



BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

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

November 9, 2020

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

LOCATION: Thomas A. Lenk Educational Services Center, 510 Peach Street, Wisc. Rapids, WI 54494
Conference Room 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, Roxanne Filtz, Brian Oswald, Danielle Scott, Phil
Bickelhaupt

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Student Representative Report

Rachel Marten provided updates on the following:

- ♦ Classes at Lincoln are running very smooth in comparison to the beginning of the year when students were adjusting to the transition back to school
- ♦ The efficiency of contact tracing and the quarantine process has improved, and the WRPS COVID Dashboard is a helpful resource to monitor the pandemic's impact in schools
- ♦ Teachers have been very receptive to students and their suggestions, which has helped improve various processes involved with off-campus learning

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by John Benbow to approve regular Board of Education meeting minutes of October 12, 2020 and special Board of Education meeting minutes of October 26, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Comments from Citizens and Delegations

None.

Committee Reports

A. Educational Services Committee – November 2, 2020. 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 the proposed World Languages curriculum modifications beginning with the 2021-2022 school year.
- ES-2 Approval of the proposed World Languages acquisition in the amount of \$42,831.23 to be purchased with WRPS curriculum funds.
- ES-3 Approval of the 34 applications to participate in 22 requested courses at Mid-State Technical College through the Start College Now (SCN) program.

- ES-4 Approval of the recommended revisions to Board Policy 447.11 – use of Seclusion and Restraint with Students and Policy 44.11 Exhibit – Notification and Reporting Form for Physical Restraint and/or Seclusion, for first reading.

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by Larry Davis to approve consent agenda items ES-1-4. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Ms. Rayome provided updates and reports on:

- Innovation Mini Grants for 2020-21 which were awarded to: Tom Nolan, physical education teacher at Washington; Leslie Anderson, grade 2 teacher at Woodside; and Sara Durst, Nicole Gustavson, and Scott Sigourney who are all grade 5 teachers at Woodside.
- Ms. Roxanne Filtz, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, reviewed a number of course proposals and modifications which have been considered at relevant building level leadership committees as well as the Council for Instructional Improvement (CII) Committee. New course proposals include: History Through Media; Introduction to Diversity Studies; American History in Depth; America’s Voice; America’s Story; Health, Safety and Nutrition Blended; Physics I or Conceptual Physics; Astronomy; Topics in Physical Science; PLTW Biomedical Science – Human Body Systems; Topics in Life Science; and Environmental Science 1.

Name change proposals include: Comprehensive Natural Science 10A to Chemistry 1; Principles of Chemistry to Chemistry 2; Chemistry Applications to Chemistry 3; CNS 10B to Microbiology; Principles of Biology to Macrobiology; Principles of the Environment to Environmental Science 2; CNS 9B to Earth Structure and Processes.

The Math Department is proposing prerequisite changes to have a student pass Algebra 1 prior to taking Geometry; and a student must pass Algebra 1 and attempt Geometry prior to taking Explorations.

The course revision requests and results from the CII Committee meeting discussion of October 7, 2020 were discussed by the Committee. No objections were expressed by Educational Services Committee members to the proposed course changes. Ms. Filtz explained that the next step in the process will include having the course proposals undergo an advisory vote by the CII Committee at an upcoming November meeting. The proposals will then be brought back to the Educational Services Committee in December, 2020 for possible approval.

- The Committee learned that out of an abundance of caution, World Language Teacher Justine Horvath has opted to postpone the student trip planned for France during the Summer of 2021 to Summer 2022. This will allow more time for countries to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic, and for promotion of the trip to interested students and allow them ample time to begin saving and fundraising.
- Ms. Filtz updated the Committee on current enrollment for off-campus instruction. Virtual parents were recently notified that beginning November 2, 2020, transitions from virtual back to in-person learning at students’ home schools will only be allowed at the end of the trimester unless there are extenuating circumstances. This is the most natural time for such a change to occur, and will ensure stability in progress monitoring for all students.

