

Mt. Pulaski Community Unit District #23

Board of Education

Mt. Pulaski Unit Office

March 22, 2010

President Meister called the meeting to order on March 22, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the unit office. Roll call was taken. Answering present: Doug Martin, Kathy Boward, Joe Olson, Diane Deppe, Jeff Haley, David Meister, Mike Toohey. Also present were Superintendent Phil Shelton, and Principals Gene Newton and Terry Morgan.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Diane Deppe to enter Executive Session at 6:01 p.m. for evaluation, dismissal, employment and compensation of personnel. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No Nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Kathy Boward, second by Diane Deppe to exit Executive Session at 7:01 p.m. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

The meeting reconvened in Open Session at 7:01p.m.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Kathy Boward to approve executive session minutes as presented in executive session. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Jeff Haley to rehire Terry Morgan as high school principal for the 2010-2011 school year. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Doug Martin second by Jeff Haley to rehire Gene Newton as Grade School principal for the 2010-2011 school year. Roll Call vote. Answering aye:

Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Kathy Boward to accept the resignation of Kathy Miller as National Honor Society Sponsor. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Mike Toohey to employ Kendra Updegraff for the 2010-2011 school year. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Mike Toohey to employ Julie Wubben for the 2010-2011 school year. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Jeff Haley to employ Jean Beccue for the 2010-2011 school year. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Jeff Haley to employ Brook Eeten for the 2010-2011 school year. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Kathy Boward to employ Brandy Westen for the 2010-2011 school year. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Diane Deppe to employ David Helm for the 2010-2011 school year. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike

Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay.
Motion carried.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Diane Deppe to employ Craig Erlenbush for the 2010-2011 school year. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay.
Motion carried.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Mike Toohey to employ Heather Fricke for the 2010-2011 school year. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay.
Motion carried.

Motion by Doug Martin second by Diane Deppe to employ Michael West for the 2010-2011 school year. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay.
Motion carried.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Diane Deppe to employ Michele Clark for the 2010-2011 school year. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay.
Motion carried.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Diane Deppe to grant tenure status to Brian Alexander for the 2010-2011 school year. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Diane Deppe to adopt the consent agenda items: A. Approval of February 15 and March 8, 2010 minutes

B. Approve payment of bills

Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Reports

Superintendent Shelton gave an update on the possibility of a Logan County Sales Tax. He said he is observing several surrounding counties efforts to try and put the sales tax on the ballot. He thought that Sangamon County was trying to put it on the November ballot. There will be a meeting discussing the sales tax in Logan County with Lincoln and other area schools in April and Superintendent Shelton will have a report at the next school board meeting. President Meister talked about the tax and how he thought it would be worthwhile passing a resolution in support of it. He said no one likes to see taxes go up, but it is an option that may be worth considering.

Superintendent Shelton gave a report on the Group Work Camp to take place at the High School June 13-18. He and Principal Morgan have toured the high school with the representative from the work camp and everything will be ready for the camp.

Unfinished Business

A. FY 2011 Proposed Budget and Program Cuts

Superintendent Shelton gave a report on FY 2011 proposed budget and program cuts. He said that the state currently owes the district \$712,000. He said there are rumors of the legislature cutting state aid this year and next. The school board and Superintendent Shelton came up with a list of cuts totaling \$256,500. With the increase in salaries for the upcoming year it will leave the district with total cuts of \$106,500. Superintendent Shelton said the non-renewal of teachers is caused by the lack of funding for the Pre-K and Reading Recovery grant. The Pre-K grant is \$102,000 and to date the district has received \$2,400.

Superintendent Shelton said we cannot afford to finance State Programs. The proposed cuts in funds are:

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| 1. Suspend the textbook replacement cycle | \$15,000 |
| 2. Eliminate Pre-K and Reading Improvement Grant | \$102,000 |
| 3. Drop Junior High Softball | \$7,000 |

4. Drop High School Asst. Baseball coach	\$1,500
5. No attendance at IASB convention	\$6,000
6. Stop attendance at Salt Creek Alternative School	\$27,000
7. Stop all field trips except FFA and FCCLA	\$ 5,000
8. Technology Supplies and Equipment	\$6,000
TOTAL	\$169,500

Superintendent Shelton said we will not have any penalties for teachers taking the Early Retirement Option this year. This is a penalty that the district must pay if teachers retire before they are 60 years old or have 35 years of teaching. Last year we paid an \$87,000 penalty.

