



*MINUTES*

Sandra Hett, Chair  
Larry Davis  
Troy Bier  
John Krings, President

February 6, 2023

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

Time: Immediately following the Educational Services Committee meeting, but not before 6:15 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Sandra Hett, Troy Bier and Larry Davis

Others Present: Brian Oswall, Craig Broeren, Ed Allison and Steve Hepp

I. Call to Order

Sandra Hett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Actionable Items

A. Appointments

**PS – 1 Motion by Larry Davis, seconded by Troy Bier to approve the following support staff appointments:**

Dawn Koch	Location:	Grove Elementary
	Position:	Noon Duty Aide
Jodi Miner	Location:	Howe Elementary
	Position:	Noon Duty Aide
Kristin Weidman	Location:	WRAMS
	Position:	Special Education Aide

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**PS – 2 Motion by Troy Bier, seconded by Larry Davis to approve the following non-represented support staff appointment:**

Ashley Larsen	Location:	District Office
	Position:	Payroll Specialist

**Motion carried unanimously.**

B. Resignations

**PS – 3 Motion by Larry Davis, seconded by Troy Bier to approve the following support staff resignations:**

Jessica Amell	Location:	WRAMS
	Position:	Special Education Aide

Lori Hogue	Location:	THINK
	Position:	Instructional Aide/Noon Duty Aide
Mandi Chariton	Location:	Grove Elementary
	Position:	Noon Duty Aide
Chani Pechinski	Location:	District
	Position:	Custodian
Casie Oleson	Location:	Lincoln High School
	Position:	Food Service Helper

**Motion carried unanimously.**

C. Retirements

**PS – 4 Motion by Troy Bier, seconded by Larry Davis to approve the following professional staff retirement:**

Karen Medo	Location:	Woodside Elementary
	Position:	Teacher

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**PS – 5 Motion by Troy Bier, seconded by Larry Davis to approve the following support staff retirement:**

Doris Laskowski	Location:	Lincoln High School
	Position:	First Cook

**Motion carried unanimously.**

D. Building & Grounds Positions

Ed Allison, Director of Buildings and Grounds, shared with the Committee that due to new construction additional custodial positions at LHS and THINK are needed. The District is able to shift approximately 4.0 FTE from the District's General Fund 10 to Fund 80 and Fund 50 due to community use of the District facilities. Approximately 2.0 FTE will move to Fund 80 and approximately 2.0 FTE will move to Fund 50.

**PS – 6 Motion by Troy Bier, seconded by Larry Davis to approve the addition of an 8 hour, year-round, custodial position at Lincoln High School and a 4 hour, year-round, cleaner position at THINK Academy.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

E. IEP Assessment Specialist

Steve Hepp, Director of Pupil Services, shared with the Committee that due to high caseloads and difficulty finding coverage for classrooms there is a need for additional support with IEP assessments. The IEP Assessment Specialist will work with appropriate staff to complete initial and reevaluations in a timely manner.

**PS – 7 Motion by Larry Davis, seconded by Troy Bier to approve an IEP Assessment Specialist position at the rate of \$25.00 per hour.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

F. Nurse Grant

Steve Hepp, Director of Pupil Services, shared with the Committee that in the Spring of 2021 as part of the American Rescue Plan, state public health departments received money from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to “expand, train, and sustain a response-ready public health workforce.” The CDC stated that it “expected at least 25% of the money would support school based health programs including school nurses or other school-based health services personnel.” The Department of Health Services (DHS) School Health Workforce Development Grant is intended to provide funds for “hiring school-based nurses, converting current nurses from part-time to full-time work, increasing hours, increasing nursing salaries or otherwise supporting retention efforts.”

Every school district was eligible to receive funds as long as they opted in. The amount each school district received was based on social vulnerabilities, current school nurse FTEs, number of students, number of students with disabilities, geographic location (USDA rural rating), among other factors. There are two primary “strategies” for the money. Strategy 1 is for recruitment and retention of school health staff to include school nurses, aides, and other school health support staff. Strategy 2 is for wellness, training, and memberships. The allocation amount for WRPS is \$36,827.41.

WRPS employs five school nurses (4.6 FTEs) and seven staff members who serve as health aides. The plan for spending these funds is located on Attachment A of the February 6, 2023 PSC Agenda. The amount is an approximate cost and could change based on need. The funds can only be used for expenses between July 1, 2022 - May 31, 2023 and does not carry over.

**PS – 8 Motion by Troy Bier, seconded by Larry Davis to approve the Department of Health Services (DHS) School Health Workforce Development Grant and approval of the expenditures from the Department of Health Services (DHS) School Health Workforce Development Grant.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

IV. Updates and Reports

A. Status of District Substitutes

Brian Oswald, Director of Human Resources, discussed the status of District substitutes. Specifically, he shared that fill rates include vacancies that are filled internally and the number of absences are only counted if a substitute is needed. Mr. Oswald also pointed out that although the number of subs has decreased again, the amount of openings needing a sub has dropped when compared to last year.

V. Consent Agenda

Motions: PS – 1 Support Staff Appointments  
PS – 2 Non-represented Support Staff Appointment  
PS – 3 Support Staff Resignations  
PS – 4 Professional Staff Retirement  
PS – 5 Support Staff Retirement  
PS – 6 Building & Grounds Positions  
PS – 7 IEP Assessment Specialist  
PS – 8 Nurse Grant

VI. Adjournment

Ms. Hett adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.