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by Larry Davis to approve the balance of the Educational Services Committee report and minutes of the November 2, 2020 Educational Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Business Services Committee – November 2, 2020. 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 proposed purchase of Acellus Education Center virtual curriculum at a total cost of \$28,300 for Lincoln High School and Central Oaks Academy.

BS-2 Approval of the proposed \$10,000 payment to the Boys and Girls Club to provide Service Director for teens as part of the Behavior and Mental Wellness Grant.

BS-3 Approval of the proposed three-year Memorandum of Understanding for audit services to be provided for fiscal years 2020-21, 2021-22, and 2022-23.

BS-4 Approval of the proposed Other Post Employment Benefit Investment Guideline.

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

Mr. Benbow provided updates and reports on:

- Purchases of science curriculum online software.

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Katie Medina to approve the balance of the Business Services Committee report and minutes of the November 2, 2020 Business Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Personnel Services Committee – November 2, 2020. 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 Lori Hogue (Instructional Aide – THINK), Dotty Bauer (Special Ed Aide – Grove), Amy Modrzewski (Noon Duty Aide – Washington), Tim Gildenzoph (Custodian – River Cities/Pitsch), William Butzlaff (Custodian – Lincoln).

PS-2 Approval of the professional staff early retirement request of Daniel Rayburn (Teacher – Lincoln/WRAMS).

PS-3 Approval of the support staff resignation request of Ursula Alarie (Noon Duty Aide – Washington).

Motion by Sandra Hett, seconded by Mary Rayome to approve consent agenda items PS 1-3. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Hett provided updates and reports on:

- Brian Oswall, Director of Human Resources, provided an update on open enrollment information for the 2020-21 school year.

Motion by Sandra Hett, seconded by Larry Davis to approve the balance of the Personnel Services Committee report and minutes of the November 2, 2020 Personnel Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Referrals/Information Requests

None.

Legislative Agenda

Troy Bier shared the following information:

- The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) received a federal grant award to aid Wisconsin schools in expanding priority areas in student mental health. Through a competitive grant process, Wisconsin was one of six states selected to receive funding from the U.S. Department of Education. The federal grant totals \$10 million over five years and will fund the DPI's School-based Mental Health Professionals Federal Grant Program.
- Board members may be interested in complimentary webinars being offered through the Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB) to stay updated on current events impacting education. Details can be found on the WASB website.
- The Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) is accepting applications from school boards for the Fabrication Laboratories (Fab Labs) Grant Program, which provides funding to help build or expand fab labs. WEDC expects to award grants to 20 districts, and the deadline to apply is January 8, 2021.

- The Speaker’s Task Force on Racial Disparities, co-chaired by Reps. Jim Steineke and Shelia Stubbs, held their first meeting on October 28, 2020 and split the task force into two subcommittees. One of the subcommittees will focus on law enforcement policies and procedures, and the other will examine education and economic development.
- Unofficial election results indicate that Republicans have maintained strong control of both the state Senate and Assembly, but did not win enough seats in either house for a two-thirds supermajority where they would be able to override Governor Evers vetoes without Democrat votes. Republicans picked up two seats in the Senate, while Democrats defeated two Assembly GOP incumbents. The GOP majorities currently stand at 21-12 in the Senate and 61-38 in the Assembly. Incumbents representing the central Wisconsin area retained their seats.
- School districts across the state continued to have strong overall support for local referendums. According to unofficial results filed with the DPI, voters have approved 43 of the 51 school referendums (84.3%) on the ballot. Fifteen of 19 requests to exceed state-imposed revenue limits on a non-recurring bases were approved, which is a 79% passage rate. Nine of ten requests to exceed state-imposed revenue limits on a recurring basis were approved, which is a 90% passage rate. Seventeen of 20 borrowing referendums (85%) were approved, including a \$317 million facilities improvement request in Madison and a similar \$107 million ask in Oshkosh, among others. Voters in Wausau did not pass a \$155 million referendum request.
- On November 5, 2020, Senate Republicans met to select Senator Devin LaMahieu to be the next majority leader, and Senator Chris Kapenga for Senate president. Mr. Bier provided updates on other vacant seats in the Legislature filled by various incumbents and newcomers who will come together when the 2021-22 Legislative Session convenes in January.

