

Regular Meeting
Board of Education
July 20, 2009

The Board convened in the Superintendent's Conference Room of the Administration Building at 4:30 p.m. Chairman pro-tem David Gorenz called the meeting to order. The following members answered the roll call: Butler, Gorenz, Parker, Petelle, Ross, Stowell and Wolfmeyer.

EXECUTIVE SESSION -- Moved by Stowell seconded by Butler to adjourn into executive session to: approve minutes of the last meeting July 6, 2009 Section 2(c) (21); Student Discipline Section 2(c) (9); Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, Board dismissal of specific employees or legal counsel Section 2(c) (1); Collective negotiating matters Section 2(c) (2); Litigation against, affecting or on behalf of the School District Section 2(c) (11); Purchase or lease of real property, setting of price for sale or lease of property Section 2 (c) (5)&(6). Motion carried. No action was taken in executive session.

ADJOURNMENT – Dr. Gorenz adjourned the executive session at 6:00p.m.

The Board convened in regular session at 6:30 p.m. in the Diagnostic Learning Center. The following members answered the roll call: Butler, Gorenz, Parker, Petelle, Ross, Stowell and Wolfmeyer.

MINUTES – There were no additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting of July 6, 2009.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Mr. Stowell reminded all that the "Can Do Walk" for Irving School is September 12, 2009. He thanked Dr. Davis for working with principals and teachers to take the information presented by Dr. Risen on how to make the primary early release days more valuable.

MOTION TO SUSPEND BOARD POLICY – Moved by Gorenz, seconded by Stowell that Board Policy be suspended for this meeting and the Presentation by Audience on Action Items and Presentation by Audience be merged into one speaking time.

On roll call, 7 ayes. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION BY AUDIENCE – Bob Darling, 230 E. High Point, stated that this is not the time to close Woodruff High School. He feels that the new superintendent should make that decision and that the District should wait to see what happens at Manual High School. He stated that he does not want a high school closed. He feels that the issue of student achievement should be addressed first.

Terry Knapp, 922 W. Wilshire Dr., stated that it would be prudent for the Board to bargain a one year contract with the teachers' union and to use interest based bargaining. He stated that the District is trying to break the union by developing a charter school.

Beth Crider-Olcott, 4516 W. Cedar Hills, Dunlap, stated that her concerns regarding Valeska Hinton Early Childhood Center were addressed. Challenged the idea that a longer day and/or longer year and doing the same thing will not help. She feels that VHECEC's professional development plans do help, that teacher input is essential and that staff development meetings set by teachers are beneficial.

Bernie Goitien, 1625 W. Columbia Terrace, stated that he feels the principals of the schools are the most important factor and that principals need to be empowered to run their schools and do what is necessary for their particular school. He also feels that stimulus funding should be directed to lowering class size for grades K & 1.

Kathy Phillips, 1210 S. Taylor Road, Hanna City, stated that she feels, and research shows, that smaller class sizes are essential to improved student achievement.

Sharon Crews, 2215 W. Callender, would like the district to consider smaller schools when they reconfigure. She stated that she feels standards have become lax and credit recovery is a "farce." She also feels that students should be required to make up failed classes at summer school and not be allowed to take them during the regular school year. She stated that the high school summer school program has been a drain on the education fund by allowing low-income students to pay \$25.00 per class and not \$150.00 per class.

Hedy Elliott-Gardner, 3811 W. Pagewood, stated that school closings happen on one side of town, that Adult Education is a successful program and eliminating it would be a great dis-service, the charter school development includes no parents or teachers from the inner city, teachers have done much to expand the inner city baseball program.

Brien Dunphy, 5506 N. Plaza Drive, feels the closing of a high school should be postponed until there is a new superintendent, that the security department has been reduced from 26 officers to 21, that the insurance premium reduction came from the hard work and collaboration of the unions and administration.

