

**Peru Central**

# **Cross-Campus Web-based Update**

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF SCHOOL BOARD ACTION TUESDAY NIGHT**

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At the regular monthly meeting of **Tuesday, March 10, 2009**, the Board of Education:

Commended the performers, the various directors, the students, staff and community volunteers associated with the winter 2009 musical production of Peter Pan, which was an extraordinarily fine quality production, and an exemplary community-school partnership.

Welcomed the SAVE [Students Against a Vanishing Environment] Club President, Jessica Maulding featured for this month's report on extra-curricular student activities, leadership development and service. Cathy Butts is faculty advisor.

Commended Peru CSD students Kristy Downey; Abbey Fordham; Kara Hackett; Justin Houle; Matthew Kennedy; Kari Schnaars and Jordan Stephney, who are seven of the eleven students in this region who have 'tuition seats' for this inaugural year of the New Visions program via this BOCES region's career-technical center in the Town of Plattsburgh. The program coordinator is Jennifer Gero, a teacher employed at this region's BOCES career-technical center. This program is in partnership with the CVPH Medical Center. New Visions participants also offer volunteer service at the Medical Center on Friday afternoons.

Commended sophomore Arik Robinson, 1<sup>st</sup> place; freshman Jacob Goddeau, 1<sup>st</sup> place and sophomore Pappy Hogan, 6<sup>th</sup> place at the February 2009 Statewide Wrestling Finals associated with the New York State Public High School Athletic Association.

Received the March 3, 2009 Division of the Budget's Tier V Pension Reform Savings Analysis from Governor David A. Paterson and Budget Director Laura L. Anglin.

Received, examined and inserted various updates into the budget development handbook 2009 edition.

Received at the meeting and examined the preliminary draft 'budgeting for adversity' and 'budgeting for growth' lists for 2009-2010.

Received at the meeting and discussed the preliminary first draft 2009-2010 budget plan.

Received the Peru CSD Budget Bulletin of March 6, 2009 and discussed the emerging trends associated with Executive and Legislative construction of a New York State Budget for 2009.

Discussed the Board's intended plan of approach for the March 24<sup>th</sup> budget workshop #5, tentatively reserved for examination of a second draft preliminary budget plan, and re

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**FROM A. PAUL SCOTT, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

examination of the school district's multi-year finance plan, to reflect the national and state economic downturn.

Discussed establishing during spring 2009 a retirement contribution reserve fund, authorized by New York State for a Board of Education to establish and fund with budgetary appropriations. Funds may be expended from such a reserve fund by the Board to finance state-mandated retirement system contributions. Earlier this winter, the State Comptroller reported the near future for the various NYS retirement systems will be rising, reflecting the loss of value in NYS retirement system portfolios. Establishing such a reserve fund is a practical, authorized way to budget ahead for necessary and appropriate expenditure increases, particularly given the nature of this economic downturn and the forecast for continued fiscal adversity.

Received and discussed the March 2009 update on the status of this school year's governing team goals.

Established Thursday, April 23, 2009 at 7 AM for the annual vote on the BOCES administrative budget and election of BOCES members.

Received the letter from the school district's legal firm regarding the firm's decision not to increase rates for legal work for their school district clients for the upcoming school year, to assist with winter 2009 financial planning.

Tabled until the April 21, 2009 regular monthly meeting the second reading and adoption of the updated 5000 section [students] recommended by the NYSSBA and 'fined tuned' to better reflect current Peru CSD practice, as part of the school district's first comprehensive updating of the policy manual since 1991. Only a small segment of draft policies from this updated 5000 section required substantial 'tuning' from the NYSSBA-provided set which was given a first reading December 2008. Those policies will be highlighted on the cover page of the April 2009 packet for second reading and adoption.

Sustained into the 2009-2010 school year the long standing merger of the Saranac CSD and Peru CSD hockey teams, in the same fashion accomplished this school year.

Received an interim report from the District Clerk regarding designated governing team representation at the Thursday, May 10, 2009 6 PM until approximately 9 PM tenth annual Clinton County School Boards Association Academic Achievement Recognition Dinner for the top ten percent of each senior class.

Adopted the proposed 2009-2010 Peru CSD 183-day academic calendar, which is based on the BOCES 185-day regional calendar for 2009-2010, revised last month by the BOCES. The Superintendent will engage with the administrative council and the faculty association regarding a to-be-developed April 2009 proposal for school board consideration of early dismissal days and Superintendent's Conference Days for 2009-2010, based on whatever academic calendar the Board of Education adopts tonight.

Decided to encourage the BOCES to designate Peru CSD as the host site for the summer 2009 regional summer school, since capital construction during summers of 2010 and 2011 may preclude Peru CSD from hosting the regional summer school those two summers.

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