



**WISCONSIN RAPIDS
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

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

October 11, 2021

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

LOCATION: East Jr. High School, 311 Lincoln Street, Wisc. Rapids, WI 54494
Cafeteria

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, Aaron Nelson, Steve Hepp, Brian Oswald, Phil Bickelhaupt

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Student Representative

Madelyn Hepp provided an update on:

- Homecoming activities occurred during the past week which went very well; numerous activities were included during the week culminating in a student assembly on Friday, Rapids beating Marshfield in the homecoming football game, and an indoor/outdoor dance hosted on Saturday
- With the trimester over half way complete, parent-teacher visitation night will be occurring soon
- Fall sports are wrapping up with the last week of playoffs occurring for many teams
- The LHS Drama Department has its fall production coming up next week

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by John Benbow to approve regular Board of Education meeting minutes of September 13, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Three individuals signed up to make public comment; however, no topic from the agenda was listed on the individual sign-in sheets. Therefore, President Krings moved on to the next agenda item.

Committee Reports

A. Educational Services Committee – October 4, 2021. Report given by Mary Rayome.

Ms. Rayome stated there are no consent agenda items from the meeting, and provided updates and reports on:

- Ms. Roxanne Filtz, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, and Emily Stieve, Academic and Career Planning (ACP) Coordinator, provided an update on grades 6-12 ACP initiatives that are on-going at Lincoln High School (LHS) and Wisconsin Rapids Area Middle School (WRAMS). An overview of virtual resources that have been utilized during the pandemic was shared. Student lessons and activities during the 2020-21 school year involved staff, administration, students, business leaders, community members, and parents. Community events and collaboration with post-secondary partners have played an integral part in providing resources and support to students. Surveys are being utilized to determine how well the ACP program is meeting student needs. Senior exit surveys indicate that 86.7% of students feel prepared for the transition to college, the workplace, or an apprenticeship or military program, and 90.8% believe the school is preparing them well in areas of creativity, decision making, and problem solving. Three areas of accomplishment were highlighted including a strong volunteer program, the newly developed LHS ACP Scholarship Program, and the “RaiderAid” texting program for graduates.

- Ms. Filtz explained that a number of new course proposals are being considered by the Council for Instructional Improvement (CII) committee as follows:
 - Kelly Bluell, Mathematics Coordinator, introduced a new course proposal for “Applied Mathematics for the Trades” which would earn .5 of LHS mathematics credit, and include a dual-credit option through Mid-State Technical College (MSTC). The course will provide students intending to pursue a degree in the trades with another option to earn mathematics credit during their junior and senior year.
 - Valerie Tonn, Art Teacher at Howe Elementary and Lincoln High School, introduced a new course proposal titled “Bloodstone Layout Editor Course Credit” which would be a .5 elective course for students in grades 10-12. Bloodstone is a student created and teacher guided literary project which is produced in a collaborative fashion between the LHS Art and English/Language Arts departments. Layout editors taking the course would be selected by the instructor and work during the second or third trimester on layout and design for the publication. The development of this course will ensure that the magazine project is completed by the end of the year to allow entrance into the National Council of Teachers of English publication as well as be available for student purchase while school is in session.
 - Ms. Filtz reviewed two new course proposals in the Social Studies content area. “Modified World History” would cover the chronological period of 1200-1990, and be offered as a one-term elective course for juniors and seniors to earn .5 Social Studies credit. Students would also have the option to earn college credit through UW-Stevens Point. This course would replace the current 1 credit “Advanced Placement/Dual Enrollment World History” course which hasn’t run for three years because students have difficulty fitting a two-term course into their schedules.

