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Board of Education

The PLCS Board of Education meetings are held on the second and fourth Monday of the month unless otherwise posted. Meetings begin at 6 p.m. in the PLCS Central Office at 420 S. Washington, Papillion. Meeting agendas and minutes can be found at www.plcschools.org.

Message from Dr. Rikli

I can’t believe that yet another year has come to an end. What a great year 2017 was and we are looking forward to all 2018 has in store for PLCS. As you will find throughout this report, we have a lot to be proud of in PLCS. Most importantly, we have amazing students and staff that work hard every day. The commitment of our entire staff is second to none. We also have plans that we will continue to work on to make PLCS even better.

We are very excited about the upcoming bond proposal. This proposal will help us serve the growing student population, address safety and security needs and bring our older schools up to the same standard as our newer schools. Over the next few months, the Board of Education will be finalizing the projects and developing a timeline for a possible election. Please stay connected as these plans are finalized. Happy New Year to everyone. May 2018 be an amazing year for the school district and the entire community.

Be Known for Greatness... Leadership

Left to right: Valerie Fisher, Vice President; Chuck Zurcher, Member; Connie Bowne, Treasurer; Lee Denker, President; Patricia Conway Boyd, Secretary; Bret Brasfield, Member

Student Achievement

1 Papillion-La Vista South High School Boys’ Cross Country State Championship
1 Papillion-La Vista High School Girls’ Softball State Championship
82 Students participated in the new College Jump Start program through a partnership between PLCS & Metro Community College
175 Students enrolled in the five new online high school courses
4 Students named National Merit Semi-Finalists
15 Students served in the brand new all-day preschool program
Message from Dr. Rikli

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Due to changes in the statewide testing for 2017, year to year comparisons are no longer available. However, the focus for PLCS remains the same – continuous improvement. We want every child, every teacher, every classroom and every school to improve every day. This is how PLCS will continue to Be Known for Greatness.

Note: The included charts indicate the percentage of students proficient. The most recent state data available is from 2016-17. To review the complete State of the Schools Report visit: http://nep.education.ne.gov/

PLCS Focuses on Continuous Improvement

ACT is a national high school exam. Prior to 2017, it has always been voluntary for high school students but required for college entrance. Historically, the scores of all graduating seniors are reported (see right). In 2017, the Nebraska Department of Education decided the ACT test would be required for all 11th grade students and replace the former NeSA tests. Even though juniors have not taken many of the courses necessary to be successful on the ACT, requiring this test for free for all 11th grade students has the possibilities of opening many doors for students.

Teachers grow professionally through Marzano training provided for all staff on in-service days. Teachers get better, students do better!
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PLCS Students Exceed the State Average on State Tests

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Note: The included charts indicate the percentage of students proficient. The most recent state data available is from 2016-17. To review the complete State of the Schools Report visit: http://nep.education.ne.gov/

Note: Beginning with 2017, high school students no longer take the NeSA tests.

PLCS Exceeds State Average on 2017 ACT tests

ACT is a national high school exam. Prior to 2017, it has always been voluntary for high school students but required for college entrance. Historically, the scores of all graduating seniors are reported (see right). In 2017, the Nebraska Department of Education decided the ACT test would be required for all 11th grade students and replace the former NeSA tests. Even though juniors have not taken many of the courses necessary to be successful on the ACT, requiring this test for free for all 11th grade students has the possibilities of opening many doors for students.

Teachers grow professionally through Marzano training provided for all staff on in-service days. Teachers get better, students do better!
Be Known for Greatness...  
Dedicated Staff

Certified Staff Degrees
All certified teaching staff have a minimum of a bachelor’s degree, many have acquired additional hours including...
• 650 master’s degrees
• 28 educational specialist degrees
• 7 doctorates

Student Enrollment
Total enrollment K-12: 11,607
Students in PLCS are...
• 21% minority
• 23% free and reduced lunch
• 11% military

PLCS 2017 Graduates
• 94% graduation rate
• 358 students received approximately $27.1 million in scholarships

