

**Peru Central**

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

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF BOARD ACTION LAST NIGHT**

At the regular monthly meeting of **Tuesday, June 8, 2010** the Board of Education:

Welcomed the President of the Freshman Class who presented this month's report on extra-curricular student activities, leadership development and service. This presentation completed the second annual series of such reports by student club presidents.

Hosted the annual library book & bookplate recognition & reception for retiring & recently retired members of the faculty, support staff & administration. Many of these individuals have provided decades of service to children, through their careers in public education.

Commended Director of Health, Physical Education & Athletics Cathy Phillips, for decades of honorable, continuous service as a public school teacher, coach, collective bargaining unit president and school district administrator at Peru CSD. Although retiring from active service at Peru CSD, she leaves a legacy of high expectations for curriculum development associated with K-12 physical education, a 'solid track record' of competitiveness & sportsmanship throughout interscholastic athletics programs and attention to providing a solid set of health-related programs & services for the children of our rural school community.

Set Tuesday, July 13, 2010, for the annual summer retreat, reorganization meeting & regular monthly meeting of the Board.

Authorized the Superintendent to renew Peru CSD's long-standing partnership with the BOCES for federally-funded Perkins IV Title I Consortium participation for adult education programs & services.

Adopted the proposed public reporting timetable for 2010-2011, which incorporates an October 2010 briefing from Principals regarding any particular curriculum or program revision and/or piloting being considered for the 2011-2012 school year.

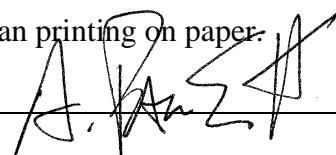
Completed a second reading & adopted revised policy 4311 Display of the Flag.

Appointed faculty member Larry Ewald as 0.5 FTE athletics coordinator for the 2010-2011 school year, pending a signed memorandum of understanding between the school district, faculty association & administrative council, documenting the parties agree that such athletics coordinator/director roles continue to be within the domain of administrative council 'unit work'.

Authorized the Superintendent to sign the agreement between Peru CSD and BCA to complete the state-mandated update to the school district's long range capital facilities plan.

A copy of last night's **Superintendent's Report** to the Board is attached.

This cross-campus update is published for display screen viewing, rather than printing on paper.



**JUNE 9, 2010**

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

## APPRECIATION FOR ANOTHER PRODUCTIVE SCHOOL YEAR

First, appreciation is deserved & offered at this time to our students & student club officers, the Board of Education, administrators, operations supervisors, faculty, coaches, club advisors, support staff, the budget advisory committee, the many other school volunteers, our various association leaders, dozens & dozens of parents and our characteristically supportive rural school community.

The combined efforts and energy since July 2009 enabled Peru CSD to have a productive and overall successful school year for 2009-2010. Continuous improvement has been our focus since December 2000. That focus was sustained this school year, despite extraordinarily challenging economic factors at national & state levels.

It continues to be a privilege to serve as your Superintendent of Schools. We'll start our tenth school year together July 1<sup>st</sup>. Our mission continues. Our district goals are set for 2010-2011. Between now and June 24<sup>th</sup> when summer recess begins and full-scale summer 2010 capital project renovations launch, Peru CSD employees, our construction management firm BCA and our various EXCEL project contractors will have a bit more than two months to prepare our facilities, classrooms, cafeterias, school buses and grounds for our September 2010 start of classes.

Lots of good work ahead for summer 2010 and beyond!

## VARIOUS LONG-TERM EMPLOYEES MOVING FORWARD & STARTING NEW ROLES

Each year, Peru CSD and many other school districts acknowledge the contributions of long-term employees who have completed decades of public service and are taking a well-earned retirement from public service. Other employees move on the new roles & responsibilities, on campus and beyond our district borders.