A second course to be offered for .5 Social Studies credit is “Foundations in Criminal Justice.” To fulfill their junior year graduation requirements, students have the option to take U.S. Government, AP Government, or The Law. Due to the similar content covered, only one of these courses can be taken. Offering Foundations in Criminal Justice will allow students who have a special interest in government to further their understanding by taking a deeper dive into the primary components of the criminal justice system. This elective course will provide students who have a particular interest in government and the law the opportunity to advance their knowledge and explore these topics more extensively.
 - Miranda Moody, Secondary Literacy Coordinator and LHS Language Arts Department Chair, and Nathali Jones, LHS Physical Education Teacher, introduced a new course proposal titled “Environmental Lit. in the Outdoors” as a 1 credit course for seniors to combine the experiences of the Environmental Literature and Outdoor Education courses currently running for .5 credit each. The new 1 credit course would provide .5 credit towards the Phy Ed graduation requirement, and .5 credit toward the English requirement. An overview of how Wisconsin DPI Phy Ed and English Standards will be met was explained. For the past three years, numerous students have overlapped in enrollment in the current courses, and in 2021-22 there will be 18 students overlapping. Students would benefit from the cross curricular approach to the course, develop and refine social emotional skills, and gain knowledge of current environmental issues and the impact of activities in the outdoors.

After the CII committee reviews the proposals and casts an advisory vote, the proposals will be brought back to the Educational Services Committee meeting in November, 2021 for consideration and possible approval.

- Ms. Jennifer Wilhorn, Principal of Central Oaks Academy Charter School presented 2021-22 financial, operational, and academic goals for the school. The Governance Board will monitor the monthly expenditure summary report, work toward completing a governance board handbook and onboarding plan for new members, ensure that a Parent Advisory Council is established, and facilitate collaboration between the Governance Board, Central Oaks Academy staff, and the Parent Advisory Council to engage parents and students with a goal of fostering unified school spirit. The 2021-22 Central Oaks Professional Development Plan was shared.
- Ms. Filtz explained that each school year the District engages in a consortium with the Port Edwards School District to provide a comprehensive “New Colleague Program.” Support systems offered through the program help new colleagues successfully adjust to their school districts. The cost of the program has been defrayed each year through the annual Peer Review and Mentor Grant. The District received notification that 2021-22 maximum grant funding amount of \$25,000.00 has been approved.

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by John Benbow to approve the balance of the Educational Services Committee report and minutes of the October 4, 2021 Educational Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Business Services Committee – October 4, 2021. 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 to enter into a 66.03.01 Cooperative Agreement with the Nekoosa School District for a student attending the Project Search program.
- BS-2 Approval to purchase 450 Meraki Wireless Access Point licenses from PDS in the amount of \$58,401.00 to be funded from the 2021-22 Technology Referendum budget.
- BS-3 Approval to purchase 100 iPads from Apple in the amount of \$29,900.00 to be funded from the 2021-22 Technology Referendum budget.
- BS-4 Approval to purchase an audio system for the WRAMS auditorium from Soundworks System, Inc. in the amount of \$30,565.64 to be funded from the 2021-22 Technology Referendum budget.
- BS-5 Approval of the purchase of 1 HP Nimble Hybrid Array from PDS in the amount of \$37,992.31 to be funded from the 2021-22 Technology Referendum budget.

Mr. Benbow requested that consent agenda item BS-2 be held out.

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Katie Medina to approve consent agenda items BS 1, 3, 4, and 5. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

With regard to BS-2, Mr. Benbow stated that the motion should indicate that the licenses are on a *3-year* renewal.

