

Regular Meeting
Paris Cooperative High School Board of Education
February 8, 2010
Minutes

Roll Call:

President Doug Hasler called the meeting to order and roll call was taken. All members were in attendance.

Audience to Visitors:

President Hasler asked for any comments or concerns from visitors. There were no comments from visitors.

Consent Agenda:

President Hasler asked for questions or discussion on the consent agenda as well as minutes of the prior meeting. Director Dave Meister informed the Board we are paying bills by triage, meaning, due to the state of the State of Illinois, we are paying only those creditors who are most vocal. Additionally, we are only purchasing what is absolutely critical. President Hasler asked for a motion and a second to approve the consent agenda.

Motion: Paul Porter
Second: Ron Doris

“A motion has been made and seconded, is there any discussion? Would each member please respond to the motion?”

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0

Secretary’s Report:

There was no secretary’s report.

Administrative Report:

President Hasler asked for the Administrative Report. Director Dave Meister informed the Board that Mr. Mark Thomas and Mrs. Staci Garzolini-Skelton from our PCHS Guidance Department will be giving a presentation to them on the various functions of their department.

Mr. Mark Thomas began by thanking Mayo and Crestwood for Career Cruising. He discussed freshman and their orientation and stated letters have gone out to the 8th graders

to inform them of dates for orientation. He also discussed testing and the mentoring program here at PCHS. He told the Board registration is going on now for sophomores and juniors and we do PLAN testing with the sophomores. This gives us an idea of their interest, strengths and weaknesses. The junior year the students are taking PSAT/NMSQT and then they take the ACT. Roughly 5-8 students take the SAT. If seniors receive 3 “meets or exceeds” on the PSAT/NMSQT, they are exempt from finals. Seniors are invited to attend a college career day held all day at Lakeland College. Scholarships are posted in the building at the Guidance Department and they can also be found on the PCHS web page. Financial aid night will be held here on February 24th. A Lakeland College representative will be here to help with that.

There was slightly over one million dollars given out last year in scholarships to 71 students. All the information on colleges, testing, scholarships and anything under the umbrella of the Guidance Department can be found on the Paris Cooperative High School web site under the Guidance Department tab. To access college information you will be asked for a log-in and password. The login is “Paris High” and the password is “Tigers”.

President Hasler asked if we have classes in ACT preparation. Mrs. Skelton explained there is information on the Guidance Department website and there are also practice tests for students to take. Every student can go on the site and take two practice ACT tests. Then, from your score, you can see areas where you need help.

The Board asked if we have any way of knowing what colleges our students leave here to attend. Mrs. Skelton stated we get a print-out each year of the colleges where our student enrolls.

President Hasler thanked Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Skelton for their fine work in the Guidance Department and commended them on the development of the web site. He stated very few people know the great resource there for students and parents. All agreed we need to get the word out to more parents that we have such a great avenue for them to explore opportunities for their students.

Director Meister then brought up the second items on the Agenda. He stated Lisa Madigan, Illinois States Attorney General, sent notice to all Illinois school districts that as of January 1, 2010 we need to have a FOIA officer.

President Hasler asked for a motion and a second to approve the appointing of a FOIA officer for PCHS.

Motion: August Griffin
Second: Tom Davis

“A motion has been made and seconded, is there any discussion? Would each member please respond to the motion?”

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0

The third item on the Agenda presented by Director Meister is a donation from Carla Knowrowski of Northern Illinois University of \$250.00. Mr. Meister advised we accept the donation. President Hasler asked for a motion and a second to approve the acceptance of the donation.

Motion: Ron Doris
Second: Paul Porter

“A motion has been made and seconded, is there any discussion? Would each member please respond to the motion?”

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0

The fourth item on the Agenda was the feedback from Director Meister on the Parent/Faculty/Community advisory committee. Parents identified three areas of concentration. They would like to feel more welcome here. They would like more transparency. And finally, they would like more information. Mr. Meister indicated he is addressing these concerns and is working with the faculty to make Paris Cooperative High School the best place for students. Mr. Meister had the same presentation for PCHS staff during Friday’s in-service. He further stated during our next mentoring day, we will have student input as well. He will report the input from all three groups to the Board at the next meeting.

The fifth item for administrative discussion was the location of the post prom party. Since the bowling alley closed, we lost our location to hold the event. It has been suggested we use the high school and have a game/casino night. Students are required to stay locked in the post prom party until it is over. If they leave for any reason, they may not return. Prizes then would be given away based on attendance. It was discussed whether some would object to a faux gambling night for students. The Board and Mr. Meister agreed to give the matter some thought.

The last item on the agenda was Administrative Evaluations, which item is to be discussed in Executive Session. The Board decided to go into Executive Session at the end of the meeting.

Reports of Committees:

There were no reports from committees.

Public Hearings and Petitions:

There were neither hearings nor petitions.

Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business.

Matters for Follow-up:

Ron Doris, August Griffin and Tom Davis all revisited the Guidance Department presentation and thanked them for all their hard work and dedication. They each particularly commented on the outstanding work on creating such a helpful website.

New Business:

There was no new business

Executive Session:

President Hasler asked for a motion and a second to adjourn the meeting and move into Executive Session.

Motion: Paul Porter
Second: Ron Doris

“A motion has been made and seconded, is there any discussion? Would each member please respond to the motion?”

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0

The Board of Education of Paris Cooperative High School moved into Executive Session.