



**WISCONSIN RAPIDS  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES**

John A. Krings, President  
John Benbow, Jr.  
Troy Bier  
Larry Davis  
Julie Des Jarlais  
Sandra K. Hett  
Katie Medina

June 13, 2022

**REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

LOCATION: East Jr. High School, 311 Lincoln Street, Wisc. Rapids, WI 54494  
Cafeteria

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

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

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Ed Allison, Phil Bickelhaupt, Craig Broeren, Roxanne Filtz, Steve Hepp, Aaron Nelson, Brian Oswald

President John Krings called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Public Comment

Anita Jacisin – spoke on the topic of social emotional learning curriculum, stating she has researched it and believes it is simply critical race theory dressed up in prettier words. In comparing School Report Cards, one that stands out to her is the Kewaskum School District which has scores in the upper 70's which she stated is stellar compared to some others. She believes this is due to the district not introducing social emotional curriculum into their schools or telling students what to think; they are instead concentrating on students learning math, reading, science, and history. She believes adopting social emotional curriculum lowers the bar in terms of student expectations, rather than raising it.

Special Recognition

President John Krings presented special recognition on behalf of the Board to: Dustin Anderson, Art Teacher at Grant Elementary, Grove Elementary, and Central Oaks Academy for receiving the Kohl Fellowship Award and being honored as the Wisconsin Teacher of the Year; Kelly Look, Grade 1 Teacher at Washington Elementary for receiving the Kohl Fellowship Award; and Jeremy Radtke, Agriculture Teacher at Lincoln High School for receiving the Heart of Wisconsin Golden Leaf Award.

Approval of Minutes

**Motion by Troy Bier, seconded by John Benbow to approve regular Board of Education meeting minutes of May 9, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.**

Committee Reports

A. Educational Services Committee – June 6, 2022. Report given by Katie Medina.

Ms. Medina reviewed the following consent agenda items brought before the Board through the Educational Services Committee, and asked if there were any motions to be held:

- ES-1 Approval of the adoption of the proposed K-5 Health Curriculum maps as presented in Attachment A, beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.
- ES-2 Approval of the proposed elementary physical education acquisition outlined in Attachment B in the amount of \$104,267.07 to be funded through the WRPS Referendum Curriculum budget.
- ES-3 Approval of the purchase of National Geographic Learning's Reach Higher, both digital and print resources, for grades kindergarten through 5th grade at a total cost of \$15,412.65 to be paid through the Referendum Curriculum budget for implementation beginning with the 2022-2023 school year.

- ES-4 Approval of the purchase of the Reading Mastery Signature Edition for grades kindergarten through 5th grade for a total cost of \$123,640.77 to be paid from IDEA Flow Through dollars for implementation beginning with the 2022-2023 school year.
- ES-5 Approval of the purchase of the Move This World Social and Emotional Learning Framework Resource for grades K-5 for a total cost of \$73,120.00 for three years to be paid with a combination of funds from CCEIS, BMW Grant and the Get Kids Ahead Grant and for implementation beginning with the 2022-2023 school year.
- ES-6 Approval of the contract with Renaissance Learning for the 2022-2023 school year in the amount of \$47,553.02, to be paid for with the ESSER III Formula Grant.
- ES-7 Approval of the application for the Carl Perkins Grant for the 2022-2023 school year in the amount of \$52,587.00.
- ES-8 Approval of the Department of Workforce Development Grant Technical Incentive Grant funds for approximately \$62,400.00.

**Motion by Katie Medina, seconded by Troy Bier to approve consent agenda items ES 1-8. Motion carried on a roll call vote of 6-1. Julie Des Jarlais voted no.**

Ms. Medina provided updates and reports on:

