Prairie Heights Community School Corporation

Board of Education Meeting

May 19, 2025 **Administration Office**

MINUTES

The Prairie Heights Community Schools Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, May 19, 2025 at 6:00 pm. The meeting was held in the administration office. Those in attendance were as follows: Jeff Reed, Todd Perkins, Aaron Pfafman, Jesslyn Senecal, Heather Culler, Jamie Staton, Andy Arndt, Brian Wesson, Jeremy Swander, Damon Witherspoon, and Christine Orr. The meeting was called to order by President Todd Perkins at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Public Comments: None

A motion was made by Jesslyn Senecal to approve the following consent items:

- Approval of the April 21, 2025 minutes
- Approval of the April 25 and May 9, 2025 Payroll
- Approval of the May 2025 Claims
- Approval of Employment

    - New Hires: Sophia Adamski – Varsity Girls Tennis Assistant Coach, Chandler Sailor – Elementary Paraprofessional (rest of the 24-25 year), Mackenzie Ross – Special Education Teacher (25-26), Payton Yoder – Middle School Special Education Teacher (25-26)

    - Reassignments: Bo Kurtz – Middle School Wrestling Coach to Junior Varsity Wrestling Coach, Grace Newell – Third Grade Teacher to Second Grade Teacher (25-26), Shannon Hullinger – Elementary Special Education Teacher to Third Grade Teacher (25-26), Chandler Sailor – Elementary Paraprofessional to First Grade Teacher (25-26)

    - Resignations: Lori Kain – High School Art Teacher, Chris Helmuth – Eighth Grade Boys Basketball Coach, Loretta Newell – ES/MS Receptionist, Lee Fry – Varsity Wrestling Assistant Coach (volunteer), Miranda Hunt – Varsity Cheerleading Coach, Jan Frank – Freshman Boys Basketball Coach, Ryan Neff – Middle School Soccer Coach, Elizabeth Brown – Third Grade Teacher, Heather Fuleki – Seventh Grade Science Teacher, Justin Bigelow – Elementary Physical Education Teacher

- Retirements:

The motion was seconded by Heather Culler and approval was 5-0.

A motion was made on the following Action Items:

- Aaron Pfafman moved to approve the Agriculture Department's Program of Activities and School Farm Agreement. Jamie Staton seconded the motion and approval was 5-0.
- Jamie Staton moved to approve the Request for Three Summer Workers for the Agriculture Department. Jesslyn Senecal seconded the motion and approval was 5-0.
- Heather Culler moved to approve a Special Purchase Exception for the PHCSC Projector Project. Jesslyn Senecal seconded the motion and approval was 5-0. Bridges Audio Visual was awarded the project.
- Jamie Staton moved to approve Bridges Audio Visual as the installer for the PHCSC Projector Project. Aaron Pfafman seconded the motion and approval was 5-0.
- President Todd Perkins opened the public hearing for Lease and Additional Appropriation. Mr. Reed stated that the proposed Lease Agreement (the "Lease"), plans and estimates for the school building to be renovated and improved by the Prairie Heights Multi-School Building Corporation (the "Building Corporation") had been on file from the date of publication of the notice until today, in the Administration Building of the School Corporation.
    - President Todd Perkins stated that the notice of this hearing was also published in the *LaGrange Standard* and in the *Steuben Herald-Republican* on April 16, 2025. The proofs of publication of the notice of the hearing were presented.
    - President Todd Perkins stated that pursuant to Indiana Code 20-47-3, before a school corporation may enter into a lease with a nonprofit building corporation, the school corporation must conduct a hearing regarding the execution of the proposed lease agreement and whether the rental to be paid to the lessor building corporation under the proposed lease is a fair and reasonable rental for the proposed improvements. Similarly, before a school corporation can appropriate any dollars it directly receives as bond proceeds, it must conduct a hearing on the proceeds for the "additional" appropriation of those funds.
    - The meeting was then open for questions and for the hearing of all persons interested in the Lease and Additional Appropriation not to exceed $13,000,000.00 for the purpose of (i) renovation of and improvements to Prairie Heights High School, including site improvements and the purchase of equipment and technology in the School Corporation; and (ii) renovation of and improvements to Prairie Heights Middle School and Prairie Heights Elementary School, including site improvements, renovations to the Ag Building, and the purchase of equipment and technology.
    - No questions or comments were received from the public. At the conclusion of the public hearing, Jesslyn Senecal made a motion to close the public hearing. Aaron Pfafman seconded the motion and approval was 5-0
- Jamie Staton moved to approve the Resolution Authorizing Execution of Lease. Heather Culler seconded the motion and approval was 5-0.
- Heather Culler moved to approve the Additional Appropriation Resolution. Aaron Pfafman seconded the motion and approval was 5-0.

- Jesslyn Senecal moved to approve the Resolution Authorizing Second Supplement to Master Continuing Disclosure Undertaking and Issuance of Bonds. Heather Culler seconded the motion and approval was 5-0.
- Aaron Pfafman moved to approve the Resolution Assigning Construction Bids. Heather Culler seconded the motion and approval was 5-0.
- Jamie Staton moved to approve the School Fundraisers for the 2025-2026 School Year. Jesslyn Senecal seconded the motion and approval was 5-0.
- Aaron Pfafman moved to approve School Field Trips for the 2025-2026 School Year. Jamie Staton seconded the motion and approval was 5-0.
- Jamie Staton moved to approve the Student Handbooks as status quo for the 2025-2026 School Year. Aaron Pfafman seconded the motion and approval was 5-0.

Discussion took place between the administrators and Board members regarding attendance rates over the past several years. Policies, procedures, and state requirements were discussed.

Adjournment was at 6:45 pm

Documents were signed