Three pertinent examples: faculty member Kristin Harnden is moving ahead with her career, and we wish her well with her new school district and expanded roles & responsibilities as the fine public school educator & science teacher she has been in recent years at Peru CSD. Secretary Rhonda Bult moves forward later this month at Northern Adirondack CSD, when she begins service there as District Clerk & Confidential Secretary to the Superintendent. Veteran physical education teacher & coach Larry Ewald is slated for consideration tonight as the school district's part-time athletics coordinator, July 1<sup>st</sup> forward.

Spring 2010 is a banner year for such 'moving up' actions among employees. We have some very valued and valuable long-term faculty members taking a very well-earned retirement. The list is long and those individuals will be recognized tonight, associated with the library book & bookplate commemoration.

Two long-term Peru CSD association presidents, Jeanette Cumber and Cathy Phillips, are taking very well-earned retirements from public service. I've valued engaging over the years with these two leaders & colleagues. They've both helped to move forward the 'Big Blue' line of administrative, instructional and support staff cooperative relationships & labor-management engagement & partnership that is such an important component of moving any 21<sup>st</sup> Century organization forward, productively.

Best wishes to all our retirees & individuals moving ahead with their public service careers.

## NYSED & PERU CSD MOVE AHEAD WITH 'RACE TO THE TOP II'

89.4% of Empire State public school districts submitted 'Race to the Top' [RTTT] second-round applications. On May 28<sup>th</sup>, faculty association president Kathleen Roach and I signed the NYSED 'memorandum of understanding' that calls for our organization to be part of RTTT, in the event New York State is among the states awarded such monies. RTTT is intended to advance state standards & assessments, data systems to

support instructional decision making and update evaluation procedures for teachers and administrators. Noteworthy is the high percent of school districts that moved ahead, despite the NYSED providing a window of only 48 hours for local consideration of the RTTT application.

## **FOLLOW-UP LETTERS TO IMPACTED EMPLOYEES WILL BE SENT THIS MONTH**

Peru CSD employees whose employment status will be impacted by 2010-2011 cost reductions will receive end-of-semester follow-up letters later this month.

## **PRINCIPAL BRIEFINGS ON MASTER SCHEDULES FEATURED TONIGHT**

Administrators are moving ahead with master schedules for 2010-2011. Those master schedules reflect cost reductions & increased efficiencies for July 1<sup>st</sup> forward. Tonight's Superintendent's Report features a verbal briefing from each Principal highlighting a few of the changes in store for next school year.

## **ADDITIONAL FOLLOW-UP WITH COST REDUCTIONS SLATED FOR JULY 2010**

The \$1.94M in cost reductions for 2010-2011 calls for a cross-campus \$16,000 reduction in the number of advisor stipends to pay teachers for time associated with such extra-curricular activities. The total for such advisor stipends is in the ballpark of \$63,000 this school year. I expect to have a \$16,000 set of recommended reductions for Board consideration at the July 2010 meeting, so the school district can move ahead with any necessary 2010-2011 club advisory postings shortly after the July 2010 Board meeting.

## **SUMMER PROGRAMMING VERY SPARSE FOR 2010, REFLECTING COST REDUCTIONS**

Summer 2010 programming is limited to only two summer programs: Peru CSD engagement with the regional special education summer school, and the Peru CSD July 2010 science academy for incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade students identified as 'most eligible' for earning the equivalent of one semester of unified science during this one-month [Monday-Thursday mornings] program. The science academy is part of addressing Peru CSD 2010-2011 goal 1.3: increasing the number and percent of students who complete their high school studies and earn a high school diploma. The summer science academy is a blend of federal grant funds & local monies.

## **SUMMER ACADEMY 2010: TOP PRIORITIES FOR CURRICULUM & STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

24 team-based curriculum projects are authorized for summer work. Each project is in line with priorities for continuous improvement and 2010-2011 district goals. Staff development workshops for summer 2010 are very limited [due to previously announced cost reductions] and will focus on information technology workshops slated for the last week of August and first week of September. The list of such workshops will be published & distributed across campus later this month. Our tenth annual multi-day induction program is slated for August 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> [1<sup>st</sup> year faculty] and August 25<sup>th</sup> [2<sup>nd</sup> year faculty]. The Peru CSD peer presenters cadre will return to service this summer to help deliver & lead our tenth annual induction program.

