

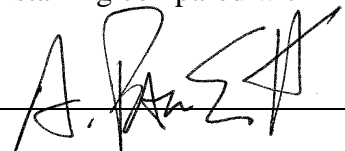
Peru Central

Cross-Campus Web-based Update

HIGHLIGHTS OF BOARD ACTION LAST NIGHT

At the regular monthly meeting of **Tuesday, February 8, 2011** the Board of Education:

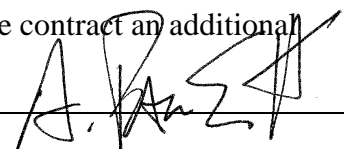
1. Commended Peru CSD students who participated in the 58th session of Harvard Model United Nations, January 27th thru the 30th. Student participants were: United Nations Development Programme - Justus Ruff and Zach St. Louis; Human Rights Council - Tim Broadwell and Ashley Carter; United Nations Conference on Trade and Development - Stephanie Omlin and Keegan Parrotte. Faculty advisors/chaperones were Ms. Francine Mitchell, Ms. Deborah Daly and Peter McCormick.
2. Offered special thanks to support operations supervisors, our transportation services team & transportation mechanics team, custodial services team, building maintenance services team, our grounds team and cafeteria services team for making it possible for programs and services to continue uninterrupted for the students of this school community, to the full extent feasible, despite challenging winter weather conditions we've experienced in recent weeks.
3. Received a briefing from architect Mike Harris, Vice President, BC&A, the school district's architectural & construction management firm.
4. Received a request for particular cafeteria, custodial and transportation services from representatives of the Junior Class, to help the Junior Class implement their proposed Junior Prom & 'After Prom Party'. The Board will respond back to the Junior Class at the Board's March 8, 2011 regular monthly meeting.
5. Examined & discussed the budget development timetable.
6. Examined the Superintendent's January 20, 2011 report 'What is fund balance?'
7. Perused the February 2011 snapshot Peru CSD report 'Cost Reductions Underway'
8. Examined the summary of the national report 'Surviving a Thousand Cuts: America's Public Schools and the Recession'.
9. Discussed the February 1, 2011 edition of 'Forecasted State & Local Budget Development Driving Factors for 2011-2012'
10. Examined & discussed the February 4, 2011 'Peru CSD Class Sizes Report'
11. Examined & discussed the February 1, 2011 report on Peru CSD staffing compared with NYS staffing of school districts outside New York City.



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FROM A. PAUL SCOTT, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

12. Re-examined voter feedback from the May 2010 voluntary voter exit poll.
13. Commissioned the Superintendent of Schools to craft a May 2011 exit poll, with the 2010 edition as the benchmark.
14. Discussed a plan of approach to the Governor's executive budget proposal.
15. Re-examined and updated the multi-year finance plan, as part of standard practice by the governing team to examine & update the multi-year finance plan twice annually.
16. Set a starting time of 6 PM for the March 1, 2011 budget workshop #2 focused on likely 'top' budget increases, by category of expenditure, the Governor's proposals for 2011-2012 and the status of proposed responses to the Governor's executive budget proposal.
17. Adopted a set of Peru CSD 2011-2012 district goals. One of those goals is to "Engage each school's teacher teams & counselors, the transportation services team, cafeteria services teams and custodial teams to work with Principals & operations supervisors to sustain & bolster anti-bullying efforts & programs at each grade span. Publicly report on progress."
18. Authorized the President of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools to approve the annual updates to pre-school special education contract services with Adirondack Helping Hands and with Teddy Bear Pre-School.
19. Appointed district resident Joha Battin, from the town of AuSable, to the budget advisory committee.
20. Received the regional 2011-2012 academic calendar from the BOCES, and set the March 2011 regular monthly meeting for discussion of a Peru CSD edition of the 2011-2012 academic calendar. Adoption of a Peru CSD 2011-2012 calendar is scheduled for the April 2011 monthly meeting.
21. Authorized the Superintendent continue planning for summer 2011 EXCEL capital project construction phase information technology updating of the K-5 facility to include up-to-date 'SmartBoards' in each of the elementary grades developmental classrooms, as was done summer 2010 in each of the grades 6-12 developmental classrooms. Existing 'SmartBoards' will be re-deployed to suitable other program spaces cross-campus, as was started summer 2010 in the grades 6-12 facility, to maximize re-use of information technology equipment that is still serviceable.
22. Authorized the high school choral teacher to move ahead with the third annual field trip, for a select group of high school chorus members to participate in the Ithaca College Gospel Festival, with the field trip beginning Friday, April 8th at 6:30 AM [transportation via Willsboro CSD school bus] and a return to the Peru CSD campus on Sunday, April 10th. Funding via donations and arts-in-education BOCES CoSer 'draw-down' monies.
23. Accepted lever-type voting machines donated from the Town of Peru for future use in Peru Central School District votes. The use of lever machines has been authorized via Clinton County Board of Elections/NYS Department of Education for the 2011 and 2012 school votes and possibly longer. Using the lever machines is much more feasible.
24. Authorized the school district prepare and distribute a 'Request for Proposal' associated with state-mandated annual external auditing services. The agreement would be for three (3) years with Peru CSD having the option of extending the contract an additional



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two (2) years [no attachment].

