



MINUTES

Wisconsin Rapids Board of Education

Personnel Services Committee

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

Troy Bier, Chair
Kathi Stebbins-Hintz
Elizabeth St.Myers
John Krings, President

July 6, 2026

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

Time: Immediately following the Educational Services Committee meeting, but not before 6:15 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Elizabeth St.Myers, Troy Bier

Others Present: Brian Oswall, Ronald Rasumssen

I. Call to Order

Troy Bier called the meeting to order at 6:46 p.m.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Actionable Items

A. Appointments

PS – 1 Motion by Kathi Stebbins-Hintz to approve the following professional staff appointments:

Erika Moore	Location:	Howe Elementary School
	Position:	Teacher – 1 st Grade (1.0 FTE)
Audrey Naeyaert	Location:	District
	Position:	Social Worker (1.0 FTE)
Tara Koch	Location:	Grant Elementary School
	Position:	Teacher- Reading Interventionist (1.0 FTE)

Motion carried unanimously.

PS - 2 Motion by Elizabeth St.Myers to approve the following non-represented support staff appointments.

Jayda Wadel	Location:	District
	Position:	Accounting Manager (8 hrs/day)
Caleb Mantik	Location:	District – Performing Arts Center
	Position:	Technical Director of Performing Arts Center (8.0 hrs/day)

Motion carried unanimously.

PS - 3 Motion by Kathi Stebbins-Hintz to approve the following support staff appointments:

Angie Steltenpohl	Location:	Washington Elementary School
	Position:	Administrative Assistant to the Principal (7.5 hrs/day)
Adam Swiatkowski	Location:	Grant Elementary School
	Position:	Custodian (8 hrs/day)

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Resignations

PS – 4 Motion by Elizabeth St.Myers to approve the following professional staff resignations:

Aliya Cantarella	Location:	Wisconsin Rapids Middle School & Grant Elementary School
	Position:	Social Worker (1.0 FTE)
Samantha Mlodik	Location:	Grant Elementary School
	Position:	Reading Interventionist (1.0 FTE)
Carrie Mancl	Location:	Mead Elementary School
	Position:	Teacher – 1 st Grade (1.0 FTE)
Ben Valenzuela	Location:	Lincoln High School
	Position:	Teacher – Cross Categorical (1.0 FTE)
John Henneman	Location:	Wisconsin Rapids Area Middle School
	Position:	Teacher – Math (1.0 FTE)
Nina Mairs	Location:	Woodside Elementary School
	Position:	Reading Interventionist (1.0 FTE)

Motion carried unanimously.

PS – 5 Motion by Kathi Stebbins-Hintz to approve the following non-represented support staff resignation:

Elizabeth Atkinson	Location:	District
	Position:	Accounting Manager (8.0 hrs/day)

Motion carried unanimously.

PS – 6 Motion by Elizabeth St.Myers to approve the following support staff resignation:

Madeline Van De Hey	Location:	Pitsch Early Learning Center & Central Oaks Academy
	Position:	Library Aide (5.75 hrs/day)

Motion carried unanimously.

C. Retirements:

None

D. Employee Wage Compensation Consideration

Brian Oswald reviewed the wage increase of 2.63 percent for the following groups: Athletic Director, Middle School Athletic Director-RASC Coordinator, Assistant Athletic Director-Aquatics Director, Food Production Coordinator, Food Services, School Nurses, Computer Technicians, PAC Director, PAC Assistant Coordinator, Network Manager, Systems Manager, Instructional Software Support, Confidential Secretaries, Van Drivers, Custodial and Maintenance, AV Coordinator, and Office/Clerical and Aide Support Staff.

PS – 7 Motion by Kathi Stebbins-Hintz to approve the 2.63 percent increase for the following employee groups effective July 1, 2026: Athletic Director, Middle School Athletic Director-RASC Coordinator, Assistant Athletic Director-Aquatics Director, Food Production Coordinator, Food Services, School Nurses, Computer Technicians, PAC Director, PAC Assistant Coordinator, Network Manager, Systems Manager, Instructional Software Support, Confidential Secretaries, Van Drivers, Custodial and Maintenance, AV Coordinator, and Office/Clerical and Aide Support Staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

E. School Psychologists Wage Increase Consideration

Brian Oswald reviewed the wage increase of \$520 for the School Psychologists.

