



Wisconsin Rapids Board of Education

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

MINUTES

John A. Krings, President
John Benbow, Jr.
Larry Davis
Sandra K. Hett
Anne Lee
Katie Medina
Mary E. Rayome

August 13, 2018

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

LOCATION: Thomas A. Lenk Educational Center, 510 Peach Street, Wisc. Rapids, WI 54494
Conf. Rm. A/B

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: John Krings, Sandra Hett, Mary Rayome, John Benbow, Anne Lee, Katie Medina

BOARD MEMBER EXCUSED: Larry Davis

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Craig Broeren, Daniel Weigand, Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Brian Oswald, Elizabeth Severson, Tracy Ginter

MEDIA PRESENT: Jesse Austin – River Cities Community Access

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

AmeriCorps “Farm to School” Program Presentation

Miranda Dawson, Nutrition Educator, and Rachel Kubacki, Community Outreach Educator, served as AmeriCorps members during the 2017-18 school year in the “Farm to School” program. Farm to School is an innovative approach to help decrease childhood obesity by promoting healthy eating habits in children and increasing access to locally grown foods in schools. Through her Nutrition Educator role, Ms. Dawson developed and implemented curriculum into classrooms through five lesson plans per classroom teaching about the types of food groups; where food comes from; diversity in food; how to build a health lifestyle through healthy eating habits; and exposure to a variety of foods with the opportunity to taste test foods in the classroom. A goal of reaching 300 students by the end of the service year was surpassed.

As the Community Outreach Coordinator, Ms. Kubacki made many connections between local farmers and schools; procured ten new local foods for taste tests; identified local foods for use in the school lunch program; helped organize community events; recruited and organized volunteers with the Nutrition Educator; and established/maintained school community gardens. Ms. Kubacki provided an overview of the various farms that became involved in the program; outreach efforts and projects that were initiated throughout the year; and shared statistics about the farms, schools, students served as well as the number of volunteer hours which contributed to the program’s success. Out of all 16 AmeriCorps Farm to School host sites, this local program tied for the most foods brought into its schools, had the most farmer engagements, and had the highest number of students taught.

The Board thanked Ms. Dawson and Ms. Kubacki for their informative presentation.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by John Benbow to approve regular Board of Education meeting minutes of July 9, 2018; and special open and closed session Board of Education meeting minutes of July 9, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

Comments from Citizens and Delegations

None.

Committee ReportsA. Business Services Committee – August 6, 2018. Report given by John Benbow.

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

- BS-1 Approval of the addition of Grove and Howe Elementary Schools to the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) program.
- BS-2 Approval of proposed transportation contracts, with an extension of the contracts through 2024, and the increase of the base rate to be applied after the across the board percentage increase.
- BS-3 Approval of 66.03.01 cooperative agreements for students attending the work place training program from the Nekoosa and Port Edwards School Districts.
- BS-4 Approval of 66.03.01 cooperative agreements for students attending the Virtual program from the Adams-Friendship, Almond-Bancroft, DC Everest, Eau Claire, Necedah, Port Edwards, Spencer, Stevens Point, Tomorrow River, Tri-County, Westfield, and Wild Rose School Districts as listed.

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Katie Medina to approve of consent agenda items BS 1-4. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Mr. Benbow provided updates and reports on invoices from:

- Weidenhammer – Accounting, Payroll, Human Resources, and Attendance Software
- Skyward – Student Management Software
- Community Insurance – General Liability and Board Errors and Omissions Insurance
- Honeywell – Control Technical Assistance
- Air Communication – Radios for Wisconsin Rapids Area Middle School

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Katie Medina to approve the balance of the Business Services Committee report and minutes of the regular August 6, 2018, Business Services Committee meeting and minutes from the special closed session Business Services Committee meeting of July 26, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Personnel Services Committee – August 6, 2018. Report given by Sandra Hett.