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Katie Medina to approve of the purchase of 450 Meraki Wireless Access Point 3-year licenses from PDS in the amount of \$58,401.00 to be funded from the 2021-22 Technology Referendum budget. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Mr. Benbow provided updates and reports on:

- Purchasing updates
- Department of Revenue fall equalized value amounts for the District
- Purchase of copy paper
- Cost of \$60,000 quoted by preferred vendor Miron Construction to repair structural damage to the southeast corner of the Performing Arts Center caused by a vehicle accident for which the vehicle owner's insurance company is responsible

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Troy Bier to approve the balance of the Business Services Committee report and minutes of the October 4, 2021 Business Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Personnel Services Committee – October 4, 2021. 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 Linda Sanger (WRAMS Cashier/Howe Breakfast Cashier), Paul Drake (Custodian – LHS), Carol Rogers (Noon Duty Aide – Woodside), Tenille Brost (Special Ed Aide – Mead), Trina Tritz (Instructional 4K Aide – Central Oaks), Toni Scheel (Special Ed Aide – Pitsch), Lori Hogue (Instructional/Noon Duty Aide – THINK), Paul Hobart (Custodian – District), Abigail Krug (Kitchen Helper – LHS), Cheryl Hanneman (Media Faculty Aide – Lincoln), Mindy Engelhardt (Special Ed Aide – Howe), Lacey Worzalla (Health Aide – LHS), Linda Stoflet (Noon Duty Aide – Grant), Melissa Bouchard (Administrative Assistant to Technology Dept.), Scout Gerndt (Administrative Assistant to Athletic Director – LHS), Faith Peaslee (Kitchen Helper – WRAMS), Andrea Galvan (ELL Aide – Lincoln), Miranda Behr (Kitchen Helper – WRAMS), Emily Smith (Noon Duty Aide – Mead), Samantha Lom (Supervisory Aide – WRAMS).

- PS-2 Approval of the support staff resignations of Gerald Korslin (Noon Duty Aide – Grant), Erica Lewandowski (Administrative Assistant to Technology Dept.), Tammy Kirk (Kitchen Helper – LHS), and Janette Dotter (Cashier – WRAMS).
- PS-3 Approval of Board Policy 830 – Use of School Facilities, second reading.
- PS-4 Approval of a wage increase for the following substitute positions to \$13.00/hour effective October 15, 2021: substitute clerical and support staff aides and all substitute food service positions, except substitute food service cashier.
- PS-5 Approval of a wage increase for substitute food service cashier to \$12.50/hour effective October 15, 2021.
- PS-6 Approval of a pay rate increase for substitute teachers from \$120 a day to \$125 a day effective October 15, 2021.

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

Motion by Sandra Hett, seconded by Larry Davis to approve the balance of the Personnel Services Committee report and minutes of the regular October 4, 2021 Personnel Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Referrals/Information Requests

Sandra Hett requested an updated listing on how donations are going for the LHS video scoreboard.

Legislative Agenda

Troy Bier shared the following information:

- Both the Senate and Assembly were in session on September 28, 2021 and acted on the following K-12 legislation:

Passed Both Houses, Headed to Governor

- SB 373 – this bill requires DPI to create a school district financial information portal in a format that allows the public to download, sort, search, and access the information at no cost and creates an advisory committee to advise the DPI on the portal;
- SB 463 – requires each school board to post learning materials and educational activities used in pupil instruction and any procedure or policy that applies approval of such materials or activities online and update the listing at least twice each school year, and also allows a school district resident to sue the school district and guarantees attorney’s fees up to \$15,000 to the resident if they prevail;
- AB 220 – specifies that the youth apprenticeship program must be included in the list of educational options that a school provides to parents/guardians and creates an exception for a school or school board that does not operate high school grades (e.g., K-8 districts) from having to include an educational option that is available to only high school pupils;

Passed by Senate, Headed to Assembly

- SB 398 – this bill adds September 11 to the list of special observance days for schools as a day to remember the attacks that occurred in 2001, and to honor law enforcement officers and fire fighters;
- SB 449 – grants to schools to provide critical incident mapping data to law enforcement agencies;