- Ms. Julie Kolarik, Principal of Woodside Elementary, updated the Committee on a project being developed to build an even stronger, inclusive community through the construction of an Outdoor Play, Learning, and Activity Center (OPLAC) on the outdoor campus of Woodside. The goal is to provide as much opportunity as possible to expand on student growth in areas of social, emotional, and academic skills. The estimated cost for the project is \$1.1 million and Ms. Kolarik is exploring grant opportunities for funding through local groups including the Legacy Foundation, Noon Rotarians, and other potential community partners. If built, the OPLAC would also benefit the community as it would be open for use after school hours, on weekends, and throughout the summer months.
- Ms. Roxanne Filtz, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, introduced Principal Tracy Ginter and other relevant staff members from the Wisconsin Rapids Area Middle School (WRAMS) to provide an update to the Committee on plans that staff have been working on for implementation at the beginning of the 2022-23 school year. Recognizing a need to strengthen connections and relationships between students, as well as between students and staff; enhance family engagement, and better meet students' behavioral needs, a number of initiatives are planned which include: 1) implementation of Rams Pride Time (RPT), 2) implementation of WRAMS Remediation, Enrichment, Social Activities, Engagement, Teacher Collaboration (RESET), 3) staff team time planning on dedicated calendar days, 4) family engagement planning, 4) behavior and academic support with a focus on developing "The Bridge" program to provide an alternative setting within the school for students with significant behavioral issues.
- The Committee was provided an update from Ronald Rasmussen, Principal of Lincoln High School, on the online ticket sale approach the high school is using for athletic events.
- Ms. Filtz reported on costs associated with the Educator Effectiveness Evaluation System and the importance of receiving the Educator Effectiveness Grant to pay for system development, training, software, support, resources, and ongoing refinement. The District received \$32,080.00 in grant dollars for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.
- The Committee received an update on a planned LHS Orchestra trip for July 6, 2022 which got cancelled; and an upcoming 13-day trip to Berlin, Prague and the Alps that is being coordinated by Art Instructor Jeanine Kleman of Lincoln High School which is anticipated to occur during the summer of 2024.

**Motion by Katie Medina, seconded by John Benbow to approve the balance of the Educational Services Committee report and minutes of the June 6, 2022 Educational Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

B. Business Services Committee – June 6, 2022. Report given by John Benbow.

Mr. Benbow reviewed the following consent agenda items brought before the Board through the Business Services Committee, and asked if there were any motions to be held:

- BS-1 Approval to increase the WoodTrust Lincoln High School credit card limit from \$4,000.00 to \$10,000.00.

- BS-2 Approval to enter into a 3-year contract with Gaggle to purchase the Gaggle Safety Management Suite and Google Drive archiving for staff at an annual cost of \$27,475.00 to be funded from the annual Technology Support Budget.
- BS-3 Approval to enter into a 3-year contract with Instructure to provide the Canvas LMS and Canvas Studio for a total cost of \$97,620.00 to be funded with the ESSER III budget.
- BS-4 Approval to enter into a 3-year contract with Blocks! to purchase Blocks! Manager - Education at an annual cost of \$22,500.00 to be funded with the annual Technology Support Budget.
- BS-5 Approval of the purchase of 120 Audio Enhancements Sentinel Classroom Sound Systems from Bluum for a total cost of \$140,500.00 to be funded from the 2022-23 Technology Referendum Budget.
- BS-6 Approval of the purchase of 200 BenQ 24” monitors from SHI for a total cost of \$35,998.00 to be funded from the 2022-23 Technology Referendum Budget.

**Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Katie Medina to approve consent agenda items BS 1-6. Motion carried on a roll call vote of 6-0. Troy Bier abstained.**

Mr. Benbow provided updates and reports on:

- Various invoices, bid specs, and purchase orders

**Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Katie Medina to approve the balance of the Business Services Committee report and minutes of the June 6, 2022 Business Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

C. Personnel Services Committee – June 6, 2022. Report given by Sandra Hett.

Ms. Hett reviewed the following consent agenda items brought before the Board through the Personnel Services Committee, and asked if there were any motions to be held:

