



Wisconsin Rapids Board of Education

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

MINUTES

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

November 11, 2019

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 Benbow, Troy Bier, Larry Davis, Sandra Hett, John Krings, Katie Medina, Mary Rayome

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Craig Broeren, Daniel Weigand, Brian Oswald, Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Danielle Scott, Ed Allison, Penny Antell

MEDIA PRESENT: Kevin Bargender – River Cities Community Access

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

In honor of Veteran’s Day, President Krings took a moment to express deep gratitude to all veterans.

Community Outdoor Learning Center Presentation

Penny Antell, Principal of Mead Elementary School, and Melissa Miller, Interventionist at Howe Elementary, provided an update on the progress being made with the Community Outdoor Learning Center (COLC) located at Mead. Ground was recently broken to remove pavement and lay a drainage system prior to preparing the area for concrete to be poured. Once the concrete was poured and set, soil and wood chips were brought in to finish this stage of the project. Ms. Antell is grateful for Jack Esser’s work and involvement in the project. Next steps in the project include the completion of the “Gathering Area” by May 1, 2020 utilizing Rotary Grant funds in collaboration with Sustainable Operations and Recycling (SOAR). Fundraising efforts continue, and acquisition of materials and building for specific areas will occur as dollars are raised. Post-excavation support received by the COLC group was detailed, along with an overview of the project’s current financial status. Ms. Antell shared a list of the items still needed in order to complete the project. The Board thanked Ms. Antell and Ms. Miller for their informative presentation and enthusiasm for the COLC initiative.

Student Representative’s Report

Jacqueline Sii provided an update on Lincoln High School activities as follows:

- ◆ DECA conducted a very successful “Trick-or-Can” event to benefit the local SWEPS food pantry
- ◆ the HOSA group sponsored a “Trick-or-Coin” event, raising \$1,000 for the National Pediatric Cancer Foundation
- ◆ Student Council and the LHS Flannel Club are conducting a food and flannel drive November 11-15 to collect items to be donated to SWEPS
- ◆ the annual State Cross Country event was held at the Ridges Golf Course on November 2nd, which typically includes over 2,000 runners and 10,000 spectators

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by Larry Davis to approve regular Board of Education meeting minutes of October 14, 2019 and special Board of Education meeting minutes of October 28, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

Comments from Citizens and Delegations

John Berg, a former WRPS teacher who taught for 32 years, expressed his deep appreciation to the Board for their support of employees over the years, and for continuing the Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) for staff which he has found to be very helpful and useful to his family.

Committee ReportsA. Educational Services Committee – November 4, 2019. Report given by Mary Rayome.

Ms. Rayome 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 Board Policy 453.4 – Administering Medications to Students and Board Policy 453.4 Rule – Medication Administration Procedures for first reading.
- ES-2 Approval of Board Policy 537 – Professional Staff Growth and Development for first reading.
- ES-3 Approval of Board Policy 537.1 – Attendance at Workshops and Conferences for first reading.
- ES-4 Approval of Board Policy 537.2 – New Colleague Orientation for first reading.
- ES-5 Approval of the addition of two weeks of keyboarding instruction for all second grade students to begin in the spring of the 2019-20 school year.
- ES-6 Approval of Woods III for a one-half credit elective course at Lincoln High School for grades 11 and 12 to begin in the 2020-21 school year.
- ES-7 Approval of expanding AP Music Theory to one elective credit, and to offer the first trimester of this course as a one-half elective credit option for grades 10, 11, and 12 at Lincoln High School to begin in the 2020-21 school year.
- ES-8 Approval of the dual credit option for students taking AP European History for one credit in grades 11 or 12 at Lincoln High School, pending approval by UWSP beginning with the 2020-21 school year.
- ES-9 Approval of the dual credit option for students taking AP World History for one credit in grades 11 or 12 at Lincoln High School, pending approval by UWSP beginning with the 2020-21 school year.
- ES-10 Approval of allowing the dual credit option for students taking AP Physics I for one credit in grades 10, 11, or 12 at Lincoln High School beginning with the 2020-21 school year.
- ES-11 Approval of allowing the dual credit option for students in grades 10, 11, or 12 at Lincoln High School who take both Physics-Force & Motion and Physics-Forms of Energy, pending approval by UWSP beginning with the 2020-21 school year.
- ES-12 Approval of allowing the dual credit option for students taking Accelerated Pre-Calculus for one credit in grades 11 or 12 at Lincoln High School beginning in the 2020-21 school year.
- ES-13 Approval of changing the name of DNA Science & Biotechnology to Biotechnology Explorations beginning with the 2020-21 school year.
- ES-14 Approval that before a course for credit can be offered in summer school at Lincoln High School, the course must go through the regular course proposal process as set out in Board Policy 332 beginning with the summer of 2020.
- ES-15 Approval of the 27 applications for students to participate in the nine requested courses at Mid-State Technical College through the Start College Now (SCN) program in the spring of the 2019-20 school year.
- ES-16 Approval of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Boys and Girls Club of the Wisconsin Rapids Area to implement the school based “Be Great, Graduate” program at the Wisconsin Rapids Area Middle School effective November 11, 2019.