General Parker, 2101 N. Bigelow, talked on how the audience spoke on action items at the beginning of the meeting and anything else at the end, and to reduce the current confusion, the Board should go back to the old practice. He stated that he is tired of public bodies putting their bad decisions on the backs of tax payers. He proposed sending the Lincoln Middle School students to a wing of Woodruff High School and putting primary students from Kingman Primary School and Irving Primary School at Lincoln. He urged board members to vote for Martha Ross.

Martha Kelly, 3502 N. Peoria Ave., stated that she feels that there is no real gain to closing Woodruff High School other than getting some teachers off the payroll. She feels that closing Woodruff as a high school would be a death knell to the Averyville area. Other options are available and the issue is to find the right solution for the area.

Don Jackson, 1123 W. Teton, would like the new superintendent included in the decision to close a high school. He stated that the bad decisions of the district have weighed heavily against students living on the south side of Peoria. He asked that as stimulus funding is used the community be involved in the decisions. He stated his support for Martha Ross for Board President.

Bryan Devine, 1917 E. Knox, asked for better communication from administration to Woodruff High School administration, staff, students and parents. He also asked what further study was done to decide that Woodruff should be closed. He stated that Woodruff High School should remain open because of their athletic successes and course offerings.

Terry Shortridge, 333 E. Glen, stated his support for Mrs. Ross for President. He stated that certifications in computer work are needed and Woodruff High School does offer great programs.

Mike Rhoades, 7110 N. Kiva Ct., thanked everyone for the publicity for the Cisco programs. He asked that administration be open and honest with employees. He stated that collaboration with unions and administration resulted in the current insurance package. He talked about the "numbers" presented by the District and that honest communication should occur so all can understand the financial situation. He stated that the plans for a vocations center have been around since 1965 and that it might be time to follow through with the plans.

Savino Sierra, 1708 S. Stanley. Stated that the District needs to learn how to communicate with tax payers and that all students need to attend their neighborhood schools.

Dr. Gorenz commented that as the Board of Education hears public comments the board has difficult and controversial decisions to make that not everyone is going to be happy with. He stated that he and the Board have been accused tonight of: not paying attention, not being honest and open, favoring one geographical location over another and not caring about students or employees and he feels that no one else knows another's motives and those comments do not move things forward. He would like to hear constructive comments that would address the district issues and challenges of 70% poverty rate, 20% special education population and a 33% mobility rate. He asked that those challenges be addressed and that comments or questions on motives or honesty of board or administration are not called for.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – PRESIDENT - The name of Martha Ross was presented by Mrs. Parker and the name of Debbie Wolfmeyer was presented by Mr. Stowell as the nominees for President of the Board of Education for the 2009-2010 year. The chair asked for other nominations from the floor. There were no further nominations and the Chair declared nominations for the office of president closed.

Members were informed that because there were two nominations for President of the Board of Education for the 2009-2010 school year, members would vote by naming the individual they supported as President.

On roll call, for Wolfmeyer: Gorenz, Stowell and Butler, Wolfmeyer
For Ross: Petelle, Parker and Ross.

President of the Board of Education for the 2009-2010 year will be Debbie Wolfmeyer.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – VICE PRESIDENT – The name of Linda Butler was presented by Mr. Stowell and the name of Rachael Parker was presented by Martha Ross as the nominees for Vice President of the Board of Education. The chair asked for other nominations from the floor. There were no further nominations and the chair declared nominations for the office of vice president closed.

Members were informed that because there were two nominations for Vice President of the Board of Education for the 2009-2010 school year, members would vote by naming the individual they supported as President.

On roll call, for Butler: Gorenz, Stowell and Butler, Wolfmeyer
For Parker: Petelle, Parker and Ross.

Vice President of the Board of Education for the 2009 – 2010 year will be Linda Butler.

CONSENT AGENDA –

ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR -- Moved by Stowell, seconded by Butler adoption of the consent calendar. Action items Approval of Contract Agreement with Texas Instruments, Approval of Contract with Candady Consulting and Approval of Contract with 95 Percent Group, Inc. were pulled for a separate vot.