Where do PLCS Graduates Go?
• 90% post-secondary education
• 4% military
• 3% workforce
• 2% undecided
• 1% other

Be Known for Greatness...  
Exceptional Students

Number of Employees
1,692

Breakdown of Staff
Certified Staff 907  53.61%
Classified Specialists, Managers 28  1.65%
Information Technology, Maintenance, Security 28  1.65%
Classified Specialists, Paraprofessionals 240  14.17%
Classified Specialists, Warehouse, Drivers 122  7.15%
Food Service 88  5.20%
Clerical 56  3.31%

Teacher Longevity
The average teacher has been with the District for 12.54 years.

Average Class Sizes
• Elementary  20.98
• Middle School  21.46
• High School  22.69

Note: The breakdown of staff for the 17-18 school year, indicated above, is based on the number of people. Not all employees indicated are full-time.

There are 4 nationally certified teachers in PLCS.
**Certified Staff Degrees**
All certified teaching staff have a minimum of a bachelor’s degree, many have acquired additional hours including:
- 650 master’s degrees
- 28 educational specialist degrees
- 7 doctorates

**Student Enrollment**
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**Where do PLCS Graduates Go?**
- 90% post-secondary education
- 4% military
- 3% workforce
- 2% undecided
- 1% other

**Number of Employees**
1,692

**Breakdown of Staff**
- Certified Staff 907 (53.61%)
- Classified Specialists, Managers 40 (2.40%)
- Classroom Paras 98 (5.78%)
- Custodians, Warehouse, Drivers 121 (7.15%)
- Food Service 18 (1.06%)
- Clerical 56 (3.31%)
- Technology, Maintenance, Security 35 (2.07%)

**Teacher Longevity**
The average teacher has been with the District for 12.54 years.

**Average Class Sizes**
- Elementary 20.98
- Middle School 21.46
- High School 22.69

**Note:** The breakdown of staff for the 17-18 school year, indicated above, is based on the number of people. Not all employees indicated are full-time.
Be Known for Greatness... Fiscal Responsibility

The 2017 year marked the end of the common levy for the Learning Community. Financially this was a good thing for PLCS allowing us to keep all of the tax dollars generated in our school district. However, a reduction in state funding continues to create a challenging budget time for PLCS. All of the revenue received is going to fund the operational budget with 86% of the budget designated to pay staff salaries. The budget increased $4.8 million with regular instruction and special education accounting for $4.65 million of the increase. There has been and will continue to be efforts to realign and prioritize expenses so they do not exceed revenue. PLCS is committed to fiscal responsibility while maintaining excellence in education.

Where Does the Money Go? (2017-2018)

- Business Services $1,062,131
- Transportation $3,105,701
- State & Federal Program $5,028,029
- Support Services 16,602,844
- Board & Administration $8,955,970
- Operation & Maintenance $12,698,794
- Special Education $6,140,633
- Instruction $58,065,804

Total Operating Budget $914,584,205

Where Does the Money Come From? (2017-2018)

- Federal Resources $4,945,144
- State Resources $47,279,477
- Local Resources $63,511,251
- Business Services $1,062,131

Tax Facts 2017 Tax Rate

- General Fund - $1.07599
- Building Fund - $0.00
- Bond Fund - $0.22982

Total PLCS Tax Rate - $1.30581

PLCS 5th Lowest Per Pupil Expenditure in State $9,924.74/

Spent Per Student Annually

That’s $1,977.13 less than the state average and the 5th lowest in the state!

Note: the per pupil expenditure is based on the 15-16 school year; the most recent available statistic from the state.

2017 Strategic Plan Update

In the summer of 2014, a team of parents, community members and staff came together to develop the strategic plan for the District. The original plan had 5 goals, one is completed. Below are the remaining four goals and a few of the actions steps being taken. For more details check out www.plcschools.org.

Goal 1:

By 2020, PLCs will develop and implement a variety of flexible and innovative individual learning opportunities for students in grades 7-12.

Action Steps Include:

- Elimination of high school class rank to allow students to select classes of interest.
- Implementation of MCC College Jump Start Program.
- Implementation of five high school online learning classes.