Passed Assembly, Headed to Senate

- SB 411 – prohibits a school board from allowing a teacher to teach pupils race or sex stereotyping and is prohibited from requiring an employee to attend a training that promotes race or sex stereotyping – provides that the state superintendent of public instruction must withhold 10% of state aid distributions from a school board that violates these prohibitions, and allows a parent/guardian of a student to bring a claim against a school district for violation of the prohibitions;
- AB 435 – requires the state superintendent to incorporate cursive writing into the model academic standards for English language arts (which has already been done) and requires school boards to include cursive writing in its respective curriculum for elementary level;
- AB 561 – requires a school board to annually report to the DPI the number of pupils who attended a credit recovery course;
- AB 563 – requires .5 credit of civics education for high school graduation and requires the DPI to promulgate administrative rules to develop a model civics curriculum and instructional materials that address certain topics and requires legislative approval of said model curriculum;
- AB 564 – requires reports concerning state agency expenditure of federal coronavirus relief funds and requires allocating \$100 million federal American Rescue Plan Act funding for grants to school districts, independent charter schools, and private schools for mental health programs.

- The GOP has introduced a proposal to amend the Wisconsin Constitution that would turn the state superintendent of public instruction, treasurer and secretary of state into Cabinet positions appointed to serve at the pleasure of the governor. The amendment would also make the treasurer the head of the state Department of Revenue, eliminating the agency secretary. Currently, each of these constitutional offices is directly elected by a statewide ballot.
- Mr. Bier made mention of two upcoming opportunities if Board members are interested and available to attend: 1) the local Heart of Wisconsin Legislative Breakfast to be held on Friday, October 13, 2021; and 2) the fall WASB Legislative Conference scheduled for Saturday, November 6, 2021.

Bills

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by Larry Davis to note September, 2021 receipts in the amount of \$6,138,350.10 and approve September, 2021 disbursements of \$4,113,678.55. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

New Business

Employee Appointments, Resignations, and Retirement Requests

None.

2022 Friend of Education Award

Superintendent Broeren spoke with President Krings and Vice President Rayome concerning a recommendation for Jim Newman and Charlie Martin to be presented with the 2022 Friend of Education award for their significant contributions toward extra-curricular activities including state cross country, gymnastics, and the community at large. If selected, the individuals would receive their award at a special Madrigal dinner scheduled to occur on Saturday, December 18, 2021. This would be slightly different than the annual holiday concert during which the recognition typically occurs.

Motion by Larry Davis, seconded by Troy Bier to approve of presenting the 2022 Friend of Education award to Jim Newman and Charlie Martin. Motion carried unanimously.

Amendment to Plunkett Raysich Architects (PRA) Contract/LHS Referendum Furniture Procurement Services

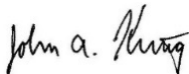
Mr. Broeren explained that the overall construction budget for Lincoln High School's referendum project includes dollars allocated toward furniture procurement services. PRA has provided a proposal offering a sliding scale of 5%, 7%, or 9% of the furniture budget to provide varying degrees of furniture procurement services. The administration recommends approval of an "Amendment 9" to the PRA contract to include a fee of 7% for furniture procurement services based on the total LHS budget of \$952,000 which amounts to a cost of \$66,640. Services will include: introduction of project goals and provide schematic furniture plans; coordinate District and user groups for programming and furniture reviews; work with Owner to select a Dealer Partner to expedite selected furniture based upon budget, function, and aesthetic goals; select furniture finishes in coordination with interior architectural finishes; review furniture floor plans for accuracy throughout the process; and coordinate interior architecture elements with furniture, including electrical needs. The alternative to having the furniture procurement services contracted out would be to have District personnel undertake the process, which would be very time consuming with a limited level of expertise and efficiency. The Board considered the pros and cons of approving the recommendation.

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Larry Davis to approve of the proposed "Amendment 9" to the Plunkett Raysich Architects contract for Lincoln High School furniture procurement services. Motion carried on a roll call vote of 6-1. Sandra Hett voted no.

Calendar

Calendar items were reviewed.

President Krings adjourned the meeting at 6:41 p.m.



John A. Krings – President

Maurine Hodgson – Secretary

Larry Davis – Clerk