On roll call, 7 ayes. Motion carried.

GIFTS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT – Moved by Stowell, seconded by Butler, that the following donations be accepted and letters of appreciation sent to the donors.

News desk, donated to Richwoods High School by Bradley University

On roll call, 7 ayes. Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS -- Moved by Stowell, seconded by Butler approval of the payment of the following bills.

FUND	DESCRIPTION	BAL.SHEET	REV	EXPENSE	TOTAL
10	EDUCATIONAL FUND	\$20,961.74		\$532,421.01	\$553,382.75
20	OPERATIONS, BLDG & MAINT			\$223,749.21	\$223,749.21
40	TRANSPORTATION			\$568,468.98	\$568,468.98
60	CAPITAL PROJECTS			\$2,646.97	\$2,646.97
90	CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS			\$5,222.23	\$5,222.23
95	MID CENTRAL ASSOCIATION			\$21,942.68	\$21,942.68
99	PPS ADMIN OUTREACH PROG			\$2,288.10	\$2,288.10
				\$1,356,739.18	\$1,377,700.92

On roll call, 7 ayes. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF BIDS – Moved by Stowell, seconded by Butler approval of the following bids.

TABULATION OF BIDS – July 20, 2009

Custodial Supplies

Request for bid was sent to 37 vendors. Two were returned undeliverable and four vendors returned "No bid". Bids were received from thirteen (13) vendors and will be awarded per line item for warehouse storage and distribution. It is recommended to award the bid as follows:

Amsan	\$70,040.55
Central Supply	\$ 134.30
Corporate Express	\$ 2,184.00
DP Industrial	\$.00
Flex-Pac Bandall	\$12,131.95
George Pasquel	\$ 1,244.45
HP Products	\$ 2,100.20
JP Gasway	\$ 1,408.00
Kaeb Sanitary	\$39,652.65
LP Scientific	\$ 171.50
Sunrise Supply	\$ 0.00
Triad Industrial	\$ 3,879.50
Wilson Paper	\$ 2,071.35

The above bids were opened on Thursday, June 18, 2009, at 1:30 pm by Julie Cramer and Debbie Brown. This bid will be charged to Buildings & Grounds.

Paving Work

Request for bid was sent to ten (10) vendors by Zumwalt & Associates. Nine vendors returned bids as follows:

	<u>Base Bid</u>	<u>Striping @</u> <u>Rolling Acres</u>	<u>Striping @</u> <u>Robert Jamieson</u>
P.A. Atherton	\$291,336.80	\$1,000.00	\$ 600.00
Aupperle Construction	\$222,777.70	\$2,650.00	\$1,460.00
C&G Concrete	\$184,686.52	\$1,540.00	\$ 550.00
R.A. Cullinan	\$204,034.17	\$1,417.50	\$ 525.00
Hein Construction	\$198,696.20	\$1,350.00	\$ 750.00
ICCI	\$185,951.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,100.00
Otto Baum	\$203,083.00	\$1,000.00	\$ 500.00
Southeastern	\$182,906.00	\$1,600.00	\$ 500.00
Stark	\$214,842.00	\$ 419.00	\$ 102.00

The above bids were opened on Tuesday, July 14, 2009, at 1:30 pm by Julie Cramer, Debbie Brown, Dave Ryon and Pat Carrigan. It is recommended to award Base bid plus Alternates for Striping to Southeastern. This bid will be charged to Buildings & Grounds.

On roll call, 7 ayes. Motion carried.

HUMAN RESOURCE REPORT -- Moved by Stowell, seconded by Butler approval of the following human resource report as amended by the administration.

