

Monday, March 10, 2025

The Pierce Public School Board of Education met for the regular monthly meeting at 6:30 pm in the high school board room. Members present were Dan Unseld, Ryan Collison, Todd Wragge, Adam Venteicher, and Lisa Freeman. Collison moved and Wragge seconded to excuse Stefanie Dvorak. Voting five in favor, motion passed. Also present were Superintendent Kendall Steffensen, High School Principal Mark Brahmer, Elementary Principal Trent Suehl, and six guests. Notice of the meeting was printed in the Pierce County Leader and posted on Pierce Public Schools website.

A welcome was extended to the public, the open meetings act pointed out, roll call taken, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was opened to communication or correspondence from the public. Jared Baumann spoke of a few of the high points of the community focus group.

Wragge moved and Collison seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of the approval of minutes from the previous meeting, approval of claims and payment of bills, and financial reports. Voting five in favor, one absent, motion carried.

Brody Knox and Kaylee Olson reported on behalf of the FFA. Many activities for National FFA Week last week were postponed due to weather and will be held the week of March 17th. Events include Farmer Olympics, tractor parade, and the community appreciation breakfast. The FFA banquet will be April 26.

Skylar Scholting reported on behalf of the student council. Student council will be hosting a dodgeball tournament, March madness tournament, and teacher appreciation. During a February basketball game they hosted a free-throw contest.

Dvorak arrived at 6:42pm.

Elementary Principal Trent Suehl's report stated the current PK-6 enrollment is 332 students. PreK and Kindergarten roundup will held March 13th. Thirty students are currently signed up for next year's PreK and 38 for Kindergarten. Parent-teacher conferences will be March 27.

High School Principal Mark Brahmer reported parent teacher conferences will be held March 27. State tests, ACT prep, class registration and prom are all coming up. A student assembly will be held hosting retired UNL coach John Cook. Pierce's robotics team comprised of Andrew Lienemann, Makayla Shefl, Brandon Thomsen, Tiffany Chaney, and Christian Nordby qualified in Omaha to compete at the Worlds Competition held in Dallas, Texas.

In his report Superintendent Steffensen gave an overview of the happenings in the community focus group. He has had conversations with the City of Pierce regarding a school resource officers cooperative. A John Deere Gator and a Chrysler Pacifica have been ordered. Mr. Suehl and staff are working to select English Language Arts curriculum.

As the first discussion item directed, the school board had an overview on state aid and property tax request authority.

For the first action item, Wragge moved and Dvorak seconded to adopt the school calendar for the successive school year. Voting unanimous, motion carried.

For the second action item, Venteicher moved and Collison seconded to accept with regret the resignation of Alex Thrumer, a high school business teacher. Voting unanimous, motion passed.

As the third action item directed, Collison moved and Freeman seconded to accept a teaching contract for Ryan Ohnoutka for an English position.

As for the final action item, Collison moved and Wragge seconded to increase non-certified employee compensation by 4.12%. Venteicher abstained, five in favor, motion carried.

Superintendent Steffensen gave an overview of the professional growth opportunities coming up and the topics for next month's meeting.

Wragge moved, Collison seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:08pm.

Adam Venteicher, Secretary
Pierce Public Schools
Board of Education, District 2
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