Goal 2:

All three and four year olds in PLCs will have access to a quality early childhood program. By 2020, 25% of ALL students will be enrolled in a District program.

Action Steps Include:

- Secured a grant to expand home visits for at-risk infants and toddlers.
- Added one preschool classroom & expanded one preschool program to full-day.
- Seeking additional preschool space throughout the District.

Student Social, Emotional & Behavioral Needs

By 2016, PLCs will research and make recommendations on programs and services that support students socially, emotionally and behaviorally.

Action Steps Include:

- Partnered with Project Harmony to provide “Connections.”
- Expanded behavioral coaching at all levels and added two Title I facilitators.
- Implemented PBIS at all schools.

World Language

By 2025, all PLCs students will have access to comprehensive world language instruction offerings in grades K-12.

Action Steps Include:

- Implementation of Spanish at the middle school level.
- Add a fifth year of Advanced Placement Spanish at the high school level.

Individualized Learning

By 2020, PLCs will develop and implement a variety of flexible and innovative individual learning opportunities for students in grades 7-12.

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Early Childhood Education

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Be Known for Greatness... Fiscal Responsibility

Where Does the Money Go? (2017-2018)

1. Business Services $1,062,131
2. Transportation $13,105,701
4. Support Services $16,402,564
5. Board & Administration $12,653,970
6. Operation & Maintenance $1,069,794
7. Special Education $16,531,211

Total Operating Budget $134,584,205

Where Does the Money Come From? (2017-2018)

1. Federal Resources $4,945,144
2. State Resources $47,279,477
3. Local Resources $63,140,633
4. Business Services $12,698,794
5. Support Services $8,955,970
6. Operation & Maintenance $6,867,564
7. Special Education $1,062,131
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9. State Resources $5,028,029
10. Local Resources $63,140,633

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Goal 4:
By 2020, all PLCS students will have access to a quality early childhood program. By 2020, 25% of ALL students will be enrolled in a District program.

Action Steps Include:
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Bond Fund - $0.22982
Total PLCS Tax Rate - $1.30581
Tax levy/$100 assessed value - $1,305.81
Taxes/$100,000 home - $1,305.81
Total District assessed valuation - $5,422,848,309

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Action Steps Include:
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Papillion La Vista Community Schools Proposes Bond Issue Projects

Enhanced Safety & Security
• Closing open classrooms
• Moving front entrance through the main office

Additional Classrooms to Serve Growing Student Population
• 9th grade wing added to each high school
• Additional classrooms at both high schools for STEM and the skilled and technical trades
• Classroom addition at Anderson Grove Elementary, Liberty Middle School, G. Stanley Hall & Carriage Hill

Renovation of older elementary schools
• Carriage Hill, G. Stanley Hall, and La Vista West – smaller sized classrooms expanded to match physical classroom size of newer schools
• Rumsey Station – fire sprinklers will be added throughout the school

2018 Coming Soon… Final Bond Proposal
Early in 2018 the Board of Education will be reviewing all of the input collected on the proposed bond issue, including a phone survey being conducted in early January. Based on that feedback, a final proposal will be developed and shared with the community.

For a complete list of projects, checkout www.plcschools.org/bondissue

Want to stay updated on the Bond issue?
Join the Facebook Group: Let’s Talk PLC Schools Bond
Visit: www.facebook.com/groups/LetsTalkPLCSchoolsBond/

Growth Creates Need for a Bond Issue

Map Conclusions
Within the next 5 years:
• +200 middle school students at Liberty only
• +960 elementary students
• +558 high school students

Legend
Land already platted & immediate developments underway 0-5 years
Planned developments but not currently platted 5-10 years
Unplanned development that is zoned residential or uncertain of timeline 10-20 years
Land not currently in PLCS but is part of the boundary agreement between PLCS and Springfield Platteview. This land will potentially move into PLCS as it is developed.

The potential location of the new elementary school.

*Note: Growth projections are made based on land use and current planned developments.
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