



**WISCONSIN RAPIDS  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES**

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

October 24, 2022

**SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

LOCATION: Thomas A. Lenk Educational Services Center, 510 Peach Street, Wisc. Rapids, WI 54494  
Conference Room A/B

TIME: 5:30 p.m.

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

BOARD MEMBER EXCUSED: John Benbow

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Craig Broeren, Aaron Nelson

President John Krings called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Aaron Nelson, Director of Business Services, provided an update on the 2022-23 District budget. Fund 39 has an additional levy included to pay down referendum debt.

Mr. Nelson reviewed the District’s 2022 equalized value tax apportionment provided by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue. Overall District valuation increased by \$351,901,331 or 13.3%, to a total of \$2,996,044,204.

The Department of Public Instruction provided final certified school district aid amounts on October 14, 2022. The final aid amount for the District increased by \$1,880,234 or 4.9%, to a total of \$40,596,819. The Revenue Limit Worksheet for 2022-23 was reviewed. This worksheet includes key pieces of data such as enrollment information, local property values, revenue limit per member, private school voucher and other information. The Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP) reduced state aid to the District by \$2,143,422 while the Special Needs Scholarship Program (SNSP) resulted in an aid deduction of \$434,275. The District third Friday pupil count membership report saw another dip in pupil enrollment for the 2022-23 school year which is mitigated to some degree with the declining enrollment exemption.

At its June 29, 2022 budget hearing, the Board approved an overall tax levy of \$24,097,740 which included allocations toward the following Funds: Fund 10 - \$17,793,235; Fund 38 - \$2,276,000; and Fund 39 - \$4,028,505.

With aid now certified, Mr. Nelson explained that the Fund 10 tax levy amount has decreased to \$16,476,620. Similar to the approach in the prior year, the administration recommends increasing Fund 39 to \$5,345,120 in order to pay down referendum debt early. The overall impact to the mill rate would be a \$1.07 reduction from \$9.11 in 2021-22 to \$8.04 in 2022-23.

The Board had an opportunity to ask questions concerning the recommended tax levy and revised Fund allocations. A question was raised around inflationary rates and the impact they will have on bond payments and the upcoming budget. Superintendent Broeren explained that interest rates on bond payments will not change since the notes issued are based upon a fixed rate. The administration is currently working through health insurance renewals which are projected to have an overall increase somewhere around 10%. Options are being explored to mitigate this increase, and more will be shared with the Board once a recommendation has been finalized. The current outlook in terms of the 2023-24 budget is dismal given rising inflation and unknowns tied to the State budget; there will most likely be a need for reductions. More conversation, information, and recommendations will occur on this topic in the coming months.

**Motion by Troy Bier, seconded by Larry Davis to approve of the 2022-23 District Tax Levy in the amount of \$24,097,740 with the reallocations in Fund 10 and Fund 39 as stipulated. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.**

Mr. Krings adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

John A. Krings – President

Maurine Hodgson – Secretary

Larry Davis – Clerk