

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

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF SCHOOL BOARD ACTION THIS MONTH**

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At the regular monthly meeting of **Tuesday, August 11, 2009** the Board of Education:

- A.** Approved the budget development timetable for constructing a proposed 2010-2011 fiscal year budget plan.
- B.** Examined the brief retreat notes from the Superintendent of Schools associated with the July 14, 2009 annual retreat of the governing team, focused on school board practices and procedures.
- C.** Completed a second reading adopted the updated 8000 [support services] section of the Peru CSD policy manual, as part of the multi-year updating of the entire Peru CSD policy manual.
- D.** Provided a first reading of an updated 9000 [personnel] section of the Peru CSD policy manual, as part of the multi-year updating of the entire Peru CSD policy manual.
- E.** Approved a timetable of club president reports on extra-curricular activities, leadership development and service.
- F.** Sustained Peru CSD partnership with Mountain Lake Public Broadcasting System associated with education outreach and video, audio and print resources for students and teachers.
- G.** Authorized the Superintendent of Schools to sign the agreement with this region's BOCES to sustain into the 2009-2010 school year the long term partnership with career-technical adult education programming.
- H.** Examined the statewide alert to school districts from the NYSED regarding Medicaid reimbursement claims as of July 1, 2009.
- I.** Established school board member participation with the September 12<sup>th</sup> regional school board member fiscal accountability and financial training workshop.
- J.** Set the 2009-2010 school year tax rate at \$17.66.



- K.** Established school board representation at the start of the 9<sup>th</sup> annual induction program for new faculty members, slated for Monday, August 24, 2009 at 8 AM.
- L.** Established school board representation at the Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> flag and flagpole dedication associated with the generous donation from the Peru Fire Company.
- M.** Set Tuesday, October 13, 2009 at 7 PM, just prior to the start of the regular monthly meeting, as the date and time for formal dedication of renovated portions of the elementary grades and secondary grades program spaces, accomplished earlier this decade through voter-approved capital projects. This dedication will feature formal presentation of the commemorative plaques provided via the architect to highlight the formal completion of the 1998 and 2002 capital projects. Those plaques feature the names of elected Board members in years 1998 and 2002. Prior elected members of the Board of Education will be invited to be present and recognized at the formal dedication ceremony. BOCES Superintendent Craig King will be present. Various local, regional and state elected officials will be invited, too.
- N.** Attended to various business, program and personnel matters as is customary at regular monthly Board meetings.

A copy of this month's Superintendent's Report is attached.

# SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT OF AUGUST 11, 2009

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## REGENTS ELECT DAVID STEINER AS EDUCATION COMMISSIONER

The New York State Board of Regents elected Dr. David Steiner, Dean of Hunter College School of Education, as State Education Commissioner and President of the University of the State of New York. Steiner previously served as Director of Arts Education at the National Endowment for the Arts, and was a professor at Boston University's School of Education, Department of Administration. His term of service begins October 1<sup>st</sup>.

## GOALS BOOKLET FEATURES ACTION PLAN TO ACCOMPLISH 2009-10 DISTRICT GOALS

Tonight's agenda includes receiving a copy of the 2009-10 editions of the Peru CSD goals booklet and policy booklet. The goals booklet features the Board-approved action plan detailing approximately 100 specific tasks intended to focus collective effort on the Board's set of nineteen district goals for 2009-10.

## MOVING AHEAD WITH APPLICATIONS FOR ARRA 'STIMULUS' MONIES

Peru CSD, like many public school districts statewide, is moving ahead with applying for 'stimulus' monies associated with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 [ARRA]. The applications focus on **Title I** [students currently achieving below average who meet particular guidelines] and **IDEA** [Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for students identified by the CSE as having a disability].

**IDEA** applications were completed by Director of Special Education **Irene Stephney**, signed by me and submitted to the NYSED on July 16<sup>th</sup> via Director Stephney. The Board's monthly briefing on Peru CSD intended use of stimulus monies is provided as part of tonight's agenda packet.

## REGIONAL NEWSPAPERS FOCUS ON \$2.1B GAP IN STATE'S 2009-10 FISCAL YEAR

The Governor's Budget Director's first quarterly update on the 2009-2010 state finance plan, published July 30<sup>th</sup>, identified a \$2.1B gap in actual versus forecasted revenues. Local governments and school districts are already considering the prospect of reduced state aid revenues this fiscal year. The Governor has not yet indicated how expenditures will be reduced. The August 7<sup>th</sup> editorial in the Rochester **Democrat & Chronicle** suggested "The start of each school year brings excitement, but this September that euphoria could be short-lived as state lawmakers figure out how to close a \$2 billion budget gap. Cuts to education could and should be on the table. It's imperative that both school districts and lawmakers work together to lessen the impact. On the school side, stakeholders must face economic realities and set priorities. On the state side, lawmakers must address costly unfunded mandates and institute a new pension tier." The lower Hudson Valley's **Journal News** reported on August 4<sup>th</sup> the Governor plans to call lawmakers back to session next month to address that \$2.1B gap.

## PLENARY SESSION SEPTEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>, CLASSES RESUME SEPTEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup> FOR STUDENTS

All district staff will be on campus for an early morning plenary session Wednesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Classes launch with a full day of school for students on Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, following the Labor Day weekend. The Board's next regular meeting is 6 PM that evening.



Respectfully submitted by A. Paul Scott, Superintendent of Schools