



AGENDA

Wisconsin Rapids Board of Education
Educational Services Committee

510 Peach Street · Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494 · (715) 422-6005

Anne Lee, Chairman
John Benbow, Jr.
Katie Bielski-Medina
Larry Davis
Sandra Hett
John Krings
Mary Rayome, President

January 4, 2010

LOCATION: Conference Room A/B

TIME: Immediately following the Business Services Committee meeting, but not before 6:30 p.m.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment
- III. Curriculum Development
 - A. Able Learner Program Report
 - B. Virtual Learning Committee Report
 - C. Career and Technical Education Acquisition Recommendation
 - D. Grades 3 and 6 Exit Survey Recommendation
- IV. Updates and Reports
- V. Consent Agenda Items
- VI. Future Agenda Items/Information Requests

The Wisconsin open meetings law requires that the Board, or Board Committee, only discuss subject matter that is noticed on their respective agendas. Persons wishing to place items on the agenda should contact the District Office, 422-6005, prior to the meeting date to make appropriate arrangements.

With advance notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of persons with disabilities by providing a sign language interpreter or other auxiliary aids, by calling 422-6005.

School Board members may attend the above Committee meeting(s) for information gathering purposes. If a quorum of Board members should appear at any of the Committee meetings, a regular School Board meeting may take place for purposes of gathering information on an item listed on one of the Committee agendas. If such a meeting should occur, the date, time, and location of the Board meeting will be that of the particular Committee as listed on the Committee agenda.



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BACKGROUND

Anne Lee, Chairman
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TIME: Immediately following the Business Services Committee meeting, but not before 6:30 p.m.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment
- III. Curriculum Development
 - A. Able Learner Program Report

Rod Henke, Able Learner Coordinator; Sharon Toellner, Director of Instruction; and several members of the Able Learner staff will be present to discuss future program recommendations for the WRPS Able Learner program.

The current 1.95 FTE's assigned to the District's Able Learner Program are being funded through the IDEA maintenance of effort opportunity for the 2009-10 school year. In addition to the 1.95 FTE teaching positions, several administrators also serve as Able Learner facilitators as an administrative assignment.

Discussion occurred during the building of last year's budget of a potential 1.0 FTE District coordinator for the program. The Able Learner staff has been working with Mr. Henke since the beginning of the school year to study the services currently being offered and determine recommendations as to how the program could be delivered if the District had a 1.0 Able Learner position.

The following questions have been considered by the group:

- What are the "essential" priorities for the elementary Able Learner program?
- What are the "essential" priorities for the secondary Able Learner program?
- How can the needs of the program be met in a different structure?

Attachment A provides a listing of the "5 Essentials for an Able Learner Program" as identified by Able Learner staff, as well as a proposed recommendation for a 1.0 FTE Able Learner Coordinator.

This information is being presented to the Educational Services Committee so that it can be utilized as part of the upcoming District budget process.

B. Virtual Learning Committee Report

Sharon Toellner, Director of Instruction; Bryon Kolbeck, Director of Technology; and Terry Whitmore, Principal of Vesper Community Academy and Rudolph Elementary School, along with members of the Virtual Learning Committee will be present to provide a report on the work of the group. The Committee has been meeting since the beginning of the school year. Information on the formation of the Committee was presented at the September 2009 Educational Services Committee meeting.

Committee members have written a definition of virtual learning for WRPS, along with a mission statement for the Virtual Learning Committee:

Definition: Virtual Learning is a method of formal education, based on state standards, that uses the Internet and non-traditional/traditional support systems for delivery of course content and class interaction.

Mission Statement: WRPS virtual learning options exist to:

- a. Offer a continuation path for students currently enrolled in virtual learning;
- b. Meet 21st Century learning skills to provide the diversified needs to today's learner;
- c. Prepare students for post-secondary learning experiences;
- d. Offer options for students whose needs are not currently being met;
- e. Give WRPS the opportunity to recruit and retain students by providing high-quality offerings through a different teaching/learning model.

Committee members will share national, state and local trends related to virtual learning. In addition, short- and long-term options for programming within WRPS will be explained.

A recommendation for virtual learning programming options will be presented to the Educational Services Committee in February.