Ms. Hett 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 Amy Korslin (Teacher – Grant), Janice Gerlach (Counselor – THINK), Michelle Waldvogel (Counselor/Homeless Liaison – Mead/District), Olivia Roubik (Teacher – Woodside), Sarah Durst (Teacher – Woodside), Eileen Kelm (Teacher – Mead), and Kasey Kautzer (Teacher – Mead).
- PS-2 Approval of the support staff appointments of Deborah Severson (Special Ed Aide – WRAMS), Cynthia Gruen (Office Aide – Mead), Marcie Doersch (Tutoring and Testing Coordinator – Lincoln), and Tonya Hawke (Noon Duty Aide – Lincoln).
- PS-3 Approval of the support staff resignation of Melissa Bonkoski (Special Ed Aide - Grove).
- PS-4 Approval of the addition of ten days to the work schedule of the Athletic Director Secretary position.
- PS-5 Approval of the addition of six additional days and thirty additional minutes for each day worked to the work schedule of the Academic & Career Planning/Volunteer Assistant position.

Motion by Sandra Hett, seconded by Anne Lee to approve consent agenda items PS 1-5. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Hett provided updates and reports on:

- A request of the Committee by the South Wood County Youth Hockey Association (SWCYHA) for the District to begin paying for LHS hockey coaching positions, and the potential compensation rate for said positions. The Committee elected to table the item so that they could review the document provided by

SWCYHA representatives. The Committee also requested additional information about what the savings would be for the athletes, should the District begin paying for the cost of the coaches.

- Mr. Brian Oswall, Director of Human Resources, provided an update to the Committee on the status of hiring professional staff for the 2018-19 school year. Throughout the summer months a number of professional staff positions have been posted and filled. Two positions currently remain vacant, and the administration is working through the hiring process to secure staff in time for the start of school.

Motion by Sandra Hett, seconded by Mary Rayome to approve regular Personnel Services Committee meeting minutes of August 6, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Educational Services Committee – August 6, 2018. Report given by Anne Lee.

Ms. Lee 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 proposed changes to the Co-Curricular Activities Code of Conduct to begin with the 2018-19 school year as set out in Attachment A, including the additional changes requested by the Committee.
- ES-2 Approval of the contract with Renaissance Learning for the 2018-19 school year in the amount of \$33,602.46, to be paid for from curriculum funds.
- ES-3 Approval of the Education for Employment (E4E) Plan for Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools.

Motion by Anne Lee, seconded by John Benbow to approve consent agenda items ES 1-3. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Ms. Lee provided updates and reports on:

- Incidences of seclusion and restraint from the 2017-18 school year, as noted in background materials.
- The Committee discussed Board member political involvement and/or endorsement of particular candidates in elections. After some discussion, the Committee came to consensus that Board members should remain as nonpartisan as possible when representing the Board. However, individual Board members have every right to support candidates of their choosing when acting in an individual capacity and not as a representative of the Board. Recommended modifications to appropriate policies may be brought to the Committee for future consideration.

Motion by Anne Lee, seconded by Mary Rayome to approve the balance of the Educational Services Committee report and minutes of the August 6, 2018 Educational Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Referrals/Information Requests

None.

Legislative Agenda

John Benbow reviewed the following items:

- The Department of Justice Office of School Safety announced that \$4.8 million in safety grants were being awarded to school districts, and WRPS was successful in securing \$249,060 in this round of School Safety Grant funding.
- A sales tax holiday took place in Wisconsin from August 1-5, 2018. A sales tax holiday is a temporary exemption period where sales of certain items are exempt from Wisconsin sales and use and included items such as clothing, computers, and school supplies.
- State Superintendent Tony Evers plans to request a \$600 million increase in special education categorical aid for school districts in an upcoming Department of Public Instruction (DPI) budget request from the 2019-21 state budget. Currently, the state provides \$369 million annually in special education categorical aid to school districts, an amount that has not changed since the 2008-09 school year, while special education costs have been increasing.
- The deadline to submit WASB resolutions for consideration at the upcoming State Convention is September 15, 2018.