25. Received a verbal report from the District Clerk on how many Superintendent Selection Surveys have been received from the community. Surveys will be available at board meeting and also available via the Peru Central School District web site www.peruscd.org.
26. Received a 'snapshot' briefing from Intermediate School Principal Storms and Middle School Principal Felt regarding grade span progress on year-to-year gains in student achievement involving English language arts and mathematics.
27. Engaged in conversation regarding recruitment of a successor Superintendent of Schools, in response to the upcoming retirement of Superintendent A. Paul Scott.
28. Engaged in brief conversation with the Superintendent of Schools regarding suggested procedures, methods of engagement, annual reports, documents and/or habits of work the Superintendent of Schools will consider placing within his to-be-constructed 'ready reference' binder, intended to be a help to the successor chief school officer, July 1st forward?
29. Established school board representation at the March 3, 2011 evening school boards association meeting with the Commissioner of Education. The Commissioner is slated to share current status of the Regents' education reform initiatives.

Footnote #1: The February 8th Superintendent's Report is attached.

Footnote #2: The adopted set of 2011-2012 Peru CSD district goals is attached.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT OF FEBRUARY 8, 2011 Page 1 of 1

APPRECIATION FOR STRONG PUBLIC SERVICE BY SUPPORT STAFF TEAMS

Tonight's agenda includes recognition for support operations supervisors, our transportation services team & transportation mechanics team, custodial services team, building maintenance services team, our grounds team and cafeteria services team for making it possible for programs and services to continue, to the full extent possible, despite challenging winter weather conditions we've experienced in recent weeks.

PLENTY OF GOOD WORK AHEAD FOR WINTER & SPRING 2011

1. Sustain our focus on student achievement, our annual timetable for public reporting and goal setting;
2. Continue our governing team's practice of multi-year financial planning, as part of stewardship;
3. Craft a proposed expenditures plan for 2011-2012 for voter consideration May 2011;
4. Launch collaborative staff conversation between & among all our Principals, our teachers and their collective bargaining units – focused on the sweeping set of state-mandated changes and structures soon to be put into Commissioner's Regulations for annual evaluations of teachers and Principals;
5. Prepare for the spring & summer 2011 construction phase of our voter-authorized EXCEL capital project.

DRIVING OUR BUDGET DEVELOPMENT DISCUSSIONS: A ROUGHLY \$4M GAP

Tonight's budget development session #1 includes discussion of constructing a plan of approach to the Governor's executive budget proposal [agenda item 10.J]. Driving this winter's budget development discussions at Peru CSD will be a roughly \$4M gap between a 'steer-the-course' approach to spending for 2011-2012, and the Governor's proposed 2011-2012 cut of \$2,622,811 of Peru CSD operating aid.

Description	Rough Amount
Negotiated & prospective salary increases for employees	\$ 338,000
Increased health insurance premiums [forecasted 6%]	\$ 412,000
Increased teacher retirement system contributions	\$ 372,000
Increased employee retirement system contributions	\$ 211,000
Governor's proposed reduction in state aid for Peru CSD	\$ 2,623,000
Total of the items above	\$ 3,976,000

BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE GATHERS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14th @ 6 PM

Your budget advisory committee is slated to gather next Monday night for its re-scheduled first meeting. Agenda items include hosting a public forum, which will offer interested residents & employees opportunity to receive & engage in discussion regarding:

- A. A status report on the \$216,776 of 'level 1' cost reductions, \$1,005,632 of 'level 2' cost reductions and \$233,996 of 'level 3' cost reductions underway since July 1, 2010;
- B. A summary of the national report "Surviving a Thousand Cuts: America's Public Schools and the Recession";
- C. A set of particular fiscal aspects forecasted to be challenging for our school district in the years ahead;
- D. Ideas for next school year and beyond, in regard to further cost reductions, operating efficiencies and streamlining of public education programs and services at Peru CSD.

Respectfully submitted by A. Paul Scott, Superintendent of Schools

**PERU CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
2011-2012 DISTRICT GOALS**

1. **Continuing to strengthen student achievement and instructional programs.**
 - 1.1. Move ahead with the Peru CSD "Race to the Top" scope of work to advance student achievement, advance professional practice and update staff evaluation protocols.
 - 1.2. Increase the graduation rate.
 - 1.3. Implement an updated & revised AIS [Academic Intervention Services] plan.
 - 1.4. Actively promote expanded high school student engagement with our SUNY dual-enrollment academic partnership with Clinton Community College.
2. **Updating school procedures and practices to reflect increased expectations among stakeholders for accountability and service, in consultation with those who will implement such practices.**
 - 2.1. Commission each school's shared decision making committee with focusing collective school-based efforts among stakeholders on one or two student achievement goals and one or two conduct goals for the 2011-2012 school year. Publicly report on progress.
 - 2.2. Engage each school's teacher teams & counselors, the transportation services team, cafeteria services teams and custodial teams to work with Principals & operations supervisors to sustain & bolster anti-bullying efforts & programs at each grade span. Publicly report on progress.
3. **Providing quality support services as necessary to meet the district's mission and to maintain good stewardship of district facilities and grounds.**
 - 3.1. Complete by October 2011 the grades 6-12 renovations & modernization within the scope of the voter-approved EXCEL capital project. Simultaneously, launch the summer 2011 EXCEL capital project construction phase for grades K-5. Publicly report on progress.
4. **Ensuring fiscal responsibility and cost-effectiveness associated with expenditure of funds to support the goals above.**
 - 4.1. Sustain the school district's multi-year approach to budgeting.
 - 4.2. Engage with other area Boards of Education and this region's BOCES to promote regional discussion of public education's future in the Champlain Valley region.

Adopted by the Board of Education on February 8, 2011

FEBRUARY 9, 2011

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