



**WISCONSIN RAPIDS
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

John A. Krings, President
John Benbow, Jr.
Troy Bier
Larry Davis
Katie Medina
Kathi Stebbins-Hintz
Julie Timm

September 11, 2023

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

LOCATION: District Board Office, 510 Peach Street, Wisc. Rapids, WI 54494
Conf Rm A/B

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: John Benbow, John Krings, Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Julie Timm

BOARD MEMBER EXCUSED: Troy Bier, Larry Davis, Katie Medina

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

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Public Comment

None.

School Showcase – THINK Academy

THINK Academy Principal Christine Slattery was joined by a number of THINK staff members to present on ways in which the school is “Growing Success” in students and empowering learners for their future. Through the analysis of data, parental input, and the implementation of various interventions to help students make progress, staff members continue to help students succeed both academically and socially/emotionally. An interactive exercise occurred with the Board and audience. Board members thanked Ms. Slattery and her staff for their informative and engaging presentation.

Student Representative Report

Sarah Panzer shared that the school year is off to a good start, and a number of groups and clubs are showcasing their activities during lunch hour at Lincoln High School on September 14th to help inform and encourage student involvement. Fall sports are in full swing and students are getting excited for homecoming activities happening September 24-30.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Kathi Stebbins-Hintz to approve of regular Board of Education meeting minutes of August 14, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports

A. Educational Services Committee – September 5, 2023. Report given by John Krings.

Mr. Krings 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 candidate chosen as the parent representative, Josette Lang, to serve on the CII for the 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years.

ES-2 Approval of the proposed calendars for the 2025-26, 2026-27, and 2027-28 school years.

Motion by John Krings, seconded by Julie Timm to approve consent agenda items ES 1-2. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports (continued)

Mr. Krings provided updates and reports on:

- Title funding provided through the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). For 2023-24, the District will receive \$1,367,678.00 in Title I, \$189,168.00 for Title II, and \$84,871.00 for Title IV. These amounts do not include any carryover dollars from unspent 2022-23 Title funding which is still being determined. The total of \$1,641,717.00 in ESSA grant funds designated for 2023-2024 is an increase of \$208,616.00 from the 2022-2023 school year, and the four School Wide Title buildings being served include Grove, Howe, Mead and River Cities High School.
- The Committee was provided an overview of the Multi-Level Systems of Support (MLSS) Handbook being developed which is centered around the belief that all students can learn and achieve. The MLSS framework outlines a process to achieve higher levels of academic, social, emotional and behavioral success for all students.

Using a team approach and through the strategic use of student data, educators will best identify students' needs and work together to implement tiered interventions that will help students achieve in all areas. The MLSS process is intended to equip teachers with the tools they need to help students be successful in the classroom setting. Ms. Filtz reviewed the continuum of the leveled system of supports from Tier 1 to Tier 3 and explained that in a sustainable system, at least 80% of learners have their needs met through Tier 1 support, 5-15% of learners across Tier 2 access this level of support in addition to the universal level, and only 1-5% of learners should require access to Tier 3 levels of support. Differences between academic versus behavioral interventions were explained.

The MLSS framework has been introduced to the administrative team and will continue to be emphasized and worked into building level teams and processes throughout the upcoming year.

Motion by John Krings, seconded by Kathi Stebbins-Hintz to approve the balance of the Educational Services Committee report and minutes of the September 5, 2023 Educational Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Business Services Committee – September 5, 2023. Report given by John Benbow.

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

BS-1 Approval of Board Policy 751 - Student Transportation with the recommended language changes discussed.

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Julie Timm to approve consent agenda item BS-1. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Mr. Benbow provided updates and reports on:

- Invoices, bid specs, and purchases made

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Kathi Stebbins-Hintz to approve the balance of the Business Services Committee report and minutes of the September 5, 2023 Business Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Personnel Services Committee – September 5, 2023. Report given by Kathi Stebbins-Hintz.

Ms. Stebbins-Hintz 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 of Holly McMiller (ELA Teacher – WRAMS), Chris Moore (Cross Categorical Teacher – WRAMS), Kimberly Kinsey (Science Teacher – WRAMS), and Jordan Bernette (Grade 3 Teacher – Washington).

PS-2 Approval of the support staff appointments of Kerrie Wolosek (Activities Clerk – Lincoln), Becca Austin (Administrative Assistant to Athletic Director), Paula Tesch (Receptionist – District), Brooke Matsch (Supervisory Aide – WRAMS), Lisa Gambo (Manager Kitchen Production – Howe), Dakota Curry (Special Ed Aide – WRAMS), Shannon Stanton (Supervisory Aide – WRAMS), Nicole Pfahning (Receiving/Delivery Administrative Assistant – District), Jodi Miner (Breakfast Cashier – Howe), Heidi Terzynski (Kitchen Helper – Lincoln), Lucille Millard (Special Ed Aide – WRAMS), Susan Lloyd (Special Ed Aide – Lincoln), Tina Yang

(Instructional Aide – WRAMS), Leanne Lindner (Special Ed Aide – Washington), Tracy Kilburg (Special Ed Aide – Mead), Donna Bohn Moma, (Special Ed Aide - Woodside), Taylor Olson (Noon Duty Aide - Washington), Jennifer Dehnert (Noon Duty Aide – Howe), Christiann Curley (Special Ed Aide – Howe), and Jenny Williams (Second Cook – Howe).