Bills

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by John Benbow to note July, 2018 receipts in the amount of \$751,865.69 and approve July, 2018 disbursements from 2017-18 books in the amount of \$3,472,307.70 and July, 2018 disbursements from 2018-19 books in the amount of \$3,525,549.72. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

New BusinessEmployee Appointment, Resignation, Retirement Requests

Brian Oswall, Director of Human Resources, presented the following professional staff and support staff appointment recommendations:

Michelle Wentland	Location:	Woodside Elementary School
	Position:	Teacher (1.0 FTE)
	Education:	BS – UW Oshkosh – January 1995
	Major/Minor:	Elementary Education
	Salary:	\$40,000
Kue Kathy Thao	Location:	Wisconsin Rapids Area Middle School
	Position:	ELL Aide – Hmong (7.0 hrs/day)
	Effective Date:	September 4, 2018
	Hourly Rate:	\$14.36 (starting rate) / \$15.12 (after 60 days)
Patricia Wellnitz	Location:	Woodside Elementary School
	Position:	Noon Duty Aide (1.75 hrs/day)
	Effective Date:	September 4, 2018
	Hourly Rate:	\$12.28 (starting rate) / \$12.93 (after 60 days)
Michele McElroy	Location:	Washington Elementary School
	Position:	Special Ed Aide (One-on-One) (7.0 hrs/day)
	Effective Date:	September 4, 2018
	Hourly Rate:	\$14.36 (starting rate) / \$15.12 (after 60 days)
Gail Kretschmer	Location:	Lincoln High School
	Position:	Special Education Aide (7.0 hrs/day)
	Effective Date:	September 4, 2018
	Hourly Rate:	\$15.12
Alexandra Tomlin-Dodd	Location:	Grant Elementary School
	Position:	Special Education Aide (7.0 hrs/day)
	Effective Date:	September 4, 2018
	Hourly Rate:	\$14.36 (starting rate) / \$15.12 (after 60 days)
Casey Saeger	Location:	Woodside Elementary School
	Position:	Special Education Aide (7.0 hrs/day)
	Effective Date:	September 4, 2018
	Hourly Rate:	\$14.36 (starting rate) / \$15.12 (after 60 days)

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Katie Medina to approve of one professional staff appointment and six support staff appointments as recommended. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Oswall presented the following professional staff resignation requests, pending receipt of \$1,000 each in liquidated damages:

Danielle Wilke	Location:	THINK Academy
	Position:	Teacher (1.0 FTE)
	Effective Date:	August 6, 2018
	Hire Date:	February 3, 2014
Megan Kindred	Location:	Howe Elementary
	Position:	Teacher (1.0 FTE)

Effective Date: August 13, 2018
Hire Date: August 29, 2016

Sara Sturomski

Location: Lincoln High School
Position: Teacher (1.0 FTE)
Effective Date: August 8, 2018
Hire Date: August 29, 2016

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Katie Medina to approve of the professional staff resignation requests pending receipt of \$1,000 each in liquidated damages. Motion carried on a vote of 5-1. Sandra Hett voted no.

Unusual Hazards Transportation (UHT) Plan

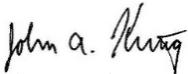
Superintendent Broeren explained that the last review and update to the District Unusual Hazards Transportation (UHT) Plan took place in April, 1990. A number of roadways and areas located within District attendance boundaries have since undergone significant change. Building closures and grade restructuring have also occurred in the District since the last review of the Plan. As a result, the administration has been working in a collaborative fashion since April, 2018 with the Wood County Sheriff's Department and local bus contractors to re-evaluate attendance boundary areas in order to determine what areas should continue to be deemed unusually hazardous, and identify any new areas that should be included in the Plan. Mr. Broeren reviewed the updated Plan with the Board, highlighting areas of change being recommended including the elimination of Item #5 (Sampson Street and Two Mile Area) found on page 7 in the Plan. The Board had an opportunity to ask questions concerning the Plan. Mr. Broeren explained next steps involved, which includes submitting the Plan to the State Department of Public Instruction to receive final approval.

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Katie Medina to approve of the revised *Unusual Hazards Transportation Plan* with additional changes to page 7 of the Plan as discussed, to be effective with the 2018-19 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Calendar

Calendar items were reviewed.

President Krings adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.



John A. Krings – President

Maurine Hodgson – Secretary

Larry Davis – Clerk