

PELLSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Minutes

**Special Board of Education Meeting
Board of Education Conference Room
7:30 p.m.**

Monday, May 24, 2010

A special meeting of the Board of Education of Pellston Public Schools was held in the Gerald E. Mallory Board of Education Conference Room on Monday, May 24, 2010. President Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Chris Rybinski opened with the pledge and prayer. Members present: Kathy Smith, Connie Dzedzie, Chris Rybinski, Jim Milbrandt, Ron Wolford, and John Ritter. Member(s) absent: Sheri Kindell.

Public Comment

Chris Myers, representing “Beyond the Scoreboard” announced that June 15th is the date for the annual Beyond the Scoreboard Banquet, which will be held at the Emmet County Fairgrounds. Tickets are \$20. Pellston High School Girls Volleyball Team has been selected for the “Champions of Character” award.

Communications

Superintendent Tebbe shared a Thank You note, which was received from the LTTB Headstart for Pellston Public Schools help and cooperation to hold the Pow Wow at Pellston Elementary School in April.

St. Clement’s Church Catechism program sent a thank you for use of the elementary during the 2009-10 year.

New Business

Program Reduction Recommendations for 2010-11

It was moved by John Ritter and supported by Connie Dzedzie to approve Items 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, & 8 of the proposed program reduction recommendations and to table for further discussion Items 2 & 5 of the proposed program reduction recommendations:

1. Class sections below a student to teacher ratio of 20 to 1 shall require Board approval on an annual basis. The following classes are exempt from this rule: Calculus, BST and Construction Trades.
2. Core class instruction in Grades K-2 shall be 100% self-contained, core instruction in grades 3-6 shall be 100% self-contained, however, may departmentalize core instruction subject o principal review and approval, 7-12 departmentalized instruction.
3. Students promoted from grade level to grade level based on successful completion of core subject classes. Students who fail to meet grade level expectations may use the following methods to get caught up. Academy Blocks K-12, Title I intervention, peer tutoring, year-round 21st Century Learning Center tutoring,

- Summer School K-8 and online classes for students in grades 9-12.
4. Modify High School math requirement as follows: Successful completion of Algebra II is required for all high school students. The students may elect to complete the same content of two semesters of Algebra II over two years, with credit awarded for each of those 2 years or the student may choose to successfully complete the same content as one semester of Algebra II and request the Algebra credit requirement be modified through a personal curriculum.
 5. GSRP (Great Start Readiness Program) relocated to Pellston Elementary School, beginning fall 2010. This will be a 30 week program, beginning October 1, 2010 through May 2011. Program under the supervision of the elementary principal. Program providers include a director and classroom aide. The program being funded at Pellston Elementary is subject to State and Federal funding.
 6. Addition of K-7 computer curriculum to be taught in addition to Phys. Ed., Art, and Music. This will result in a reduced schedule for K-5 music and art.
 7. Maintain 6-12 counselor position for 2010-11. Maintain Home-School Liaison position but serves students K-8, authorize "At Risk" funds to continue to fund Hornet Health Center counseling assigned to elementary 1.5 days per week.
 8. Authorize North Central Michigan College Direct Credit class option at Pellston High School, beginning in 2010-11, subject to approval by PEA/MEA. High school teachers serve as adjunct professors for the college and teach classes at the high school during the day.

Bear Cub teachers shared their concerns about moving the GSRP program to Pellston Elementary. Mr. Tebbe asked if they could serve all 24 children for four days. The answer was yes.

Superintendent Tebbe commented on #3. The Board is working to insure successful learning at all grade levels. We are moving away from "social promotions". Principal Basanese noted that a number of students have already approached him about taking classes online throughout the summer to catch them up. Some students really thrive with the individualized online classes. Sherry Beach is concerned for the students who cannot grasp concepts the first time and these students will not be able to succeed with online classes. Mr. Tebbe noted that the Special Ed. curriculum is driven by the I.E.P., which will continue to meet their needs, as demanded by that I.E.P.

Dianne Wolford commented on recommendation #2 and requested that she and Karen Welch might have an opportunity to present their data to support departmentalization at the elementary level. K-2 is best served by being self-contained. The personnel committee will meet and invited Dianne and Karen to present their case for continuing with departmentalized curriculum in Grade 2. Sherry Beach asked whether or not Physics should be an exception, just as Calculus, with regard to class size. It will be reviewed annually, as recommended by Principal Basanese.

The motion carried 5-0. Ron Wolford left the meeting prior to voting.

A Personnel Committee meeting is set for Wednesday, May 26th at 7 p.m.

The Board expressed interest in reviewing the Board's current policy for public participation at Board meetings. This will be a topic for a future Work Session.

Mr. Tebbe announced that we are working to find the best solution to secure the elementary building since the break-in, which occurred around May 15th. He asked that in the meantime all teachers remember to please keep your classroom doors locked and be certain that all exterior doors are closed tightly.

Mr. Tebbe informed the audience that the Revenue Consensus Conference met in Lansing and there will be more revenue than anticipated. Therefore further cuts may be avoided for the 2010-11 fiscal year.

It was moved by John Ritter and supported by Jim Milbrandt to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m. The motion carried –5.0