- PS-3 Approval of the professional staff resignation of Emily Heil (Grade 3 Teacher - Washington).
- PS-4 Approval of the support staff resignations of Yesenia Diaz (ELL Aide – WRAMS), Lauren Derfus (Special Ed Aide – Washington), Rachel Brown (Noon Duty Aide – Washington), Theresa Michalsen (Special Ed Aide – Woodside), Allison Eswein (Special Ed Aide – Woodside), Deborah Severson (Special Ed Aide – WRAMS), and Miranda Borchardt (Special Ed Aide – Pitsch).
- PS-5 Approval of the support staff retirement of Sara Halbur (Secretary – Lincoln).
- PS-6 Approval of the following Board policies for second reading: 352 – Field Trips, 352 Rule – Field Trip Planning Criteria, 354 – Travel and Exchange Programs, 539.2 – Exchange Teaching, 443 Student Conduct, 443 Rule – Code of Classroom Conduct, 443.9 – Cheating, 443.9 Rule 1 – Cheating Guidelines, 443.9 Rule 2 – Plagiarism Guidelines, and 310 – Instructional Goals and Objectives.
- PS-7 Approval of substitute teacher bonus pay as follows: \$300 bonus after 30 assignments, \$550 bonus after 50 assignments, \$900 bonus after 75 assignments, \$1,500 bonus after 100 assignments, and \$2,380 bonus after 140 assignments, \$3,300 bonus after 165 assignments and free lunch for substitute teachers on Mondays and Fridays.
- PS-8 Approval of the updated WRAMS Department Chair compensation model.

Motion by Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, seconded by John Krings to approve consent agenda items PS 1-8. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, seconded by Julie Timm to approve the balance of the Personnel Services Committee report and minutes of the regular September 5, 2023 Personnel Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Referrals/Information Requests

None.

Legislative Agenda

John Benbow and Superintendent Broeren shared the following information:

- Speaker Robin Vos announced the formation of four bipartisan task forces as follows: Task Force on Artificial Intelligence, Task Force on Childhood Obesity, Task Force on Truancy, and Task Force on Human Trafficking.
- GOP legislators are circulating a proposal to allow an earlier school start date prior to September 1st. The proposal would allow school districts to start school as early as the Monday prior to Labor Day.
- Senate Bill 395 has been introduced which would eliminate the statutory restrictions on the low revenue ceiling.
- Republican lawmakers unveiled a new tax cut plan with an estimated \$2.9 billion in cuts which Governor Evers is expected to veto.
- Act 89 in 2021 requires DPI to create a new online dashboard to provide public school district finances in a more user-friendly and transparent format for the public. An anonymous member of the JFC objected to the proposal after the “Wisconsin Coalition for Education Freedom” submitted negative feedback due to the inclusion of financial data related to private schools.
- Wisconsin Act 20 requires the DPI to form a Council on Early Literacy Curricula to recommend early literacy curricula and diagnostic assessments in reading to school districts, and to provide consultation on selecting the director of the Wisconsin Reading Center. The council will consist of nine members who must have “knowledge of, experience with science-based early literacy instruction” as defined by the act. All members of the council are anticipated to be selected by September 19, 2023. Superintendent Broeren mentioned that a District employee has submitted an application for consideration to become involved on the council.

Bills

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Julie Timm to note August, 2023 receipts in the amount of \$7,864,937.21 and approve August, 2023 disbursements in the amount of \$21,548,575.86. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

New Business

Employee Appointments, Resignations, and Retirement Requests

None.

Gifted and Talented Students Education Program Grant

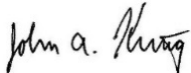
Superintendent Craig Broeren presented information on a grant proposal submitted by District K-12 Gifted and Talented Coordinator Kelly Bluell. The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) Gifted and Talented Students Education Program Grant in an amount of \$33,217.00 has been approved by the DPI and will be used for increased engagement and enrichment opportunities in the areas of Science, Technology and Engineering in all District elementary schools. More specifically, robots along with accessories and storage containers will be purchased for use in second grade with hopes for future growth and expansion to incorporate the use of robots in all grade levels K-5. The administration recommends approval of the 2023-24 Gifted and Talented Students Education Program Grant.

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Kathi Stebbins-Hintz to approve of the 2023-24 Gifted and Talented Students Education Program Grant in the amount of \$33,217.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Calendar

Calendar items were reviewed.

President Krings adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.



John A. Krings – President

Maurine Hodgson – Secretary

Larry Davis – Clerk