Superintendent Shelton said that most districts are having financial trouble because of a lack of responsibility in state aid and the state not supporting programs that they start. Mike Toohey talked about the reinstatement of the programs and said just because the state says they will fund the program does not mean they are going to. Superintendent Shelton said when the Reading Improvement grant started it was \$23,000 and now it is \$12,000. Superintendent Shelton said that these programs and grants are helpful, but stressed again that we cannot finance the state programs. The state says they are funding these programs, but we are still not seeing the money. He also pointed out that we are still waiting on the \$800,000 construction grant for the High School addition from 2006. President Meister said that we are trying to make cuts without cutting into the heart of our educational programs. Superintendent Shelton said the tax rate is only \$.01 higher than the previous year and that the district has been responsible when levying taxes. He said we are looking at \$32,000 less in revenue for next year and it could be worse. President Meister said that we are fortunate that we do not rely heavily on state aid. Superintendent Shelton said we have a \$6.5 million budget and receive about \$650,000 in state aid.

Stan Anderson was present in the audience and wanted to voice his support for the girl's softball program. He said that he had 21 girls sign up for summer softball and would like to see the program continue. He also said that he understood the tough decisions the board had to make and that education was most important. Doug Martin said that it is frustrating that we have to make these cuts because we have been financially responsible in the past, but we do not have a choice. Superintendent Shelton said we have to have fund balances to fall back on. Mike Toohey said how we have had to borrow from ourselves two times this past year to pay transportation costs due to lack of timely state funding.

Motion by Doug Martin second by Jeff Haley to approve cuts and programs as stated totaling \$169,500.

Discussion was held and Jeff Haley said that every item on the programs cut list has merit, but we have to try and preserve the core items and teaching positions. He said we have to make some cuts on big ticket items and cannot get by with cutting field trips and smaller items. He said this may not be it and it could be worse next year.

Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

B. Board Resolutions for Non Renewal of Teachers and Educational Support Staff.

President Meister read the resolution of non-reemployment for Kristin Rucks, Jim Peck, and Jason Gill.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Joe Olson to approve the Resolution of Non-Reemployment for Kristin Rucks, Jim Peck, and Jason Gill adopted March 22, 2010. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

President Meister read the Resolution of Dismissal for Educational Support Employees, Sandy Remmert, Cindy Stoll, Betty Phillips, Jason Beard, Amy Dyer and Jill Siebert.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Mike Toohey to approve the Resolution of Dismissal for Educational Support Employees, Sandy Remmert, Cindy Stoll, Betty Phillips, Jason Beard, Amy Dyer, Jill Siebert adopted March 22, 2010. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

New Business

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Kathy Boward to set graduation dates Friday June 4, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. for Mt. Pulaski Grade School and Saturday June 5, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. for Mt. Pulaski High School. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Superintendent Shelton presented the school calendar for 2010-2011. He will give the proposed calendar to the staff with the proposed semester and quarter dates for review.

Superintendent Shelton presented the renewal bid for the districts property casualty insurance. He said there is an increase in premium this year, but we did receive a \$600 credit which will make our premium increase \$1715.00 for a total of \$32,121.00.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Diane Deppe to renew Property Casualty Insurance with Diamond Brothers and Selective Insurance Company from March 21,2010 to March 21,2011 for \$31,509.00. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

The Joint Agreement with Lincoln Land Technical Education Center was presented for approval. Superintendent Shelton said we currently have 8 kids in the program.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Joe Olson to approve the Joint Agreement Resolution with Lincoln Land Technical Education Center for the 2010-2011 school

year. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Joe Olson, Jeff Haley, Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. No nay. Motion carried.

Mr. Wernsing gave a report on the golf program. He said that the scores are improving every year because of the support the kids have shown in the program. He said he would like to see some girls get involved in the sport and thanked the district for their support the past three years. Mr. Wernsing then talked about the agreement with the Lincoln Elks and how they were glad to work with the kids in our program. Superintendent Shelton said how this is much more convenient and that it costs less than transporting the kids to Decatur and Riverton for practice. Mr. Wernsing talked about how the kids were providing their own bags, balls, and money toward shirts.

Motion by Doug Martin, second by Mike Toohey to approve the Golf facilities usage agreement with the Lincoln Elks Lodge #914 from April 1, 2010 thru March 31, 2011. Roll Call vote. Answering aye: Mike Toohey, Doug Martin, Diane Deppe, Kathy Boward, David Meister. Answering nay Joe Olson, Jeff Haley. Motion carried.

Items of Information

March Senior of the Month was Andrew McCarty

Grade School Students of the Month 6th Grade Cameron Aylesworth

7th Grade Julia Beccue

8th Grade Chelsea Siembida

Mr. Newton said that we were hosting the 8th grade 2A State Volleyball Tournament this week at the High School.

The Science and Book Fair will be this Thursday night at the Grade School . PASE will also be having a dinner that night in the cafeteria.

Mr. Morgan said Freshman orientation will be Tuesday March 30 at 6:30 p.m. at the high school.

Motion by Mike Toohey, second by Diane Deppe to adjourn. Voice Vote: All ayes
No nays. Motion passes.

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Submitted by:

Doug Martin

School Board Secretary