PS – 8 Motion by Kathi Stebbins-Hintz to approve a \$520 wage increase for the School Psychologists effective July 1, 2026.

Motion carried on vote of 2-1. Elizabeth St.Myers voted no.

F. Middle School Theater Program Compensation

Brian Oswald, Director of Human Resources shared with the Committee the Middle School Theater Program was originally established as a one-act production designed to maintain student interest and engagement in theater between participation in Children's Theater and High School theater programs. Since its inception, the program has expanded significantly and now produces a full-scale performance involving approximately 40-50 students. Due to the responsibilities/requirements of overseeing these programs, administration recommends adding these positions to the co-curricular contract schedule.

PS – 9 Motion by Kathi Stebbins-Hintz to approve a 3% co-curricular stipend for the MS Theater Director and a 2% co-curricular stipend for the MS Assistant Theater Director and a 5% stipend for the Children's Theater Director and a 3% co-curricular stipend for the Children's Theater Assistant Director.

Motion carried unanimously.

G. Costumer Co-Curricular Position

Mr. Oswald shared that since 2020 LHS has covered costumes internally with the responsibility of measuring, alterations, and creations. Costumes are needed for all three drama shows and the musical. This extra responsibility typically is covered by a stand alone position.

PS – 10 Motion by Troy Bier to approve a 3% costumer co-curricular position.

Motion carried unanimously.

H. Nurse/Health Aide Changes

Mr. Oswald shared that to ensure Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools can continue to meet the health and medical needs of students while reducing the number of District Nurse positions from four (4) to three (3) for the 2026–2027 school year, the District will increase health aide support across the district. At Washington Elementary School, the current part-time Office/Health Aide position will increase from 5.5 hours per day to 7.5 hours per day, making the position benefit-eligible. Additionally, a new part-time Health Aide position will be created to primarily support Lincoln High School, with the flexibility to provide assistance to other district buildings as needed. This position will not exceed 5.75 hours per day and will not be benefit-eligible.

PS – 11 Motion by Elizabeth St.Myers to approve increasing the Office/Health Aide position at Washington Elementary School from 5.5 to 7.5 hours and a new part-time Health Aide position not to exceed 5.75 hours.

Motion carried unanimously.

I. Next Level Speech Contract for Speech and Language Pathology Services

Mr. Oswald shared that a Speech and Language Pathologist will be on leave during the 2026-2027 school year, creating a need for temporary coverage of Speech and Language Pathology services for students with IEPs and Service Plans. To ensure continuity of services, administration is recommending contracting with Next Level Speech to provide approximately two days of service per week for a six-month period.

PS – 12 Motion by Kathi Stebbins-Hintz to approve entering into a contract with Next Level to provide Speech and Language Pathology services during the leave period to ensure students continue to receive required services without interruption.

Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Updates & Reports

Ron Rasmussen, Superintendent, shared with the Committee that we have received School-Based Mental Health Services Grant funds to support the expansion of student mental health services within the district. In the 2025–2027 state biennial budget, this grant has transitioned into a statewide allocation provided to all districts. Our current allocation is \$236,065, and we will receive an updated allocation estimate in December. We are currently planning to use these funds to hire an additional school counselor to expand capacity to support students' social, emotional, and mental health needs. If we are unable to identify a qualified candidate for a school counselor position, we will consider alternative options, including the potential hiring of a school psychologist, to ensure the funds are used effectively to meet student needs and strengthen district supports.

V. Consent Agenda

- Motions:
- PS – 1 Professional Staff Appointments
 - PS – 2 Non-Represented Support Staff Appointments
 - PS – 3 Support Staff Appointments
 - PS - 4 Professional Staff Resignations
 - PS – 5 Non-Represented Support Staff Resignation
 - PS – 6 Support Staff Resignations
 - PS – 7 Employee Wage Compensation Consideration
 - PS – 8 School Psychologists Wage Increase Consideration
 - PS – 9 Middle School Theater Program Compensation
 - PS – 10 Costumer Co-Curricular Position
 - PS – 11 Nurse Health/Aide Changes
 - PS – 12 Next Level Speech Contract for Speech and Language Pathology Services

VI. Adjournment

Mr. Bier adjourned the meeting at 7:23 pm