



## MINUTES

Wisconsin Rapids Board of Education  
**Educational Services Committee**  
510 Peach Street · Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494 · (715) 424-6701

Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Chairperson  
John Benbow, Jr.  
Troy Bier  
Christopher Inda  
John Krings, President  
Elizabeth St.Myers  
Julie Timm

April 7, 2025

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

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: John Benbow, Jr., Troy Bier, Christopher Inda, John Krings, Elizabeth St.Myers, Julie Timm

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED: Kathi Stebbins-Hintz

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Ed Allison, Phil Bickelhaupt, Roxanne Filtz, Tracy Ginter, Steve Hepp, Ben Kessler, Aaron Nelson, Ronald Rasmussen, Nic Sydorowicz, Rod Watson

- I. Call to Order
- II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- III. Public Comment – none.
- IV. Actionable Items

A. Start College Now (SCN) and Early College Credit Program (ECCP) Applications

Ms. Roxanne Filtz, Director of Teaching and Learning, presented five applications for students to take four courses through the Start College Now (SCN) program at Mid-State Technical College during the fall of 2025. There are no Early College Credit Program (ECCP) Applications.

Number of Students	Grade Level	Name of Course	College Credits
1	12	Intro to Ethics: Theory and Application	3
1	12	Intro to Philosophy	3
1	11	Nursing Assistant	2
3	12	GPS for Student Success	1

**ES-1 Motion by John Krings, seconded by Troy Bier, to approve of the five applications to participate in the four requested courses at Mid-State Technical College through the Start College Now (SCN) program in the fall of the 2025-26 school year as outlined in the chart. Motion carried unanimously.**

B. District Professional Development Plan 2025-2026

Ms. Filtz presented the Professional Development Day Plan for the 2025-26 school year. The plan was shared with the Quality Educator Committee, the Student Engagement Facilitators, the Curriculum Coordinators, the District Council for Instructional Improvement (CII), and the administrative teams. Ms. Filtz explained that the District Strategic Plan and Professional Development Plan are considered by various District committees as they set their 2025-26 goals and action steps.

**ES-2 Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Julie Timm, to approve the 2025-2026 Professional Development Plan as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

C. District Professional Development Calendar 2025-2026

Ms. Filtz presented the Professional Development Day (PD) Calendar for the 2025-26 school year. The plan was developed with input from the Quality Educator Committee, curriculum coordinators, Council for Instructional Improvement (CII) Committee, and the administrative teams. The Hybrid Professional Development Days have been successful and are recommended for continuation. Teachers appreciate the flexibility to perform recordkeeping duties off-campus on designated days while documenting hours with their respective administrator. Teachers are contracted for 190 days, five of which are designated for Professional Development.

Proposed changes for PD hours:

- Teachers may choose to work one of the three inservice days between August 11-22, to prepare their classroom, or attend Summer Institute training on August 13-14.
- Teachers will receive credit for one PD day for completing required District training (videos, inservice, etc.) outside of scheduled work hours.
- Elementary teachers will receive two hours toward PD for reading training; secondary teachers will receive two PD hours for completing a Canvas training addressing District or building level initiatives.
- These changes would allow for one additional non-report day to be built into the schedule.
- Off-campus PD days will be offered on November 26 and March 6, with half day dedicated to PD requirements and half a day for record keeping.

Ms. Filtz indicated that the planned PD days directly align with the Strategic Framework goals and commitments. The focus will include CESA 5's Reframing Behavior training, as well as math and ELA audits.

**ES-3 Motion by Julie Timm, seconded by Chris Inda, to approve of the proposed Professional Development Day Calendar for the 2025-2026 school year. Motion carried unanimously.**

D. 7 Mindsets Renewal

Mr. Steven Hepp, Director of Pupil Services, presented a proposal to approve of the renewal of "7 Mindsets" social emotional learning curriculum for grades 6-12 for the 2025-2026 school year at a cost not to exceed \$39,000 using funds from the Mental Health Grant and the Comprehensive Coordinated Early Intervening Services fund. The proposal includes the 7 Mindsets curriculum and their "BASE Education" platform which provides personalized learning pathways for students needing Tier 2 and Tier 3 intervention support.