Certified PersonnelAppointmentsAdministrative – Executive Director of Human Resources

Dimke, Debra	07-13-09
--------------	----------

Administrative - Principal

Hise, Philip	08-03-09
--------------	----------

Speech Pathologist – Full Time

Lucas, Rachel	08-24-09
---------------	----------

Saal, Jenni	08-24-09
-------------	----------

Teachers – Full Time

Mason, Abby	08-24-09
-------------	----------

Roth, Trenton	08-24-09
---------------	----------

Vickers, Shannon	08-24-09
------------------	----------

Teacher Pink Slips Recall – Full Time

Akinlua, Elizabeth	Grys, Josh
--------------------	------------

Bessler, Jennifer	Hobin Gail
-------------------	------------

Cole, Terry	Katolick, Julie
-------------	-----------------

Duncan Cassandra	Miller, Theresa
------------------	-----------------

Dvorak, Ericka	Stimeling, Joni
----------------	-----------------

Ebert, Staci	Tinsman, Andy
--------------	---------------

Franklin, Zipporah	Williams, Cami
--------------------	----------------

Fulkerson, Judith	
-------------------	--

Gesford, Tad	
--------------	--

Teacher Pink Slips Recall – Part Time

Armstrong, Jamie	
------------------	--

ResignationsSpeech Pathologist – Full Time

Tripp, Elysa – Harrison	06-30-09
-------------------------	----------

Teachers – Full Time

Hatch, Jennifer	06-30-09
-----------------	----------

Hite, Molly	07-13-09
-------------	----------

Steffeck, April	06-30-09
-----------------	----------

Non-Certified PersonnelAppointmentsAdopt a School Manager – Part Time

Morris, Cindy	07-27-09
---------------	----------

Home School Facilitator - Pink Slip Recall – Full Time

Grantham, Emeika	
------------------	--

Taylor, Dramane	
-----------------	--

Paraprofessionals - Pink Slip Recall – Full Time

Booker, Nichola	Martha, Christine
-----------------	-------------------

Butler, Melinda	Masonholder, Tabitha
-----------------	----------------------

Comiskey, Anne	Nash, Latonya
----------------	---------------

Couri, Grace	Owens, Roosevelt
--------------	------------------

Daniels, Chris	Pearson, Stephanie
----------------	--------------------

Diodoardo, Linda	Pickens, Cardell
------------------	------------------

Dooley, Kendall	Powell, Eric
-----------------	--------------

Edwards, Betty	Springer, Misty
----------------	-----------------

Edwards Quentin	Staples, Shaon
-----------------	----------------

Fluga, Julie	Stenson, Celena
--------------	-----------------

Gwillim, Kirk -	Thornton, Sparkle
-----------------	-------------------

Herrick, Susan	Whelan, Theresa
----------------	-----------------

Hines, Diane	Wilkerson, Tameca
Jongerius, Sandra	Wolters, Gloria
Joraanstad, Shawn	Yates, Mary
Malone, Tadaricka I	
<u>Paraprofessionals - Pink Slip Recall – Full Time</u>	
Howard, Sherri	07-20-09
<u>Transportation – Part Time</u>	
McClain, Che'Keira	06-22-09
Moore, Sandra	07-06-09
Parker, Willie, Jr.	06-22-09
<u>Resignations</u>	
<u>Clerical – School Year</u>	
Kaufmann, Amy	06-30-09
<u>Extended Day Care – Part Time</u>	
Smith, Whitnee-	07-08-09
<u>Retirements</u>	
<u>Administrative - Building and Grounds– Full Time</u>	
Carrigan, Patrick	06-11-10
Ryon, Dave	06-11-10
Witzig, Bruce	06-11-10
<u>Administrative – Transportation – Full Time</u>	
Harrell, Thom	06-25-10
Johnston, Fran	06-30-10
Sullivan, Michael	06-25-10
<u>Administrative - Security</u>	
Scales, Ron	06-11-10
<u>Clerical – Full Time</u>	
Linthicum, Paula	06-30-10
Pearson, Cathy	06-11-10
<u>Maintenance – Full Time</u>	
Linthicum, Richard	06-30-10
O'Neill, James	06-04-10
Schaich, Robert	06-04-10
<u>Termination</u>	
<u>Custodial – Full Time</u>	
Ross, Morris	07-20-09
<u>Paraprofessional – Full Time</u>	
Easton, Brent W.	07-14-09
Substitutes	
Certified Substitute	
<u>Appointments</u>	
<u>Teacher</u>	
Hammer, Ben	07-07-09
Robinson, Anna	07-16-09
Shultz, Cathleen	07-16-09
<u>Summer School – Teacher (Title 1)</u>	
Evans, Pamela	07-07-09
Lewellyn, Gail	07-07-09
Trefzger, Beth	07-07-09
<u>Removed from Referral List- Teachers</u>	
Brija, James	07-20-09