- PS-1 Approval of the professional staff appointments for the 2022-23 school year of Travis Kleinschmidt (Teacher – WRAMS), Gabrielle Scheunemann (Teacher – Grant), Alison Krostag (Teacher – Mead), Sarah Olson (Teacher – Howe), Tony Xiong (Teacher – District), Heidi Goodreau (School Counselor – Howe), Brittney Flugaur (Teacher – Howe), Maryssa Guenther (Teacher – WRAMS), Garrett Hopkins (Teacher – WRAMS), Hannah Crosby (Teacher – Grant), Annette Svoboda-Lessard (Teacher – District), Michelle Chojancki (Teacher – Woodside), Cort Halbur (Teacher – Mead).
- PS-2 Approval of the support staff appointments of Grace Ford (Library Aide – Washington), Rachel Teeselink (Library Aide – District), Rebekah Krug (Manager Production Kitchen – Grant), Marissa Ashenberg (Secretary – Washington).
- PS-3 Approval of the non-represented support staff appointment of Justin Abraham (IT Support Specialist – District).
- PS-4 Approval of the youth apprenticeship support staff appointments of Paetynn Fink (Copy Assistant – District), Ben Klingforth (Technology Department/LHS Chromebook Repair Tech – District), Chase Jensen (Technology Department/Student Webmaster – District).
- PS-5 Approval of the 2022 summer professional staff appointments of Pete Larsen, Jacob Bertagnoli, Hope Lory, Emily Randrup, Jacob Hintz, Emmaline Friedenfels, Melanie Kozlowski, Miranda Moody, Jeanne Olson, Ginger Martin, Julie Stoffel, Tony Biolo, Dan Witter, Mitch Wolding, Val Tonn, Lori Harmsen, Elizabeth Rogus, Kylee Krzykowski, Sarah Gildenzoph, Katherine Saylor, Kalie Forcier, Chang Thao, Dawn Krommenakker, Isabelle Gemza, Josh Dorshorst, Shelley Moon, Yia Xiong, Cara Johnson, Greg Matthews, KaZoua Thao, Danielle Heuer, Teri Thomas, Stefanie Tryba, Janet Alekna, Angela Peters, William Hamilton, Jenifer Barcenias, Jerene Sillars, Kao Vue, Kendar Jaenke, Melissa Miller, Andrew Miller, Lisa Butzen, Randy Duxbury, Tom Nolan, Danica Reichert, Scott Sigourney, Kasey Kautzer, Jeremy Radtke, Samantha Radtke, Megan Thayer, Amy Heitzman, Abby Kreisa, Paige Jackan, Jacob Miller, Matthew Brown, Chauncey Jones, Kylie Barnes, Megan Hand, Megan Onesti, Dale Dahl, Martha Olivarez, Rebecca Steckbauer, Holly Spurlin, Brittany Handrich, and Trina Watson.
- PS-6 Approval of the 2022 summer support staff appointments of Harrison Lambert, Chani Pulchinski, Eric Huglen, Emma Mischnick, Haley Casper, August Bambenek, Ben Klingforth, Ben Balko, Jacklyn Greening, Virginia Hafermann, Tami Drew-Huiras, Carol Koeshall, Michelle Zuege, Angela Wirth, Nicole Crowley, Patricia Halbur, Holly McMiller, Hannah Bialas, Joanne Dachel, Keegan Crowley, Lita Rosenow, Dixie Torke, Samantha Lom, Andrew Cook, Layla London, Zoe Wirtz, Vicki Shafranski, Tracy Weiss, Mabelle Anderson,

Carole Pfahning, Marissa Ashenberg, Olivia Oleson, Sophie Hasenohrl, Macey Back, Tia Thao, Jillian Alekna, America Arts, Anna Bouchard, Carl DeLuca, Ava Etheridge, Kiralyn Felts, Ellie Heiman, Marlene Holtz, Sarah Korte, Madeline Krzykowski, Nicholas Millner, Greta Plummer, Anna Price, Kayelyn Schulze, Elliott Schultz, Tyler Schultz, Aliyah Tafoya, Maggie Weiland, Logan Maciejewski, Madyson Lehmann, Wyatt Schmitt, Lorainne Kissinger, Liliana Perez, Kayleigh Pieski, Marcie Feidt, Lilly Kropidowski, Lexi Heinrich, Colin Coates, Keelie Glodoski, Elizabeth Weiland, Fiona Gaugert, Morgan Benedict, Laynee Steinhafel, and Destinee Steinhafel.