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by Larry Davis to approve consent agenda items ES 1-16. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Rayome provided updates and reports on:

- A proposal was made to alter the WRAMS schedule for grade eight in order to address concerns about access to music and world language. After much discussion, it was concluded that a committee should be formed to discuss this and other scheduling considerations for WRAMS. Principal Tracy Ginter is developing a committee to gather input on this topic. Any recommendations resulting from these discussions will be brought forward for consideration by the Educational Services Committee in the future.
- Ms. Stebbins-Hintz explained that mixed messages from the DPI indicate that School and District Report Cards are embargoed from release through at least November 12, and possibly through November 30. An update will be shared with the Educational Services Committee meeting at the December, 2019 meeting, and Board members will be apprised with information beforehand by the Superintendent as it becomes available for release.

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by Larry Davis to approve the balance of the Educational Services Committee report and minutes of the November 4, 2019 Educational Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Business Services Committee – November 4, 2019. 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 66.03.01 cooperative agreements for students attending the Virtual program from the Pittsville school district.
- BS-2 Approval of the proposal to purchase a new 1-ton truck with a stainless steel dump box from V & H out of Marshfield, at a total cost of \$46,200.50, to be funded from the 2019-20 Building and Grounds Budget.
- BS-3 A proposal to approve implementation of the new Honeywell Service Program, with a one-time setup fee of \$8,900.00, to be funded from the 2019-20 Building and Grounds Budget.

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Larry Davis to approve consent agenda items BS 1-3. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Mr. Benbow provided updates and reports on:

- An invoice paid for curriculum media from Brain Pop, Inc.; copy paper purchased for the District; and 2018-19 snow removal and utility usage and costs.

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Katie Medina to approve the balance of the Business Services Committee report and minutes of the November 4, 2019 Business Services Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Personnel Services Committee – November 4, 2019. 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 support staff appointments of Erica Peplinski (Technology Department Secretary – District), Chelsey Mazurek (Office/Health Aide – Washington), Kellie Garski (Special Education Aide and Noon Duty Aide – Grove).
- PS-2 Approval of Board Policy 449 – Rights and Responsibilities of Divorced/Separated Parents/Guardians and Parents/Guardians Not Sharing the Same Household for second reading.
- PS-3 Approval of Board Policy 443.3 – Smoking and/or Use of Tobacco/Nicotine Products or Electronic Smoking Devices by Students for second reading.
- PS-4 Approval of Board Policy 522.2 – Smoking and/or Use of Tobacco/Nicotine Products or Electronic Smoking Devices by Employees for second reading.

PS-5 Approval of Board Policy 831 – Smoking and/or Use of Tobacco/Nicotine Products or Electronic Smoking Devices on School Premises for second reading.

PS-6 Approval to add a JV cheer coach position with a 5 percent co-curricular contract.

Motion by Sandra Hett, seconded by Larry Davis to approve consent agenda items PS 1-6. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Hett provided updates and reports on:

- The Committee reviewed and discussed Open Enrollment data for the 2019-20 school year. Brian Oswald, Director of Human Resources, explained some factors that cause an increase and/or decrease in the District open enrollment numbers.

Motion by Sandra Hett, seconded by Larry Davis to approve the balance of the Personnel Services Committee report and minutes of the November 4, 2019 Personnel Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Referrals/Information Requests

None.

Legislative Agenda

Troy Bier shared the following information:

- Senate Bill 494 would restore the school district revenue limit adjustment for energy efficiency projects with some new accountability measures. WASB supports SB 494, and encourages individuals to contact lawmakers to register support for the legislation.
- The Assembly Committees on Education held a public hearing on the following bills:
 - Assembly Bill 528 relating to grants to support peer-to-peer suicide prevention programs in high schools, granting rule-making authority, and making an appropriation
 - Assembly Bill 529 relating to the Wisconsin Safe and Healthy Schools Center and making an appropriation
 - Assembly Bill 531 relating to requiring that student identification cards include contact information for suicide prevention hotlines
- The Assembly Committee on Substance Abuse and Prevention held a public hearing on Assembly Bill 422, which would raise the legal age for sale, purchase, and possession of cigarettes and nicotine and tobacco products from 18 to 21, and would provide a legal age of 21 for sale, purchase, and possession of vapor products.
- The Assembly Committee on State Affairs held a public hearing on Assembly Bill 459 which would incorporate cursive writing into the state model English language arts standards and require cursive writing instruction in elementary grades. WASB opposes this bill based on a resolution opposing unfunded mandates and supporting local school board control of curricular decisions.
- Something to be watching is a proposed constitutional amendment authored by state Senator Dave Craig (R-Big Bend) would prohibit the governor from using his veto authority to increase spending. A proposed constitutional amendment must be approved by the state Legislature in two consecutive sessions and then be approved by voters in a statewide referendum.

Mr. Bier stated that some interesting discussions were held by a panel of legislators during the Legislative Advocacy Conference that he and other Board members attended on November 2, 2019. Materials from the conference will be posted on WASB's website for those interested. The upcoming State Education Convention is scheduled for January 22-24, 2020, and will provide additional learning and networking opportunities for Board members.

