1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance (2:220)**

President Ms. Juanita Jordan called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

**2. Roll Call (2:220)**

The following members were present: Ms. Joyce Dickerson, Mrs. Natalie Myers, Ms. Juanita Jordan, Ms. Sharron Davis, Mrs. Kathy Taylor, Ms. Elaine Walker and Ms. Barbara Nettles. The following members were absent: none.

Also present were: Dr. Kimako Patterson, Superintendent, Mrs. Carrie Ablin, Director of Student Services, Mrs. Deborah Clayton, Chief School Business Official and Dr. Kenneth Scott, Director of Human Resources.

**3. Superintendent's Update**

Dr. Patterson began by sharing with the Board that the Bremen Township Treasury report requested at the Regular Business Meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup>, was included in their handouts. Dr. Patterson then spoke briefly about her recommendation to add a separate Residency Hearing Officer for those people found to be out of our district boundaries.

Next, Mr. Jeffrey Ott of Decision Ed. conducted a brief presentation of the Decision Ed. Dashboard. Mr. Ott demonstrated how to access data and provided various ways to pull reports and spotlight specific information. Dr. Patterson informed the Board that Mr. Ott will meet with herself and her senior cabinet on a weekly basis to assure that the program is functioning at its maximum capacity.

**4. Vista National Presentation**

Dr. Patterson began by commenting that the Vista National representatives were invited to share an overview of the District's new Employee Benefits Program Cooperative. Dr. Patterson then introduced Mr. Kahlil Hogan of Vista National who spoke briefly about some of the differences and similarities between the EBC Cooperative and Vista National. Mr. Hogan then spoke openly about advantages and possible risk with Vista National, then shared some of his recommendations moving forward.

**5. Vista National Insurance Group's Consulting Contract**

Dr. Patterson presented the Vista National Insurance Group's contract agreement for the 2019-2020 school year with a recommendation for approval at the April 15, 2019 Regular Board Meeting.

**6. Alternative 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Ceremony (Discussion)**

Dr. Patterson informed the Board of a recent incident involving nearly 40 students identified as having been involved in gang activity at the Junior High. After a series of conferences with the parents of the students Dr. Patterson is recommending that as an added consequence the students participate in an alternative graduation ceremony.

**7. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Keynote Speaker**

Dr. Patterson shared with the Board that former NFL player, Renaldo Wynn has accepted the District's invitation to speak at the 2019 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation. Dr. Patterson is recommending that the Board approve the presented contract at the Regular Board Meeting on April 15, 2019.

**8. Consolidated District Plan**

Dr. Patterson presented the 2019 Consolidated District Plan data and provided all necessary explanations.

**9. 100/200 Hallway Rental (Discussion)**

Dr. Patterson discussed with the Board details of a recent walkthrough of the 100 and 200 hallways in the old Jr. High Complex. The walkthrough included Dr. Patterson, Mrs. Veazey, Mrs. Clayton, Dr. Scott and Mr. Foy Bryant. Dr. Patterson shared with the Board some of the identified immediate and long-term updates and repairs that need to be completed to bring the facilities up to code/standards.

**10. Baker Tilly Engagement Letter**

Mrs. Clayton presented the Baker Tilly Engagement Letter expressing their intent for the upcoming 2019-2020 school year as it relates to the District's Financial Audit.

**11. Bremen Township Treasury Office**

Mrs. Clayton submitted for Board review the Bremen Township Treasury Office's Interest Earned Statement for PHESD 144 for the period ending June 30, 2018.

**12. PHESD 144 Garage Sale/Give-a-Way**

Dr. Patterson shared with the Board her recommendation to conduct a District Garage Sale/Give-a-Way of furniture and equipment in good and/or salvageable condition from the old Junior High and PAC Complex. Dr. Patterson then shared the date for the PHESD 144 Garage Sale (June 14, 2019) as well as some of the items that has been identified to be sold and or donated.

**13. Employee Termination**

Dr. Patterson shared her recommendation and support for her decision to terminate first year teacher Giordan Gibson due to job abandonment. Dr. Patterson is seeking approval at the April 15, 2019 Regular Business Meeting.

**14. New District Truck Purchase**

Dr. Patterson and Dr. Scott presented a quote for the purchase of a new truck for the buildings and grounds department. Dr. Patterson explained that this would be the first purchase of a new vehicle in over 5 years. Dr. Scott is recommending that the Board approve the quoted amount at the April 15, 2019 Regular Business Meeting.

**15. SPA Reduction in Force (Discussion)**

Dr. Patterson was happy to report that there will be no Reduction in Force for SPA Employees at the close of the 2018-2019 school year. Dr. Patterson expressed that due to the rapid increase in enrollment since September 2018, she anticipates the 2019-2020 school year's enrollment will be at an all-time high at the start of the school year and wants to be fully staffed and prepared.

**16. SPA Sick Day Donation Request- Maurice Van**

Dr. Patterson presented a Memo from the SPA requesting the approval of sick day donations for Mr. Maurice Van, custodian at Mae Jemison School. Dr. Patterson recommends the Board approve the request at the April 15, 2019 Regular Business Meeting.

**17. Fresh Wind Transportation Contract**

Mrs. Ablin presented the renewal contract for the Fresh Wind Transportation Company for the 2019-2020 school year. Mrs. Ablin recommends that the Board approve the contract at the April 15, 2019 Regular Business Meeting.

**18. New Business**

Dr. Patterson shared with the Board that we recently received a FOIA Request from NBC-5 as well as informed the Board that she will be meeting with our Attorney to release a statement to the Wall Street Journal. Finally, Dr. Patterson informed the Board that the new State Superintendent is Dr. Carmen Ayala and that Superintendent Dr. Donna Leak will sit on the Illinois School Board of Education. After which, Dr. Patterson acknowledged Representative William Davis, Representative Debbie Meyers-Martin, Senator Napoleon Harris and Congresswoman Robin Kelly, for their donations to Prairie-Hills Junior High for the upcoming 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to New York.

**19. Executive Session (2:200)**

Mrs. Taylor moved and it was seconded by Ms. Dickerson to go into Executive Session. On roll call the following members voted aye: Ms. Walker, Ms. Dickerson, Mrs. Myers, Mrs. Taylor, Ms. Nettles, Ms. Sharron Davis and Ms. Jordan. Nays: none. Absent: none.

**Motion Carried 8:50p.m.**

Mrs. Taylor moved and it was seconded by Ms. Dickerson to adjourn the Executive Session. On roll call the following members voted aye: Ms. Walker, Ms. Dickerson, Mrs. Myers, Mrs. Taylor, Ms. Sharron Davis, Ms. Nettles and Ms. Jordan. Nays: none. Absent: none.

**Motion Carried 9:10p.m.**

**20. Adjournment (2:200)**

Mrs. Taylor moved and it was seconded by Ms. Walker to adjourn the Work Session meeting. On voice vote, all members present voted aye: Nays: None. Absent: none.

**Motion Carried 9:13p.m.**

**Submitted by,**

**Juanita R. Jordan, President**

**Barbara Nettles, Secretary**