- PS-7 Approval of the professional staff resignations of Taylor Faivre (Teacher – Howe), Bryan Radlinger (Teacher – WRAMS), Brittany Osborne (Teacher – WRAMS), Andrea Jazdzewski (Teacher – WRAMS), Maureen Rust (Teacher – Howe), Leah Boon (School Counselor – Howe), Natalie Raymond (Teacher – WRAMS), Patrick Spray (Teacher – Lincoln), Mackenzie Rechner (Teacher – Grove/Woodside), and Mackenzie Wockenfus (Occupational Therapy – District).
- PS-8 Approval of the summer school professional staff resignation of Stefanie Tryba.
- PS-9 Approval of the support staff resignations of Pamela Walker (Cashier – Mead), Elly Wettstein (Noon Duty Aide – Woodside), Meg Ratelle (Library Aide – Woodside), Malissa Rosenthal (Health Aide – Mead), Heidi Goodreau (Behavior Interventionist Aide – Howe), Alyssa Johnson (Special Ed Aide – Grove), Rhonda Bentz (Noon Duty Aide – Grant), Jessica Linzmeier (Noon Duty Aide – Grant), Layla London (Noon Duty Aide – Woodside), Alexandro Meza (Noon Duty Aide – Woodside), Vicki Esselman (Cashier/Noon Duty Aide – Grove), Laura Lokken (Special Ed Aide – WRAMS), Breanna Kelly (Study Hall Aide – Lincoln), and Kirk Schladweiler (Custodian – Howe).
- PS-10 Approval of the support staff retirement of Ann Arendt (Receptionist/Transportation – District).
- PS-11 Approval of adding a .40 FTE school psychologist position for the 2022-23 school year.
- PS-12 Approval of adding a .17 FTE ELL professional staff position.
- PS-13 Approval of adding an increase for the Howe Elementary behavioral interventionist position from 3.0 hours a day to 5.75 hours a day.
- PS-14 Approval of adding a security aide position at WRAMS starting in the 2022-23 school year.
- PS-15 Approval of adding up to 10 extended days for the District SEL coordinator position to support buildings, provide training prior to the beginning of the school year, and to analyze data at the end of the 2022-23 school year.
- PS-16 Approval of hiring an additional full-time speech and language pathologist.
- PS-17 Approval of hiring an additional full-time occupational therapist for a total of 4.5 occupational therapist FTE.
- PS-18 Approval of increasing the number of certified occupational therapy assistants to three if the occupational therapist staff FTE is 2.5 or less and increasing the number of certified occupational therapy assistants to two if the occupational therapist staff FTE is 3.5.

**Motion by Sandra Hett, seconded by Larry Davis to approve consent agenda items PS 1-18. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion by Sandra Hett, seconded by Troy Bier to approve the balance of the Personnel Services Committee report and minutes of the regular June 6, 2022 Personnel Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### Agenda Referrals/Information Requests

Ms. Hett inquired about the status of volunteers in schools given the change in status with the COVID-19 pandemic. Superintendent Broeren explained that volunteer opportunities have been opened back up with activity getting back to pre-pandemic levels.

#### Legislative Agenda

Troy Bier shared the following information:

- The Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB) has updated their *Resolutions Adopted by Delegate Assemblies* book containing the collected policy positions adopted by WASB Delegate Assemblies over many years, and the information is posted online on the WASB website.

### Bills

**Motion by Troy Bier, seconded by John Benbow to note May, 2022 receipts in the amount of \$2,325,482.35 and approve May, 2022 disbursements in the amount of \$6,740,605.03. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.**

### New Business

#### Employee Appointments, Resignations, and Retirement Requests

Brian Oswall, Director of Human Resources presented the following employment recommendations:

	<u>Location</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary/Rate</u>
<u>Professional Staff Appointments</u>				
Sarah Knuth	Grant	Teacher (1.0 FTE)	August 25, 2022	\$44,000/year
Emily Heil	Washington	Teacher (1.0 FTE)	August 25, 2022	\$41,500/year
Jodi Bodenheimer	WRAMS	Teacher (1.0 FTE)	August 25, 2022	\$54,500/year
<u>Summer School Professional Staff Appointment</u>				
Leslie Anderson	District	Site Coordinator	July 11, 2022	\$1,500.00
	<u>Location</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Date of Hire</u>
<u>Support Staff Resignation</u>				
Anne Sager	Lincoln	Food Service Helper	June 7, 2022	March 3, 2021

