



MINUTES

Wisconsin Rapids Board of Education  
**Educational Services Committee**

510 Peach Street · Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494 · (715) 424-6701

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

April 4, 2016

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

TIME: Immediately following the Business Services Committee and Personnel Services  
Committee meetings, but not before 6:15 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: John Benbow, Jr., Katie Bielski-Medina, Larry Davis, Sandra Hett,  
John Krings, Anne Lee and Mary Rayome

OTHERS PRESENT: Phil Bickelhaupt, Colleen Dickmann, Roxanne Filtz, Kathi Stebbins-Hintz

I. Call to Order

Anne Lee called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Actionable Items

A. THINK Academy

Roxanne Filtz, Principal of THINK Academy, reviewed the steps taken to reach a decision to dissolve THINK Academy. Beginning in December 2015, administration, THINK staff and the Governance Council met to discuss the possible dissolution and how the school would move forward. It was agreed that initiatives that had begun under the charter, such as an emphasis on brain based learning, could continue without the charter. A letter was sent to THINK families on April 1, 2016 explaining this decision. Ms. Filtz thanked the Board for their support of the Charter School.

**ES-1 Motion by Larry Davis, second by John Benbow, Jr., to approve the dissolution of the THINK Academy Charter.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

B. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Grant

Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, stated that Mead Elementary Charter School is applying for renewal of the DPI 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center grant for the 2016-17 school year. This grant funds the Before- and After-School Club Mead program.

**ES-2 Motion by Mary Rayome, second by John Krings, to approve the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center grant request for Mead Elementary Charter School in the amount of \$50,000.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

C. United Way of Inner Wisconsin Grant for Before- and After-School Club Mead

Ms. Stebbins-Hintz stated that Mead Elementary Charter School is applying to the United Way for a grant to fund the Before- and After-School Club Mead Program. This grant is similar to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center grant, and supports the Academic Partnership Coordinator position.

**ES-3 Motion by John Benbow, Jr., second by Larry Davis, to approve the United Way grant request for Mead Elementary Charter School in the amount of \$62,000.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

D. Financial Literacy Innovation Grant

The Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions (DFI), along with the Governor's Council on Financial Literacy has created a fund for the purpose of promoting innovation in the teaching of personal financial literacy (PFL) in the classroom. Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools (WRPS) completed a financial literacy curriculum, and in December 2009 this became a graduation requirement. The purpose in applying for this grant is to provide collaboration time and training for teachers to further develop the financial literacy curriculum and to plan for consistency in instruction. Funding will also be requested to help start a School Based Enterprise at Lincoln High School that will help students in real world business and financial situations.

**ES-4 Motion by Mary Rayome, second by John Krings, to approve the Financial Literacy Innovation Grant in the amount of \$10,000.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

IV. Updates

A. Professional Development and 7.5 Hours

Ms. Stebbins-Hintz indicated that collaboration is taking place among administration and teacher leaders about how best to provide professional development to maximize

teacher growth and student learning. The effectiveness of the professional development hours and the format of Professional Development Days are being considered. Discussions are taking place with the QEC, CII, Department Chairs and administrative team.

B. Academic Year Calendars

Colleen Dickmann, Superintendent, presented preliminary proposals of calendars for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years. She reviewed possible changes and proposals regarding professional development days, holidays and recordkeeping days.

V. Consent Agenda Items

- ES-1 THINK Academy Dissolution**
- ES-2 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Grant**
- ES-3 United Way of Inner Wisconsin Grant**
- ES-4 Financial Literacy Innovation Grant**

VI. Future Agenda Items/Information Requests

Agenda items are determined by the Committee Chair after consultation with appropriate administration depending upon other agenda items, presentation information, and agenda availability.

- Co-curricular Code of Conduct (May)
- Elementary English/Language Arts Curriculum & Acquisition (May)
- District Professional Development Plan (May)
- Agenda Planners (May)
- Academic and Career Planning Pilot (June)
- AGR (Sage) Report (July)

Anne Lee adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.