



MINUTES

Wisconsin Rapids Board of Education
Educational Services Committee

510 Peach Street · Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494 · (715) 424-6701

Mary Rayome, Chairperson
John Benbow, Jr.
Katie Bielski-Medina
Troy Bier
Larry Davis
Sandra Hett
John Krings, President

March 2, 2020

LOCATION: Board of Education, 510 Peach Street, Wisconsin Rapids WI
Conference Room A/B

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: John Benbow, Jr., Katie Bielski-Medina, Troy Bier, Larry Davis,
Sandra Hett, John Krings, and Mary Rayome

OTHERS PRESENT: Craig Broeren, Roxanne Filtz, Steve Hepp, Miranda Moody, Ronald
Rasmussen, John Schmitt, Dani Scott, and Jen Wilhorn

I. Call to Order

Mary Rayome called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Actionable Items

A. Board Policy 345.11 - Procedures for Academic Excellence Scholarships for First Reading

Ronald Rasmussen, Principal of Lincoln High School (LHS), reviewed updates and changes to the policy that better defines senior status, changes in terminology as it relates to trimesters versus terms, and end dates of trimesters. In addition, the revised policy clearly indicates that early graduates are ineligible to receive the Academic Excellence Scholarship.

ES-1 Motion by John Benbow, second by Troy Bier, to approve Board Policy 345.11 – Procedures for Academic Excellence Scholarships for first reading.

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Board Policy 423 - Public School Open Enrollment and Board Policy 423 Rule – Procedures for Processing Public School Open Enrollment Applications for First Reading

Roxanne Filtz, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, reviewed the updated language that would guarantee acceptance of pupils currently residing in the District but planning to move prior to the beginning of the following year; clarify how applications will be handled when a nonresident student has been referred or identified as having a possible disability but not yet evaluated; and updates to match procedures with practice concerning alternative open enrollment applications.

ES-2 Motion by Troy Bier, second by John Krings, to approve Board Policy 423 - Public School Open Enrollment and 423 Rule - Procedures for Processing Public School Open Enrollment Applications for first reading.

Motion carried unanimously.

C. 2020-21 School Year Calendar

Ms. Filtz explained that because a growing number of students are involved in community events to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., it would make sense to move the Professional Development Day scheduled for January 25, 2021, to January 18, 2021 (which is the next scheduled Martin Luther King, Jr. day), so that it is more convenient for students to participate in these events.

ES-3 Motion by Larry Davis, second by Katie Bielski-Medina, to approve to reschedule the January 2021 Professional Development Day from January 25, 2021 to January 18, 2021.

Motion carried unanimously.

D. Lincoln High School Summer School Class Proposals

1. Blended Strength and Fitness Summer School Pilot Class

Ronald Rasmussen, Principal of Lincoln High School, reviewed the new offering of a credit bearing summer school class in Physical Education (PE) that LHS staff would like to pilot. This new class would accommodate the lives of busy students, and be available to grades 10-12 students. This class will cover the same material as the current Strength and Fitness course offered during the school year. The course would be available as a .5 credit towards a PE requirement or elective.

ES-4 Motion by John Benbow, second by Troy Bier, to approve Blended Strength and Fitness Summer School Pilot Class during the 2020 Summer School session for .5 PE or elective credit.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Method Prep ACT Course

Miranda Moody, Language Arts Department Chair and English Language Arts (ELA) Instructor at LHS, provided a brief overview of a new Method Prep ACT course to potentially be offered in the upcoming summer school session. Piloted last year, this class will be an online course offered during the summer for .5 credit, and will

assist students in more thoroughly preparing their college and career readiness skills as measured by the ACT.

ES-5 Motion by John Krings, second by Larry Davis, to approve Method Prep ACT Course to be offered during the 2020 Summer School session for .5 graduation credit.

Motion carried unanimously.

E. America's Voice 2020 Pilot Class

Ms. Moody reviewed the modifications made to the Social Studies Scope and Sequence, and how it has had a ripple effect on the number of students who have enrolled in the American Dream class at LHS for the 2020-2021 school year. In order to preserve the team-taught experience for students and the collaboration between the two departments, the ELA and Social Studies departments created a new team-taught course, America's Voice. Students would receive .5 ELA credit in trimester 1 and .5 social studies credit in trimester 2. America's Voice provides an opportunity for students to learn history through literature, which was the basis of American Dream.

ES-6 Motion by John Benbow, second by Larry Davis, to approve the pilot course, America's Voice, to be offered during the 2020-2021 school year for .5 ELA credit and .5 Social Studies credit.

F. Contemporary American History B/Literature Emphasis Pilot Class

This new course would be an extension of America's Voice, providing greater emphasis on literature to deliver historical information. The use of novels, biographies, short stories, speeches, letters and a host of other primary sources would be used to teach the curriculum. The course would be taught by a social studies teacher, and students would receive the remaining sophomore-level .5 credit for their American History requirement. It was requested at the meeting to change the name to America's Story.

ES-7 Motion by John Krings, second by Troy Bier, to approve the pilot course, America's Story, to be offered during the 2020-2021 school year for 1.0 ELA credit and .5 Social Studies credit.

IV. Updates

A. Secondary Language Arts Coordinator and K-12 Social Studies Coordinator

Ms. Filtz stated that Jacob Bertagnoli has been serving the District as the K-12 Social Studies Coordinator. Historically, he has received a stipend for his work. Beginning with the 2020-21 school year, Jacob will instead be allowed one class period each day to complete his Coordinator work in lieu of receiving a stipend.

Ms. Filtz also provided an update to the Committee regarding the restructuring of the K-12 Literacy Coordinator position. Currently, Jennifer Wilhorn, Assistant Director of Curriculum, serves as the Literacy Coordinator for grades K-12. There are distinct differences between early literacy and elementary reading and writing instruction, and

secondary ELA instruction. In order to better serve the ELA needs of our students in kindergarten through twelfth grade, as well as the professional development needs of our K-12 staff, the District has created a Secondary Literacy Coordinator position. Ms. Moody will serve in this capacity. She will be allowed one class period each day to complete her Coordinator work.

V. Consent Agenda Items

- ES-1 Board Policy 345.11 – Procedures for Academic Excellence Scholarships for first reading**
- ES-2 Board Policy 423 - Public School Open Enrollment and 423 Rule - Procedures for Processing Public School Open Enrollment Applications for first reading**
- ES-3 Reschedule the January 2021 Professional Development Day from January 25, 2021 to January 18, 2021**
- ES-4 Blended Strength and Fitness Summer School Pilot Class for the summer of 2020**
- ES-5 Method Prep ACT Course to be offered during the 2020 Summer School Session for .5 graduation credit**
- ES-6 Pilot course, America's Voice, to be offered during the 2020-2021 school year for .5 ELA credit and .5 Social Studies credit**
- ES-7 America's Story, to be offered during the 2020-2021 school year for 1.0 ELA credit and .5 Social Studies credit**

VI. Future Agenda Items/Information Requests

- ACT Graduates and AP Report Update (April)
- Early College Credit Program/Start College Now (April)
- Code of Conduct Updates (April)
- Agenda Planners (May)
- Elementary Social Studies Acquisition (May)
- World Language Acquisition (May)

Mary Rayome adjourned the meeting at 6:25 p.m.