**Motion by Troy Bier, seconded by Katie Medina to approve of the professional staff appointments of Sarah Knuth, Emily Heil, and Jodi Bodenheimer as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion by Troy Bier, seconded by Katie Medina to approve of the summer school professional staff appointment of Leslie Anderson as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion by Troy Bier, seconded by Katie Medina to approve of the support staff resignation of Anne Sager effective June 7, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### Wisconsin Rapids Education Association (WREA) Tentative Agreement for 2022-23

Superintendent Broeren presented a tentative agreement reached with the Wisconsin Rapids Education Association (WREA) for the 2022-23 contract year after bargaining commenced in May, 2022. The agreement includes a 4.7% increase to total base wages distributed in an equalized fashion which equates to \$2,287.00 per employee and pro-rated on the employee's Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) employment status. Overall cost to the District for the settlement is \$804,920.00. The WREA bargaining unit ratified the agreement, and expressed appreciation for the pay raise.

**Motion by Troy Bier, seconded by Larry Davis to approve of the tentative agreement reached with the Wisconsin Rapids Education Association bargaining unit. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### Preliminary 2022-23 District Budget to be Published

Superintendent Broeren presented the preliminary 2022-23 District budget proposed to be published. The anticipated overall impact in the tax levy from 2021-22 to 2022-23 is 0%. The budget will be discussed and adopted at an upcoming meeting scheduled for June 29, 2022 with any final modifications that might be needed taken up once the September, 2022 pupil count is complete and the state certifies aid in October, 2022.

**Motion by Larry Davis, seconded by Troy Bier to approve of the preliminary 2022-23 District budget to be published. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### Potential Modifications in District Transportation Services

Aaron Nelson, Director of Business Services, explained that the administration has been reviewing bus transportation routes for potential gains in efficiency and potentially modifying the current 2.0 mile eligibility requirement for bus riders to reduce it to .5 mile distance from home to school. The District currently has 37 secondary regular education bus routes, and 29 elementary routes. At a cost of \$239 per route per day for the first route, and \$35 per day for the second route, the additional eight routes being ran is very expensive. An analysis is being conducted of the routes through the

District’s transportation consultant, and early indicators are pointing to the fact that route efficiencies can be realized as the ridership on routes is well under capacity. Routes are typically running with approximately 24-28 riders on a 71 person capacity bus. Lamers Bus and Safe-Way Bus have been involved in the conversations and to assist with analyzing the information based upon what is in the best interest of the District to gain efficiencies. Working with the Lynx transportation software, ridership data can be processed through a route optimizer to provide predictions for efficiencies. Currently, the software is indicating that 29 secondary routes can be run, which is a reduction of 8 routes at that level. There are nuances the software is unable to detect, and the information concerning routing continues to be closely reviewed and processed. A recommendation for any changes in transportation will be brought to the Board once it has been finalized. Changes may impact Board transportation policies and the impending bus contractor negotiations anticipated to occur in the future. In surveying parents, an additional 231 students were identified by families residing under 2 miles who expressed an interest in having their student ride the bus.

Board members had an opportunity to discuss the topic, providing commentary around concerns that any changes might have on the District budget either immediately and/or long-term, continued inflationary costs, the fact that caution should be used with careful scrutiny around the long-term budgetary impact since once the change is made it will be difficult to go back to the 2.0 mile eligibility stipulation currently in place, the fact that half-empty buses cruise past students now who normally walk to school under the 2.0 mile rule, the differences between those signed up to ride versus those who actually ride and how that impacts routing, how less routes might ease some of the congestion around buildings at drop-off and pick-up times, and the advantages of opening up additional transportation options which may remove transportation barriers for students and reduce truancy.

Superintendent Broeren explained that the conversations around transportation modifications began when vans were being considered for use at the elementary level due to truancy concerns. As a result, the focus of transportation routing changes is more concentrated at the elementary level to meet the identified concerns and needs. The administration will bring the topic back for additional discussion when all data has been reviewed and a recommendation has been finalized.

Calendar

Calendar items were reviewed. By consensus, the Board agreed that due to the Independence Day holiday date in 2023 falling on a Tuesday, the July, 2023 Board committee meetings will be moved to July 10, 2023 and the regular Board meeting will move to July 17, 2023.

President Krings adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

  
John A. Krings – President

Maurine Hodgson – Secretary

Larry Davis – Clerk