Criss, Maria	07-20-09
Davis, Glenn	07-20-09
Holt, Mary	07-20-09
Jones, Brent	07-20-09
Jones, Brett	07-20-09
Jones, Edwina	07-20-09
Miller, Adam	07-20-09
Tucker, Nettie	07-20-09

Resignations

Teachers

Berfield, Jane	07-08-09
Edwards, Kristin	07-14-09
Graves, Rita	07-08-09
Kahn, Thomas	07-08-09
Santangelo, Gerard	07-20-09

Non-Certified Substitute

Removal from Referral List

Substitute Aide and Behavior Attendant

Bassett, Keith	07-20-09
Clements, Tiffany	07-20-09
Coleman, Ronisha	07-20-09
Denson, Amy	07-20-09
Gaston, Rashida	07-20-09
Grant, Nicholas	07-20-09
Irby, Ashley	07-20-09
Jackson, Tiffany	07-20-09
Knighten, Almetter	07-20-09
Mason, Latoria	07-20-09
Moore, Vernita	07-20-09
Nellum, Carla Ann	07-20-09
Richardson, Shavon	07-20-09
Shepherd, Cori	07-20-09
Smith, Sherika	07-20-09
Thomas, Cynthia	07-20-09
Vance, Mia	07-20-09
Williams, Kimberly	07-20-09
Wilson, Jenea	07-20-09

On roll call, 7 ayes. Motion carried.

TRAVEL REQUESTS - Moved by Stowell, seconded by Butler approval of the travel requests as presented by the administration. (Copy is on file in the board secretary's office.)

On roll call, 7 ayes. Motion carried.

PREVAILING WAGE RATE – Moved by Stowell, seconded by Butler that the resolution establishing prevailing wage rates, in compliance with Illinois Statutes, be adopted and that a copy of this resolution be filed with the Secretary of State and the Department of Labor by the Secretary of the Board of Education.

On roll call, 7 ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AGREEMENT WITH TEXAS INSTRUMENTS – Moved by Gorenz, seconded by Butler that the Administration be authorized to enter into a contractual agreement with Texas Instruments for \$15,995.

In discussion with Board member Stowell Dr. Hannah clarified that there were would no additional hardware cost for the district with the purchase of these calculators.

On roll call, 7 ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH CANADY CONSULTING – Moved by Stowell, seconded by Gorenz that the Board of Education of Peoria Public Schools District 150 approve the contract with CANADY CONSULTING, Inc.

Dr. Hannah noted that all principals will be invited to the professional development provided by Canady Consulting on "School policies and grading practices that increase the odds for students success/failure."

On roll call, 7 ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH 95 PERCENT GROUP, INC. – Moved by Stowell, seconded by Butler that the Board of Education approves the Contract with the 95 Percent Group, Inc. Further that the Superintendent is authorized to execute the Contract.

In discussion with Board member Stowell Dr. Hannah noted that this is the second year for professional development with the 95% group to interpret data and instruct children in early reading. All 14 primary schools will be included and over 4,500 students will be impacted with on-site professional development opportunities for 224 staff members.

Mr. Stowell stated that he would like more information on Rti and a survey of principals as to what initiatives they feel are seeing success.

DELIBERATION AGENDA

APPROVAL OF PRINCIPAL CONTRACTS – Moved by Parker, seconded by Butler that the salaries and contract length for New Principals for the School Year 2009 – 2010 be set.