## **FOLLOW-UP ON REDUCING VOLUME & COSTS OF PRINTING & PHOTOCOPYING AT PERU CSD**

A May 26<sup>th</sup> brainstorming session among various administrators & information technology support team members [NERIC technicians, computer lab teaching assistants, etc.] produced a tentative set of balanced approaches to reduce the volume & costs of printing & photocopying across campus 2010-2011:

- A. Establish & promote 'Big Blue goes Green'.

- B. Maintain student print quotas at current level of 200 sheets/academic year.
- C. Maintain a print quota for faculty members of 1,000 sheets/academic year. This will promote even greater awareness & emphasis on using a Peru CSD laser printer exclusively for a single copy of a document, and using photocopier machines for multiple copies of a document. Roughly 80% of faculty members do not reach that limit, year after year. An administrative protocol will be established for the 20% who do reach that limit. Printer & photocopier use will be tracked & reported monthly next school year, to help Peru CSD employees be informed and to reflect the need for continued cost reduction with this function.
- D. Actively promote reduced consumption across campus of paper, printing, photocopiers and substantially reduce the volume of color laser printing across campus. An administrative protocol will be established to provide clear guidance to Principals, faculty and staff on color laser printing.
- E. Model and promote on-line and non-print communications such as email notes & PDF attachments instead of paper-based copying and distribution across campus. We'll emphasize viewing PDF documents on the display screen rather than printing the PDF on a laser printer.
- F. Encourage faculty who construct paper-based student 'packets' to compile the 'packet' ten days in advance and route the packet via the Principal, for printing & stapling by the BOCES print shop, thereby garnering BOCES aid on essential paper-based 'packets' for students.
- G. Employ email as the sole distribution method cross-campus for memos/documents for faculty & administrators and office-based support staff with e-mail accounts, with bulletin board postings as the sole distribution method for support staff who don't have a Peru CSD email account.
- H. Pilot fall 2010 use of the student data management system 'parent portal' & non-print communications to promote non-print reporting & distribution of documents to parents/guardians for grades 6-12.
- I. Aim for non-print to become the [new] default method of grades 6-12 report card distribution, gladly providing paper copy delivery to parents/guardians upon their request, for instances when home-based high speed Internet connection is not available or is not in place for that household.
- J. Commission the NERIC to have our K-5 report cards converted to non-print format and put to use at some point during 2010-2011 as the [new] default method of reporting & distributing K-5 report cards to parents/guardians.
- K. Include training on PDF use and construction and archiving for all faculty and support staff 2010-2011. Start with a set of August 2010 workshops for administrators, supervisors and 12-month staff, to launch PDF as default method for document distribution.
- L. Reduce the inventory of printers deployed across campus by the start of classes September 2010.
- M. De-commission all non-network printers as soon as practical once the summer recess begins June 2010;
- N. Maximize the deployment of B&W duplex network-connected laser printers.
- O. Provide faculty with adequate access to remote printing capacity via a network-connected B&W duplex [two-sided printing] laser printer within that wing or hallway or adjoining area of the school, so that a faculty member does not need to walk to a different floor or through the entire facility for a print job.
- P. Reduce substantially the quantity of photocopier machines across campus from the current number of 17 such machines.
- Q. Consolidate such photocopier machines in offices where there is more than one photocopier machine in that office.

## STATUS REPORT ON EXCEL CAPITAL PROJECT

BCA Vice President of Architecture Mike Harris is slated to join the Board at the July 2010 regular monthly meeting to lead a tour of the campus and provide the Board with a status report on the EXCEL capital project.