



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  
John Krings, President  
Kathi Stebbins-Hintz  
Julie Timm

April 1, 2024

LOCATION: Board of Education Office, 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, John Krings, Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Julie Timm

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Ed Allison, Leslie Anderson, Craig Broeren, Nicole Calteux, Roxanne Filtz, Steve Hepp, Tina Miller, Aaron Nelson, Christine Slattery, Tina Wallner

- I. Call to Order
- II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- III. Public Comment – none.
- IV. Actionable Items
  - A. Start College Now (SCN) and Early College Credit Program (ECCP) Applications

Ms. Roxanne Filtz, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, explained that there are no Early College Credit Program (ECCP) applications to consider. She then presented 10 applications for students to take 30 courses through the Start College Now (SCN) program at Mid-State Technical College (MSTC) during the fall of 2024.

**ES-1 Motion by Troy Bier, seconded by Julie Timm, to approve of 10 student applications to participate in 30 requested courses at Mid-State Technical College through the Start College Now program in the fall of the 2024-25 school year as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**
  - B. Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools Co-Curricular Activities Code of Conduct for Grades 6-12

Mr. Ronald Rasmussen, Principal of Lincoln High School, presented a minor revision to be made to the WRPS Co-Curricular Activities Code of Conduct for Grades 6-12. The revision pertains to aligning the Code with current practice, which is to make paper copies available to students and families through the school and athletic offices, and to continue having the information disseminated through the annual Skyward Family Access online enrollment verification process.

**ES-2 Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Troy Bier, to approve of the suggested revisions to the Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools Co-Curricular Activities Code of Conduct for Grades 6-12. Motion carried unanimously.**

B. Playworks Program

Ms. Filtz and Principals Tina Miller, Tina Wallner, Nicole Calteux, Christine Slattery, as well as Student Engagement Facilitator Leslie Anderson, presented information about the success being experienced in the Playworks program that was implemented at four elementary schools during the 2023-24 school year: Grant, Grove, Howe, and THINK. Playworks is an evidenced based program that provides an opportunity for children to develop and practice critical social emotional skills through play. Playworks partners with elementary schools by providing an on-site coordinator to teach, model, and empower a sustainable recess program.

Students in 4th and 5th grade serve as "Junior Coaches" and lead games, help resolve conflicts and serve as role models during recess. The Committee was provided examples of how impactful the program has been in providing structure, leadership skill development, inclusivity, and staff engagement during recess.

Grant, Grove, Howe, and THINK elementary schools are interested in continuing a second year of the program into the 2024-25 school year to continue building capacity in recess teams and Junior Coaches; the cost would be \$14,800.00 per site. Additionally, the administration is interested in expanding the program to Mead, Washington and Woodside Elementary schools at a cost of \$20,500.00 per site. Mental Health Grant Funds and Stronger Connection Grant Funds would be used to fund the Playworks program.

Committee members took the opportunity to ask questions.

**ES-3 Motion by Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, seconded by Larry Davis, to approve of the continued implementation of the Playworks program at Grant, Grove, Howe and THINK elementary schools as well as new implementation of the program at Mead, Washington, and Woodside during the 2024-2025 school year at a total cost of \$120,700.00 to be funded through the Mental Health Grant and Stronger Connection Grant. Motion carried unanimously.**

V. Updates

A. Student Travel

Lincoln High School's DECA team has 21 competitors moving on to the International Career Development Conference (ICDC). Additionally, 5 students will attend the THRIVE Leadership Academy conference due to the LHS chapter's membership, community service, and promotional campaigns. Twenty-six students, three advisors, and one administrator will be attending the ICDC conference in Anaheim, California from April 25, 2024 through May 1, 2024. Payment for the trip will come from LHS DECA fundraisers, The Wolf Den sales, and the CTE Technical Incentive grant.

B. Dual Credit Spanish 5 Option

Ms. Filtz explained that Lincoln High School's Spanish Level 5 course offering has been approved as a dual credit option through UW-Green Bay. In addition, if students earn a grade of a B- or higher in Level 5, they will retroactively receive college credit for the previous Spanish courses, allowing students to enter a college with 14 college credits completed in World Language. The dual credit offering will begin with the 2024-25 school year. The LHS Spanish 5 curriculum/syllabus was approved by UW-Green Bay, which means that none of the curriculum or curriculum maps will need to change. Through the transcript process, students could take earned credits to any college of their choice that will accept the transcripts from UW-Green Bay.

C. Career and Technical Education (CTE)

District CTE Coordinator Eric Siler presented information to the Committee around District Career and Technical Education (CTE) programming which provides an important pathway to student success. CTE is a student-driven, adult supported process in which students create and cultivate their own unique and information-based visions for post-secondary success obtained through self-exploration, career exploration, and the development of career management and planning skills.

Mr. Siler reviewed Chapter PI-26 legislation which requires every school district to provide Academic and Career Planning (ACP) and Education for Employment (E4E) services to pupils enrolled in grades 6-12. Specific information was shared about how career awareness is introduced and built upon from the elementary level through grade 12. A number of pathways for students was covered along with Advanced Placement opportunities, advanced standing, and transcribed credit. Students have access to multiple resources and help offered through the Academic and Career Planning (ACP) Center, and the ACP process has strong support from local business and Wisconsin education partners.

The Carl Perkins Grant focuses on preparing all students for high skill, high demand, high wage local and regional career pathways. The grant covers costs associated with professional development, dual credit expansion, hardware and software, equipment and supplies, and student classroom career exploration travel expenses. The 2024-25 Carl Perkins grant request in an amount of \$52,000 will be coming to the Board for approval in the future.

The CTE Technical Incentive Grant focuses on encouraging school districts to offer Department of Workforce Development approved industry-recognized certifications to students. These funds cover costs associated with growing CTE programs and expanding opportunities for students to earn industry-based certification. In 2023, WRPS received a total of \$67,680.00 in Technical Incentive Grant funding for industry-based student certifications.

Committee members thanked Mr. Siler for his informative presentation.

VI. Consent Agenda Items

**ES-1 Start College Now Applications for Fall, 2024**

**ES-2 WRPS Co-Curricular Activities Code of Conduct for Grades 6-12 Revisions**

**ES-3 Playworks Program Renewal and Expansion**

VII. Future Agenda Items/Information Requests

The Committee reviewed the following future agenda items:

- K-12 Revised Art Curriculum Maps (May)
- K-12 Art Acquisition Request (May)
- District 2024-2025 Professional Development Plan (May)
- 2024-25 Professional Development Calendar (May)
- 2024-2025 Student Planners (May)
- 6-8 Science Acquisition (June)
- GATES Update (June)

Ms. Medina adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.