Trewyn	Eric Thomas	1 year	\$81,068.36
Lincoln	Annette Johnson	1 year	\$86,076.90
Hines	Jamie Brown	1 year	\$61,592.59
Lindbergh	Philip Hise	1 year	\$88,146.25
VHECEC	Diann Duke	1 year	\$97,736.73
Harrison	Vera Lee Smith	3 years	\$97,060.32

Ms. Petelle would like to see the formula used to determine principal contracts.

On roll call, 7 ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES – Moved by Parker, seconded by Stowell that the contract for Debra K. Dimke as Executive Director of Human Resources of the Board of Education of the City of Peoria School District Number 150, Peoria, Illinois effective July 13, 2009 for a term ending June 30, 2010 be approved.

On roll call, 7 ayes. Motion carried.

INFORMATION ITEMS – REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT AND STAFF –

1. **GOAL 1 – STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT – ADULT ED DISCUSSION** – In discussion with the Board Superintendent Hinton presented the current situation with the Adult Ed program. Mr. Hinton noted that Adult Ed serves over 500 students a year and that before any major changes are made they will be presented to the Board for discussion. Mr. Hinton continued and discussed the financial challenges for the program. Currently the program is funded by State, Federal and Grant funds – of the \$659,000 - \$467,000 is from the State and \$180,000 from the Federal program. The dilemma is that State funding will be reduced, the amount is yet to be know, and what will that mean for the current program. Currently there are seven certified staff member and 4-5 opening they are qualified to fill at other schools. Mr. Hinton hopes to receive more information from the State in the near future. He did note that ICC offers a similar program and they too are waiting for funding information.

Board member Stowell noted that the federal government is going to give \$12 billion to community college and that could place ICC in a great position – they could offer the program and use our buildings. Mr. Stowell also presented information on the Early Learning Challenge Grant – our challenge is to get our students through the 12th grade with success. Mr. Stowell would rather use resources for early childhood and then work collaboratively with ICC.

Discussion was held between board members on the options with reduced funding. Mrs. Ross asked about the length of grants – are any of the grants three year grants. Mr. Hinton will provide that information. Mrs. Ross asked that Adult Ed not be eliminated without a plan. Dr. Gorenz agreed with Mr. Stowell and stated that he feels that as dollars are reduced for programs decisions will have to be made on who could best provide the services. Mrs. Parker would like to see the District work with ICC and have a plan in place. Mrs. Wolfmeyer noted that if the Education Fund must fund the program other areas would need to be cut. Rev. Butler summarized that the decision will need to be made is the District wants to continue the program, partner with ICC or get out all together.

STIMULUS FUNDING – Mr. Hinton stated that the district has received information on the process to go forward. Tomorrow will be a conference call regarding stimulus funding with Title 1. Mr. Hinton proposed that if extra funding is received using it for class size reduction in grades K & 1 and funding for library managers. He did note that districts are not to spend money until their applications are approved.

PRIMARY EARLY RELEASE – Dr. Davis reported that she met with principals and teachers to discuss the Primary Early Release Days. They recommended adding additional time (dismissal at 1:15 p.m.) and eliminating 3 Early Release Days. The amount of minutes allocated to professional development would remain the same.

2. **Goal 2 – FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY – PROPOSAL ON RESTRUCTURING HIGH SCHOOLS** – Mr. Hinton read the following statement: - "This evening we begin the difficult discussion as to which high school will be closed to address the immediate and imperative concerns we have as a school district. This recommendation does not come to the Board without a great deal of consternation and consideration on our part. It is not early to repurpose a high school or a major tradition in a community for thousand of former students and families.

We are at this point as many other major organizations are in this country. We are seeing and experiencing changes that have not been seen or experienced for decades in our country and for most us not in our lifetime.

