

Hartem Community Unit District #21  
Board of Education Meeting  
Monday, November 17, 2014  
7:00 P.M.

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Call to Order:

Roll Call-

Aper-P	McAfee-P
Booth-P	O'Brien-P
Groth-A	Phillips-P
Lessen-P	

Introduction of Guests:

Persons Wishing to Address the Board:

Meg Meeker, president of the class of 2015, and Dustin Woolard, secretary of the class of 15, presented a proposal regarding the Class of 2015's plans for a senior trip. A number of their classmates were also in attendance to support the proposal. The board is waiting for more information to be gathered by administration before making a decision.

Focus on Education:

JoEllen Westen, third grade teacher, presented the focus on education. Her incoming class was experienced in the Daily 5 routine which made the beginning of the year an easy transition. Her class really enjoys writing and seeks out opportunities to write. They've been working on reading both fiction and non-fiction texts. Math began as a basic review of previous skills and they have been working on place value, multiplication, and working with basic geometry. Miss Westen worked very hard to keep up the successful Veteran's Day program at the Emden building.

Consent Agenda:

- a. Approve minutes from October 20, 2014 board meeting
- b. Approve payment of payroll and monthly bills
- c. Approve activity report
- d. Approve financial report
- e. Approve Treasurer's Report
- f. Approve Agenda

Motion by **McAfee** to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by **Booth**.

Roll Call-

Booth-Y	O'Brien-Y
Groth-	Phillips-Y
Lessen-Y	Aper-Y

McAfee-Y

Correspondence Received:

The board received a "thank you" note from the Brinkley family (Stephanie Sawyer) for the flowers sent for the funeral.

Administrative Report:

We are still working out some of the kinks in the new buses. Hopefully, that's all they are is kinks. Teacher evaluations are underway. Meetings have been held for the superintendent contract, IEP, PST, and new teacher mentoring. Christy Moore will be in the district on November 20 and 21 for more authentic literacy training. The volleyball team placed second in state! High School and Jr. High basketball and cheerleading are underway.

Superintendent's Report:

The fall election holds much uncertainty for school finance so we are in a wait-and-see situation. The PERA/Joint Committee met in October to review assessment types/options and to review sample student growth plans currently used in other districts. More meetings will follow. ISBE compiled comparisons of GSA funding under SB16 if transportation funding was removed from the formula. Our revenue from the state would increase by roughly 10% as it is written now. Doubtlessly, this bill will undergo many revisions before it ever gets called for a vote though. Elizabeth Hilgert has volunteered to continue updating the website until we make a decision on a more permanent replacement. We will have an amended calendar presented at the December meeting to account for the attendance day lost for the state volleyball tournament.

Old Business – Information:

a. Credit Card

It's clearly easier for someone working minimum wage to get a credit card than it is for a school district. It has taken many calls to get this accomplished without undue fees and costs.

b. Overnight Trip Request

Coach Tony Ziemba has a request for 2 separate nights for his team to stay in Lasalle-Peru during the Marseilles Holiday Basketball Tournament.

Old Business Action: None

New Business – Information

a. School Report Card Information

Mr. Wisniewski presented the information from last spring's ISAT and PSAT testing. He was very pleased with the progress made in the last year. It demonstrates that the efforts being made are paying off.

b. Levy Information

Mr. Beard presented the information for the 2015 levy. As a tax cap district, we cannot increase the levy beyond the CPI. This year's CPI is 1.5%. We will be holding a levy hearing prior to the December 2014 meeting for anyone who is interested in hearing the numbers.

New Business - Action

a. Closed Session

Motion by **O'Brien** to enter closed session under 5 ILCS 120/2c(1) appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity. Seconded by **Booth**.

Roll Call-

Lessen-Y	Aper-Y
McAfee-Y	Booth-Y
O'Brien-Y	Groth-
Phillips-Y	

Motion carried. Closed Session was entered at 7:56 pm.

Motion by **Aper** to return to Open Session. Seconded by **Booth**.

6 Aye            0 No

Motion carried. Returned to Open Session at 8:09 pm.

b.) Employment

Motion by **O'Brien** to approve the superintendent's contract and job description as presented for Terry Wisniewski effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018. The annual salary for FY16 will be \$94,000. Seconded by **Booth**.

Roll Call-

McAfee-Y	Booth-Y
O'Brien-Y	Groth-
Phillips-Y	Lessen-Y
Aper-Y	

c.) Approval of Overnight Trip Request

Motion by **McAfee** to approve an overnight trip for the high school basketball team to Lasalle-Peru to participate in the Marseilles Holiday Basketball Tournament. The overnight stay will be for December 26 and December 29, 2014. Seconded by **Aper**.

6 Aye            0 No

Motion by **O'Brien** to adjourn. Seconded by **McAfee**.

Yea – 7

Nay – 0

Adjournment 8:12 pm

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Brad Lessen, President

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Greg Phillips, Secretary