



MINUTES

Wisconsin Rapids Board of Education  
**Educational Services Committee**

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

Katie Bielski-Medina, Chairperson  
John Benbow, Jr.  
Troy Bier  
Larry Davis  
Julie Des Jarlais  
Sandra Hett  
John Krings, President

July 5, 2022

LOCATION: Central Office, Conference Room A/B  
510 Peach Street, Wisconsin Rapids, WI

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: John Benbow, Katie Bielski-Medina, Troy Bier, Larry Davis, Julie Des Jarlais, Sandra Hett, John Krings

OTHERS PRESENT: Ed Allison, Phil Bickelhaupt, Craig Broeren, Chris Feidt, Roxanne Filtz, Steve Hepp, Julie Kolarik, Randy Miller, Aaron Nelson, Ronald Rasmussen

I. Call to Order

Katie Medina called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

IV. Actionable Items

A. Consideration of Assuming Responsibility for the Operation and Oversight of Lincoln High School Hockey

Craig Broeren, Superintendent, explained that the Youth Hockey Association has voted to discontinue their relationship with Lincoln High School (LHS) hockey after many years of being responsible for the overall finances of the program. When the South Wood County Recreation Center was completed in the mid to late 90's, the agreement with the Board of Education at that time was that the LHS Hockey program would be run with no costs or responsibilities falling on the District. The District assumed responsibility for coaching positions beginning with the 2018-19 school year, and Youth Hockey continued supporting all other aspects of the program. The Youth Hockey Board recently voted to discontinue their support and operations of LHS hockey to allow them to better focus specifically on youth hockey.

Randy Miller, former President of Youth Hockey, was present to provide some insight around the history of Youth Hockey and explained that the organization has found it difficult to retain participants once they approach the age of 12. In a culture survey they conducted, it became evident that the reason people were leaving is due to the high cost and required commitment of hours for families to volunteer. They have

revamped the Youth Hockey program to strengthen and sustain programming for youth through age 12 and beyond. Many young players decide to join Stevens Point programming at the adolescent level and once they leave, it is difficult to get them back. Strengthening the program by focusing on the youth program without being encumbered by costs and duties associated with the high school program will help Youth Hockey remain viable and able to feed into high school programming.

Mr. Broeren shared anticipated expenses and revenue affiliated with the District assuming responsibility for the program as follows:

<b>LHS HOCKEY – ANTICIPATED EXPENSES &amp; REVENUE</b>		
Description	Cost	Revenue
Ice Time (12 x 4.5 hours @ \$120/hour)	\$ 6,480	
Officials (12 x \$480/game)	\$ 5,760	
Transportation	\$ 7,561	
Equipment (pucks, helmets/cages)	\$ 1,125	
Jersey Replacement / Warm-Ups Fund	\$ 750	
Workers (12 x 3 x 2.5 x \$11/hour)	\$ 990	
<b>TOTAL Expenses</b>	<b>\$22,666</b>	
Gate Revenue (Approximate – 2,500 x \$5 / \$4 / \$3)		\$ 9,000-10,000
Current Cost Per Athlete to Participate (24 x \$750)		\$18,000
<b>TOTAL Revenue</b>		<b>\$27,000-28,000</b>
<b>NET REVENUE / (LOSS)</b>		<b>\$ 4,334-5,334</b>
<i>Current unknowns: exact number of athletes, general admissions</i>		

The cost the District currently pays for coaches is not included in the expense report, but the amount is estimated to be around \$12,000. Currently ice time expenses are charged only for LHS games, not practice times; and this would continue. An LHS Hockey Booster Club would be established if the District assumed responsibility for the high school team, and fundraising efforts by the Booster group could help offset expenses incurred and in turn, mitigate the cost parents would need to pay. Chris Feidt, LHS Athletic Director, explained that the goal is not to make money off of hockey activity, but rather to offset expenses enough to have parents responsible for around \$650 or less per athlete. Committee members discussed the request, including what other districts and parents pay, whether making changes as recommended would bring youth who left the program back, similarity of the offering to other LHS athletic offerings, and the shortage in volunteers which is a universal issue across all sports and activities.