It is now clear that this move to repurpose one of our high schools is one of many efforts we are taking as a school system to remain viable and financially solvent as a school system. Already we have made major reductions in our district resulting in the elimination of staff in positions, we have closed schools, we have forgone purchases, reduced our maintenance schedule and we conserve whenever it is possible for us to do so. Now we are at the place of repurposing one of our high schools."

Mr. also presented the following information. **Status of the district - Financial Considerations**

The school district is currently facing financial challenges which necessitate reconsideration of the use of high school facilities. Improvement of the district's financial condition is the primary reason for making changes. This also provides

an opportunity to improve the educational services to all students. A reduction in the number of schools will result in savings in the number of staff needed to operate the school (administrative, custodial, teaching and support staff). An analysis by district staff shows that closing a high school saves money by reducing the district payroll by approximately 45 total staff members. Another financial consideration is the use of Public Building Commission funds as a source for building construction and updating school facilities. There is a time limit on the utilization of Public Building Commission funding; construction must be substantially completed by June 30, 2011.

Educational Benefits - There are additional educational benefits in consolidating the district's four high schools into three. Reduction in the number of high schools will reduce duplication of staff and enable a more focused and effective use of staff. Reducing the number of high schools will increase enrollment in courses with less demand. This will enable these courses to continue to be offered and will keep all high schools comprehensive. With a wider array of courses offered, the high schools are more likely to retain and attract students and families to the district.

Previous Decisions - There are a number of previous decisions which provide guidelines for repurposing a high school. These include the following decisions made by the school board.

1. To close one high school
2. To close primary schools Kingman and Irving
3. To build new schools following the B-8 or K-8 model.
4. To utilize the remaining funds from the PBC for the Math, Science and Technology Academy, Career Vocational Center and a non-traditional school.

The requirements for the Peoria Public Schools B-8 Community Learning Centers (CLC) were developed through a community charette process in 2006 and accepted by the board in 2007. The approved CLC program includes access to and utilization of outdoor areas and green space, a village concept to encourage continuity and professional learning community development, space for project work and in-depth 21st century learning, space for extended day and week programs for students with community involvement, space for community use for adult education, neighborhood and community organizations, and child care support programming. In addition, the CLC design includes zoning of the building to enable community use during non-school times.

Decisions to be Made - The next decision which needs to be made is which high school can be repurposed most effectively. To assist in making that decision a financial analysis was done by district staff to see if there would be a financial advantage in repurposing one high school over the other. A utilization analysis was also completed to see which building could be used most effectively to meet the educational vision of the B-8 schools. The location of students in Kingman and Irving attendance area were also analyzed.

Ms. Schau then presented more financial information noting that the difference in savings between closing Woodruff or Peoria High would be mostly in transportation costs – moving to repurpose Peoria High would be an additional \$10,000.

Ms. Schau then presented that the crucial next question is which building would better be utilized. Also asked was if Kingman and Irving students could all be placed together in one high schools. The answer was no – research indicates that a K-8 model is most beneficial. The addition of Lincoln to create two B-8 community learning centers would be workable.

Mr. Paul Kouri next discussed and showed slides of the configuration to B-8 for both Woodruff and Peoria High. The primary difference in these two alternatives are:

- Location of student population from the school
- Length of time students are riding on the bus
- Accessibility of shared community resources to both B-8 centers
- Access to outdoors and green space

Recommendation - After reviewing the previous decisions and the analyses of student distribution, financial scenarios and facility utilization, the recommendation is to repurpose Lincoln and Woodruff schools as two new B-8 - Lincoln

School would house all components of the B-8 model except for early childhood and the community components. The early childhood and community components at the Woodruff facility will be available for use by the Lincoln Community Learning Center children and families. Air conditioning already in the Lincoln facility will enable this B-8 CLC to be a year-round school. The second B-8 CLC will be located in the Woodruff facility. Additional upper floor spaces not fully utilized by the B-8 components will enable this CLC to serve as a special focus school with the focus yet to be determined.

The last recommendation is to develop a task force to review the vision of high school education in the district and determine how to best meet needs of all students.