Bills

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by Larry Davis to note October, 2019 receipts in the amount of \$323,394.32 and approve October, 2019 disbursements in the amount of \$3,640,185.90. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

New BusinessEmployee Appointment and Resignation Requests

Brian Oswall, Director of Human Resources, presented the following employment recommendations for approval:

Support Staff Appointments

Diane Kohls	Location:	District
	Position:	Food Services Secretary (8 hours/day)
	Effective Date:	November 8, 2019
	Hourly Rate:	\$15.64 (starting rate) / \$16.50 (after 60 days)
Melissa Hafeman	Location:	Woodside Elementary School
	Position:	Special Education Aide (5.0 hours/day)
	Effective Date:	November 6, 2019
	Hourly Rate:	\$14.99 (starting rate) / \$15.77 (after 60 days)
Dixie Tork	Location:	Woodside Elementary School
	Position:	Special Education Aide (7.0 hours/day)
	Effective Date:	November 6, 2019
	Hourly Rate:	\$15.77
Jennifer Clark	Location:	Woodside Elementary School
	Position:	Noon Duty Aide (1.75 hours/day)
	Effective Date:	November 6, 2019
	Hourly Rate:	\$12.82 (starting rate) / \$13.49 (after 60 days)
Ann Sculley	Location:	WRAMS
	Position:	Special Education Aide (5.0 hours/day)
	Effective Date:	November 6, 2019
	Hourly Rate:	\$15.77
Sandra Southworth	Location:	Mead Elementary School
	Position:	Noon Duty Aide (1.50 hours/day)
	Effective Date:	November 11, 2019
	Hourly Rate:	\$12.82 (starting rate) / \$13.49 (after 60 days)
Jennifer Molepski	Location:	Mead Elementary School
	Position:	Academic Partnership Coordinator (2.0 hours/day)
	Effective Date:	November 18, 2019
	Hourly Rate:	\$12.82 (starting rate) / \$13.49 (after 60 days)
Sarah Doughty	Location:	Mead Elementary School
	Position:	Office Aide (7.0 hours/day)
	Effective Date:	November 18, 2019
	Hourly Rate:	\$14.10 (starting rate) / \$14.83 (after 60 days)

Support Staff Resignations

Cheryl Hardina	Location:	Mead Elementary School
	Position:	Noon Duty Aide (1.50 hours/day)
	Effective Date:	June 7, 2019
	Date of Hire:	September 3, 2019
Sandra Mroz	Location:	Grove Elementary School
	Position:	Noon Duty Aide (1.50 hours/day)
	Effective Date:	December 20, 2019
	Date of Hire:	September 7, 2016

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by Larry Davis to approve of the support staff appointments of Diane Kohls, Melissa Hafeman, Dixie Tork, Jennifer Clark, Ann Sculley, Sandra Southworth, Jennifer Molepski, and Sarah Doughty; and the support staff resignation requests of Cheryl Hardina and Sandra Mroz. Motion carried unanimously.

Surveillance Cameras on School Buses

Daniel Weigand, Director of Business Services, provided information on bus surveillance cameras as a follow-up to a Board agenda referral item made in recent months. Pricing for a few options and camera configurations for both school buses and school vans was obtained from Seon, a leader in the bus camera surveillance equipment industry. Based upon the initial information gathered, it is estimated that it would cost approximately \$141,986.32 to install three cameras on all school buses, with an additional cost of \$5,292.00 to also equip each school van with one camera. If the Board desires to pursue outfitting District transportation vehicles with cameras, the administration could secure bids to provide more exact costs.

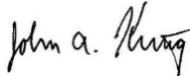
Superintendent Broeren explained that Seon is a premier vendor in bus surveillance systems. The recommendation for three cameras per bus is a configuration that would provide for a full view of the interior of the bus. Other options allow for cameras to be installed externally for views of the side and rear of the bus as well. However, the focus for now is more with regard to student behavior than any other concerns, which makes the three camera system the most plausible. Should the Board wish to pursue the installation of cameras on all buses, a variety of possibilities with respect to configurations and vendors can be explored for quality and cost.

The Board discussed the possibility of outfitting all buses with cameras. Questions about the current cameras on buses were raised, with the Board wondering exactly how many cameras are currently installed on buses, whether they were purchased by the District or the bus companies and who technically owns them, what type of fee is paid to the bus companies for the cameras and what the fee covers, who repairs and replaces cameras when needed, do new buses being purchased have camera options or the ability to add cameras as necessary and is this specified in bus company bids for equipment, and lastly will the bus companies have concerns over the type of camera or configuration that might be installed on buses if the District is securing bids and paying for it. In order to determine the actual cost involved, the Board expressed an interest in obtaining bids containing optional solutions to outfit buses and vans with cameras. Additional information will be gathered by the administration, including historical data to bring the Board up to speed with regard to the District's responsibility versus each bus company's responsibility concerning the current camera system.

Calendar

Calendar items were reviewed.

President Krings adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.



John A. Krings – President

Maurine Hodgson – Secretary

Larry Davis – Clerk