**ES-1 Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Larry Davis, to approve assuming responsibility for the operation and oversight of Lincoln High School Hockey beginning with the 2022-23 season. Motion carried unanimously.**

B. Pupil Academic Standards

Roxanne Filtz, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, explained that the District is required under state statute to provide annual notification around pupil academic standards being used. A document containing the standards that will be used for each content area was reviewed by the Committee. The standards are the same as in previous years, and once they are approved they will be updated with 2022-23 dates and posted to the District website.

**ES-2 Motion by Troy Bier, seconded by Larry Davis, to approve of the pupil academic standards as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

C. Woodside Playground Project with Modification of the 10 Year District Facility Plan

Julie Kolarik, Woodside Elementary Principal, presented a Legacy Grant proposal to develop an Outdoor Play, Learning, and Activity Center (OPLAC) on the Woodside campus. The plans involve the development of multiple play areas that contain equipment that will be accessible and inclusive. The equipment is designed for engagement by children with or without disabilities, and promotes motion, social, and sensory play. The surface underneath the equipment will be entirely accessible by wheelchair. Long-term benefits of the OPLAC include developing a strong and more inclusive community, creating a welcoming place for families and the community, increasing emotional and skill development in all students, and providing an atmosphere for healthy outdoor activity.

Ms. Kolarik reviewed three areas where equipment would be installed on the campus at an overall cost of \$1,137,688. This cost does not include excavation or site prep work. A projected overall cost of \$1,500,000 is anticipated for the project, and the local Legacy Foundation has proposed to cover \$1,200,000 of the expense if the District commits to paying the remaining \$300,000 toward the project's completion. Ms. Kolarik outlined various fundraising initiatives that would be undertaken to cover some or all of the \$300,000 that the District would be responsible for. The same company, Point of Beginnings, that was utilized to develop the quadplex at Lincoln, would also assist the District in developing a similar fundraising campaign for the OPLAC.

Mr. Broeren explained that the District is able to utilize Fund 46 dollars toward the project, and would need to modify the WRPS 10-Year Facility Plan to include the project. There are ample dollars available in Fund 46 to cover the expense. The 10-Year Facility Plan was reviewed by the Committee. One item removed from the Plan includes renovation of the LHS parking lot since that is being covered using referendum funding.

Committee members discussed the proposed project. Commentary was shared around the possibility of involving business partners willing to donate, whether Fund 80 dollars could be used toward the costs, how the playground compares to the one installed at Grove a number of years back, whether security cameras are planned to monitor the equipment, and the type of potential maintenance/upkeep expenses that may be incurred to keep the equipment in good condition. Committee members expressed excitement around the positive impact that the OPLAC will have on students and the community, and are extremely pleased and appreciative for the generosity and willingness of the Legacy Foundation to underwrite a majority of the expenses tied to the project.

**ES-3 Motion by Larry Davis, seconded by Troy Bier, to approve of the modification to the 10-Year Facility Plan as well as approval to expend \$300,000 from Fund 46, and accept the Legacy Foundation Grant in the amount of \$1.2 million dollars for the completion of the \$1.5 million dollar Woodside Outdoor Play, Learning, and Activity Center Project. Motion carried unanimously.**

V. Updates

A. Achievement Gap Reduction (AGR) End-of-Year Report

Ms. Filtz explained that the District is required to present an Achievement Gap Reduction (AGR) end-of-year report at the conclusion of each school year which contains information on the schools' implementation of AGR contract requirements, performance objectives, and success in attaining the objectives. The administration plans to bring the AGR report to the Committee in August, 2022.

VI. Consent Agenda Items

**ES-1 Lincoln High School Hockey**

**ES-2 Pupil Academic Standards for 2022-23**

**ES-3 Woodside Outdoor Play, Learning, and Activity Center Project**

VII. Future Agenda Items/Information Requests

Agenda items are determined by the Committee Chair after consultation with appropriate administration depending upon other agenda items, presentation information, and agenda availability.

Future agenda items/information requests include, but are not limited to:

- Achievement Gap Reduction Report (August)
- Seclusion and Restraint Report (August)
- Secondary Novel Selection Process for Student Choice Novels (August)
- Gifted and Talented Program Update (August)
- Parent Council for Instructional Improvement (CII) Representative (September)
- ESSA Update (September)

Katie Medina adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.