REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

December 16, 2013

WISHING A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON

At this very special time of the year, we would like to take a moment and thank you for your support and dedication to Pioneer! We will be celebrating at a Holiday Dinner. We will meet in the Pioneer Room at 5:30 pm before the Board Meeting. The Holidays are always such a special time of year!! We hope you have time to relax and enjoy your family and friends!!

Our career technical programs have prepared some special Christmas gifts for you. We hope they will brighten your holiday spirit!

We would also like to invite you to the Christmas Open House for current and past staff on Friday, December 20th from 7:30-9:30 am in the Pioneer Room. The cafeteria staff will prepare their special Holiday treats for the open house. I hope you can join us at this special event. It is always exciting to see past staff and Board members and catch up on everyone's lives.

OHIO ASSOCIATION FOR CAREER - TECHNICAL SUPERINTENDENTS LEGISLATIVE MEETING

The Ohio Association for Career-Technical Superintendents and the Ohio ACTE Coalition will host the 2014 Legislative Seminar at the Sheraton on Capitol Square on January 22 - 23.

We will have an Agenda and sign-up sheet at the meeting. There also is a reception on Wednesday evening for legislators and/or the legislative aides.

You are invited to attend this seminar, reception and visit legislators. If any Board of Education members would like to attend please sign up at the Board Meeting or let me know by January 6, 2014, so I can register you. This is very important since there no on-site registration. Also, please let me know if you would like hotel reservations.

PRESIDENT PRO-TEM AND MEETING TIME

It has been customary to have the past Board of Education President serve as the President Pro-Tem until the new Board of Education President is elected at our January Organizational Meeting. I recommend we continue that tradition and hold the Organization Meeting at 7:00 pm, Wednesday, January 15, 2014.

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POLICY UPATES

Thank you for your patience in getting the policy updates to you. I am reviewing several sections at a time, then bringing those to you to review and approve. At this meeting you will be asked to approve Section 1000 that we presented to you for review in November. Sections 2000, 3000, 4000 & 9000 are prepared for your review, then we will ask for approval at the January meeting. In the next couple of months, I will try to have all the sections complete for your approval. The many changes are due to changes in the law so they take a little time to review before presenting them to you. We are lucky to be able to work with NEOLA to keep us abreast of all changes.

FINAL AUDIT REPORT

We have received the final audit document from Rea & Associates. Board President, Howard Koons and Board Vice President, Doug Theaker attended the post audit review. I am very pleased to announce that the audit found Pioneer to be in full conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. There were no findings for material loss. The management letter only had suggestions for improvement concerning a few minor procedural items. Any member of the audit committee would be happy to answer any questions you may have at the Board of Education Meeting. Congratulations to Linda and her staff for a job well done!

LEVY UPDATE

In preparation for going on the ballot in November, 2014 we have been working on our communication plan and talking points. Dave Conley who worked with us on our financing for the renovation project will be assisting with the finances in preparation for the levy. We want to be thoroughly organized for this levy campaign. We have already begun our levy fund raising, by asking the staff to do payroll deductions to begin contributions to the levy fund.

I am so proud of our staff; we have been able to raise almost $10,000 in contributions. Our staff has always dug deep in their pockets to support Pioneer. We will soon be going out to our community and vendors to continue our fund raising efforts. Our goal is to raise $25,000 for this campaign. After the first of the year, we will be putting together our internal campaign committee. I think we are already in campaign mode!

PERSONNEL

We are asking you to approve the retirement resignation of Becky Papay. Becky was hired at Pioneer in 1989 as a substitute secretary and then in 1990 she worked as a typist to type all the courses of study. In December of 1990 she was hired as a full-time administrative secretary in the high school office. Becky has been very dedicated to Pioneer and the administrators that she has worked for over the last 23 years. Becky manages the tasks that that have a direct impact on the experiences that student have here at Pioneer. We wish Becky a well-deserved and relaxing retirement.

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We also are asking you to approve the hiring of Sherry Gunder for a 2nd shift Custodial/Security position. She has worked for Pioneer in the Cafeteria and was part of the summer custodial crew this past summer, and has been working as a custodial substitute this year. Mike Grimwood has been very pleased with Sherry's quality of work. Sherry will be taking Dave Ogborn's 2nd shift position so we can transfer him to 1st shift to step into the position vacated by Dale Humphrey.

Dave began working for Pioneer as a custodian in February, 2013. He has an excellent work ethic and a great attitude. He will do an especially great job with the In-School Suspension students. We look forward to continue working with Sherry and Dave in their new roles.

We are asking you to approve the hiring of Bob Hartwell for Distribution Center Coordinator. Bob retired from Pioneer in July, 2013 as Technology Coordinator. In his former position he worked closely with the distribution Center staff and understands the need to update the technology in the department. Bob has great ideas to make the department more efficient. He will be an asset to the department and Pioneer.

All other personnel items are common for this time of year.

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