**ES-4 Motion by Troy Bier, seconded by John Krings, to approve of the proposal renewal of "7 Mindsets" for the 2025-2026 school year at a cost of \$39,000 and to be paid through the Health Grant and Comprehensive Coordinated Early Intervening Services funds. Motion carried unanimously.**

V. Updates

A. Educator Effectiveness Grant

Ms. Filtz indicated the 2024-25 Educator Effectiveness (EE) platform, Frontline, cost is \$32,200 and will be fully covered with EE grant funds. The funds received from the state is \$25.00 per teacher, which covers the total amount of the Educator Effectiveness Frontline program.

B. Student Travel

Lincoln High School's DECA has 26 competitors advancing to the International Career Development Conference (ICDC) in Orlando, FL on April 24-30, 2025. Additionally, four students will attend the THRIVE Leadership Academy conference. The LHS chapter was also recognized as the 2025 Diamond Dash Champions and the top donator to Muscular Dystrophy Association and Polar Plunge by raising over \$22,000. Thirty students, one advisor, one administrator, and one parent chaperone will be attending the event. LHS DECA fundraisers, The Wolf Den, and CTE Technical Incentive grant money will be paying for the trip.

C. Middle School FBLA Honors

Wisconsin Rapids Middle School (WRAMS) FBLA has six competitors advancing to the National Leadership Conference (NLC) in Anaheim, CA on June 28-July 3, 2025. The chapter also received the honor of the 2<sup>nd</sup> place Outstanding Chapter in the state and the second largest chapter in the state. Six students, one advisor, and two parents will be attending the event. The cost of \$1,005.00 per student will be paid from fundraising efforts, school funds, and parent contributions.

D. WRAMS Academic and Behavioral Initiative Update

Tracy Ginter, WRAMS principal, and staff Becki Mischnick, Kirsten Johnson, Ben Kessler, Nic Sydorowicz, Officer Dan Pelot, Gretchen Niedbalski, Amanda Manzke, Randy Chip, and Amanda VanDeHey presented a WRAMS Initiatives Update. Ms. Ginter explained that WRAMS is implementing the Equitable Multi-Level Systems of Supports (ELMSS) tier 2 and 3, enhancing relationships through RPT/RESET, customizing eduClimber, implementing SEL program, and continuing to provide academic and social-emotional support.

Ms. Ginter stated the goals for WRAMS are to:

- Increase communication and engagement among various stakeholders.
- Focus on the well-being and development of the whole child.

WRAMS staff have implemented academic flow charts, behavior flowcharts, alternatives to suspension with restorative practices, working lunches, and tobacco programs to provide support to students. Additionally, conflict resolution and bullying cessation presentations are available. A comparison of behavior incidents from the beginning of the school year to present shows a decrease in behavior issues across all grade levels.

The committee thanked the WRAMS staff for their continued work to provide a safe environment for students.

VI. Consent Agenda Items

- ES-1 Start College Now (SCN) and Early College Credit Program (ECCP) Applications**
- ES-2 District Professional Development Plan 2025-2026**
- ES-3 District Professional Development Calendar 2025-2026**
- ES-4 7 Mindsets Renewal**

VII. Future Agenda Items/Information Requests

The Committee reviewed the following future agenda items:

- K-12 Music Curriculum Map Updates and Materials Acquisition Proposal (May)
- Mid-State Technical College (MSTC) *Business Management Associate in Applied Science Program* at Lincoln High School (May)
- Student Planners (May)
- Orchestra Travel to Spain (May)
- Late Start Mondays Update (June)
- 6-12 English Language Arts Curriculum Map Updates and Material Acquisition Proposal (June)
- Achievement Gap Reduction Report (June)
- Act 20 Promotion Policy (June)
- Pupil Academic Standards (July)

Ms. St.Myers adjourned the meeting at 6:56 p.m.