C. Career and Technical Education Acquisition Recommendation

Eric Siler, Career and Technical Education (CTE) Coordinator, CTE Committee Chairperson and Lincoln High School Marketing/Business Instructor, along with members of the CTE staff, will be present to explain recommendations to complete the CTE Acquisition.

All six curriculum areas in the CTE Department (Agriculture Education, Business Education, Family and Consumer Science, Health Services Education, Marketing Education and Technology and Engineering Education) have been in the process of aligning classes and curriculum to the National and State Career Clusters and Pathway initiative. As a result of this process, acquisition recommendations have been aligned to upgrading programs to high-wage or high-skill or high-demand Career Pathways.

1. Business Education

Finance Cluster - Accounting and Business Finance Pathways

Information Technology Cluster – Web and Digital Communications Pathway

Purchase of computer application and information processing textbooks and software, along with new accounting textbooks and software will align the Business Department with the above clusters and pathways.

2. Family and Consumer Science Education

Hospitality and Tourism Cluster – Restaurant and Food/Beverage Services Pathway

Human Services Cluster - Early Childhood Development and Services Pathway

Purchase of new Food and Nutrition textbooks, and Young Child textbooks and software will help upgrade our programs to keep them current with our Transcribed Credit and Advanced Standing Credit agreement with Mid-State Technical College.

3. Health Services

Health Science Cluster – Therapeutic Services Pathway

Medical Terminology textbooks, workbooks and software are needed to provide the rigor of a transcribed credit class.

4. Technology and Engineering Education

Manufacturing Cluster – Maintenance, Installation and Repair Pathway

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Cluster – Engineering & Technology Pathway

Transportation, Distribution and Logistics Cluster – Facility and Mobile Equipment Maintenance Pathway

Manufacturing labs need updates to CNC hardware and software, one new metal lathe, electronic hand tools, and two new welders to update our labs for safety reasons and to continue the process of a replacement cycle.

New Robot Kits are needed in our Project Lead the Way program to update the electronics curriculum. At the junior highs, the Project Lead the Way curriculum and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) initiative will be integrated into course offerings for the seventh, eighth and ninth graders.

Updates are needed in our Automotive lab to fulfill the requirement of being a NATEF (National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation) certified school.

The cost breakdown of the items being requested is as follows:

Equipment	\$52,688
Software/Multi-media	\$20,148
Textbooks	\$18,740

The administration recommends approval of the Career and Technical Education acquisition requests not to exceed \$91,576 to be funded from the regular curriculum acquisition budget.

D. Grades 3 and 6 Exit Survey Recommendation

JL Gray, Principal of Washington Elementary; LeeAnn Schmidmayr, Principal of Grove Elementary; and Sharon Toellner, Director of Instruction, will be present to discuss a recommendation for the administration of the grades 3 and 6 exit surveys.

A grades 3 and 6 exit survey was administered at the end of the 2008-09 school year to meet a Board of Education goal for that year. Results of the surveys were presented to the Educational Services Committee at the November 2009 meeting. From a District perspective, responses to the surveys indicated that parent perceptions of the elementary schools are very positive.

At the November meeting, discussion took place regarding the continuation of administration of the survey on an annual basis. Educational Services Committee members suggested that Ms. Toellner meet with the elementary administrator group to develop recommendations for administration of the survey.

The elementary principals have provided input, and have developed the following options:

- 1) Administer the survey to 6th grade parents on an annual basis as an exit survey for the elementary experience;
- 2) Administer the survey to 3rd and 6th grade parents on an annual basis;
- 3) Administer to 3rd and 6th grade parents every three years (the same group of parents would respond at the end of third and sixth grades).

The elementary principals also recommended that an on-line version of the survey be administered. A suggestion was also made that parents could take the survey when they attend the spring portfolio conference/parent involvement evening.

Educational Services Committee members will be asked to provide direction regarding the various options that have been generated by the elementary principals.

IV. Consent Agenda Items

Committee members will be asked to decide which items should be placed on the consent agenda for the regular Board of Education meeting.

V. Future Agenda Items/Information Requests

Agenda items are determined by 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:

- Social Studies Curriculum and Acquisition Report (February)
- Response to Intervention Report (February)
- Wisconsin Partnership for Childhood Fitness Project (February)
- Virtual Learning Recommendation (February)