Bills

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by Larry Davis to note October, 2020 receipts in the amount of \$313,349.01 and approve October, 2020 disbursements in the amount of \$3,892,063.47. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Unfinished/Old Business

Future Levy Override and Bond Issue Referendum Questions

Superintendent Broeren explained that communication is being disseminated to parents and staff members to alert them about the community survey arriving in household mailboxes during the first week in November. Once the survey collection closes on November 30, 2020, the Board will have an opportunity to review the results and analyze the data in December, ultimately making a final decision about whether to approve any referendum Resolution questions by the statutory deadline in January 2021. The Board reflected on the timing of a potential referendum, local economic conditions, and the pandemic which could impact the successful passage of a referendum. Consideration was also given to the level of referendum support that surrounding school districts have experienced in their communities.

New Business

Employee Appointments, Resignations and Retirement Requests

None.

Health Insurance Carrier Renewal / Health Savings Account (HSA) Contributions

Mr. Broeren explained that the District has had Security Health as its health insurance carrier over the course of the past year. Security Health has proposed a 0% health insurance renewal rate for the upcoming year. Due to COVID-19, the District’s claims experience rating is the lowest it has been in a number of years since procedures and appointments did not occur as normal. A 3% health insurance renewal rate increase had been projected and budgeted for; with the acceptance of Security’s proposal, those dollars could be freed up to utilize in other areas. In order to maintain stability for employees and save administrative time shopping the market when a 0% increase is on the table, the administration recommends approval of the Security Health insurance contract renewal, and to also continue with the current employer paid Health Insurance Savings (HSA) contributions for employees.

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Troy Bier to approve of the proposed health insurance renewal plan effective January 1, 2021 from Security Health at a renewal rate of 0%; and to continue the employer contribution to eligible District employee Health Savings Accounts (HSA) in an amount of \$1,500.00 for employees carrying a single plan, and \$3,000.00 for employees carrying a family plan. Motion carried unanimously.

Managed Print Services Contract

Phil Bickelhaupt, Director of Technology, provided an overview and comparison of three bids received for District Managed Print Services (MPS) which would cover the next five years from 2021-2025. The District entered into an MPS contract with EO Johnson in 2010, and extended that contract in 2015. With the current contract ending in January, 2021, the administration has explored other vendors and requested proposals from them, ultimately receiving bids from EO Johnson, Marco, and Rhyme. The District’s current annual MPS cost with EO Johnson is \$155,930.43. Mr. Bickelhaupt provided an overview of each individual vendor proposal in greater detail, explaining that each company has individual nuances in their products and services which was taken into consideration. The bidding format requested of the vendors helped the administration develop as close to an “apples to apples” comparison as possible. The District Technology Support team and the Instructional Technology Committee also assisted the administration in evaluating the proposals and developing a recommendation for Board consideration.

After reviewing all of the documentation and materials provided by each vendor, the administration recommends that the District accept EO Johnson’s five year Managed Print Services proposal at an estimated cost of \$137,427.97. The proposal would allow for a refresh in equipment by replacing current equipment with new printer and copier devices.

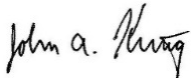
The Board had an opportunity to ask questions about the recommendation.

Motion by Larry Davis, seconded by Troy Bier to approve of entering into a five-year Managed Print Services contract with EO Johnson under the proposed annual payment option effective January 1, 2021. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Calendar

Calendar items were reviewed.

President Krings adjourned the meeting at 6:36 p.m.



John A. Krings – President

Maurine Hodgson – Secretary

Larry Davis – Clerk