Discussion was held among board members on the presentation. Ms. Petelle asked for research on Birth – 8th grade schools. Mrs. Ross stated her concern with the numbers, where would all the students come from? Mr. Hinton reported that for the new Glen Oak School after neighborhood students were enrolled, any empty seats would be available to students in the rest of the district. Mr. Hinton will look into enrollment figures for Glen Oak and the Irving, Kingman, Lincoln area. Mrs. Ross stated that she thought the closing of a high school was to save money – how could using the school again save money? Mr. Hinton noted that reduction in high school teaching staff (projected at 45) is where the savings occur.

Dr. Gorenz discussed the facilities, noting that Woodruff is a much newer school – but either would be used as a middle school. Mr. Kouri noted that Woodruff High School is a superior facility for high school and middle schools students, Peoria High School is good as a high school, but does not work as well as a K-8 school (the annex with the ½ story off). The corridors at Peoria High School are wider and do not have windows – the classroom facilities are the same size at both buildings.

Mr. Stowell asked that the presentation be posted on-line. Mr. Stowell noted that he was disappointed with the building operating usage not being considered. Mr. Stowell stated that he thinks that the high school to be used is interrelated to our bonding capacity – one the PBC current bonding is used there will not be capital funding bonding capabilities for 20 years. Mr. Stowell feels Peoria High should be closed and that there should be an analysis of the closing Peoria High School – bring in the City and Park District and study the possible uses of the area – use three years to study the facility and possibly add an academy to Peoria High School and take Columbia off line or use Peoria High for a non-traditional school. He does not feel that two K-8 buildings side by side is not the best use of buildings. He emphasized that the savings to the district comes from the elimination of staff. He will not support the current plan because it does not do what needs to be done for the community.

Rev. Butler noted that she would like the information regarding the high school students. Mr. Hinton noted that the information will be coming to the Board of Education soon – we will look at the services provided by all our high schools. Dr. Hannah reported on his trip to Joliet Township High School to discuss their academy set-up. At that school there is mandatory response for students that are not performing up to grade level.

Mr. Ryon in discussion with Board President Wolfmeyer reported that renovations would be needed for either school, but a cost has not yet been determined. The funding source would depend on how much the bonds are sold for. Mrs. Wolfmeyer stated her other concerns are the number of students at either high school and the difference between a high school building and elementary building, the enormity of the building and the small amount of space used for academics.

Mr. Hinton summarized that this consolidation is from a financial need and an academic need. He stated that he now realizes that major impact occurs with education in the early years of a child – our focus should be at the beginning – research now validates that concept. He noted that this is the beginning of the discussion for the re-purposing of schools.

Mr. Stowell noted that part of the message from President Obama on Early Childhood Education and the Early Learning Challenge Grant was- "There is no stronger weapon against inequality, no better path to opportunity, than an education that can unlock a child's God given potential." He urged the District to take ownership of the early childhood

experience. Mr. Hinton stated that with the birth – 8th grade model the Board is taking ownership of that process. Mrs. Ross noted that Head Start is not a new and that Peoria has programs providing Early Head Start and Head Start.

FINANCE REPORTS – Ms. Schau presented this report for the Board's information and review. Ms. Schau noted that the report is unaudited with the audit currently in progress and audited numbers expected soon.

PURCHASE ORDERS OVER \$2,500 – Ms. Schau presented this report for the Board's review.

3. GOAL 3 – QUALITY STAFF
4. GOAL 4 – SAFE, CARING ENVIRONMENTS
5. GOAL 5 – CULTURE OF CUSTOMER SERVICE - Report of Requests under the Freedom of Information Act and Status of Such Requests. Mr. Hinton reported that since our last meeting four requests had been filed. Three were filled and one is pending.

REPORTS AND SUGGESTIONS BY BOARD MEMBERS – None

ADJOURNMENT – Mrs. Wolfmeyer adjourned the regular meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Julia A. Cramer,
Board Secretary

ATTEST:

Debbie L. Wolfmeyer
Board President