



# 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

July 10, 2017

### 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, Larry Davis, Katie Medina

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Craig Broeren, Daniel Weigand, Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Ryan Christianson, Matt Green, Elizabeth Severson

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

President Krings presented special recognition to retiring District employees as follows: Kim Marshall-Melby, Steve Slattery, and Sue Johnson.

#### Approval of Minutes

**Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by John Benbow to approve special open and closed session Board of Education meeting minutes of June 12, 2017; regular Board of Education meeting minutes of June 12, 2017; and special Board of Education budget hearing meeting minutes of June 26, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### Comments from Citizens and Delegations

None.

#### Committee Reports

A. Business Services Committee – July 5, 2017. 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 a proposal to accept a donation from Light of Christ Church totaling \$15,226.50 for video system installation in the Washington Elementary School gymnasium.

**Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Larry Davis to approve consent agenda item BS 1. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Benbow provided updates and reports on:

- Purchases of software licensing and a maintenance van.

**Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Katie Medina to approve the balance of the Business Services Committee report and minutes of the regular July 5, 2017, Business Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

**B. Personnel Services Committee – July 5, 2017. 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 Joely Tracy (Teacher – LOT w/BBLC), Kayla Wolosek (Teacher – Woodside), and Megan Thayer (Teacher – East Jr. High).
- PS-2 Approval of the support staff appointments of Amanda Mrozek (4K Aide – THINK) and Ann Sculley (Supervisory Aide – WRAMS).
- PS-3 Approval of the support staff early retirements of Michael Fish (Maintenance – District) and Nancy Sparhawk (Second Cook – Mead).
- PS-4 Approval of Board Policy 458 – Student Wellness, second reading.
- PS-5 Approval of Board Policy 458 Rule – Nutrition Guidelines, second reading.
- PS-6 Approval of Board Policy 760 Rule – Food Services Management Guidelines, second reading.
- PS-7 Approval for athletic co-curricular pay rate percentages as presented to the Committee to take effect with the start of the 2017-18 school year.
- PS-8 Approval of \$36,500 as the new base-wage calculator to be used with athletic co-curricular pay percentage rates to calculate wages for District coaching positions beginning with the start of the 2017-18 school year, with the exception that coaches currently employed in a coaching position prior to the 2017-18 school year shall maintain the wage received in the 2016-17 school year, so long as they maintain continuous employment in the coaching position and the 2016-17 wage rate is higher than the wage calculated in 2017-18 and thereafter.

**Motion by Sandra Hett, seconded by Anne Lee to approve consent agenda items PS 1-8. Motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Hett provided updates and reports on:

- The Committee discussed the District’s current substitute teacher pay rates. Dr. Christianson recommended the Committee consider a potential pay increase to the regular daily rate for substitute teachers to take effect beginning with the start of the 2017-18 school year. Additional substitute teacher pay rate information will be brought forward to the Committee for further discussion and possible action at a future meeting.
- A 2017-18 wage increase and potential benefit adjustments for confidential employees was discussed, including prospective changes to the holidays, vacations, eyecare/physical exam, and early retirement insurance sections of the employee benefit document. The confidential employees’ 2017-18 wage and benefit compensation will be discussed further, with possible action taken at a future meeting.
- Office/clerical and aide support staff 2017-18 wages were considered. The administration has been working on a recommendation that is anticipated to include a differentiated wage rate increase proposal for individual job classifications in the office/clerical and aide support staff employee group. A finalized recommendation will be brought forward to the Committee for further discussion and possible action at a future meeting.

**Motion by Sandra Hett, seconded by Mary Rayome to approve regular Personnel Services Committee meeting minutes of July 5, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.**

**C. Educational Services Committee – July 5, 2017. 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 pupil academic standards set out in Attachment A that will be in effect for the 2017-18 school year.
- ES-2 Approval to contract with Preferred Driver Education to provide driver education instruction to students at LHS during the 2017-18 school year, as an option for students outside of the regular high school curriculum.

**Motion by Anne Lee, seconded by Larry Davis to approve consent agenda items ES 1-2. Motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Lee provided updates and reports on:

- The Woodlot Project and City Pond Partnership at Lincoln High School
- Achievement Gap Reduction (AGR) Annual Report
- Goals and accomplishments of the WRPS Mental Health and Behavior Committee during the 2016-17 school year

**Motion by Anne Lee, seconded by Larry Davis to approve the balance of the Educational Services Committee report and minutes of the July 5, 2017 Educational Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### Agenda Referrals/Information Requests

Ms. Hett requested that the Board receive information at the end of the 2017 summer reflecting how many children received free breakfast and lunches through the summer feeding program.

#### Legislative Agenda

Mr. Benbow shared the following information which he received from the Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB) as legislative updates:

- Assembly GOP leaders have released their K-12 funding plan which covers details relative to per pupil aid, sparsity aid, scheduling of school referenda, special education open enrollment transfer amounts, high-cost per pupil transportation aid, mental health program and bullying prevention program, whole grade sharing categorical aid, consolidation categorical aid, high-cost special education aid, early college credit program, the statewide private school choice program, school and school district accountability reports, and the civics assessment requirement for high school graduation.
- Assembly Bill 307 would require school districts to use the competitive bidding process on all construction projects above \$75,000.
- A Congressional Budget Office report projects federal Medicaid spending under the Senate version of the health care reform bill would be 26 percent (or roughly \$160 billion) lower in 2026 than under current law.
- Mr. Benbow encouraged the use of the advocacy tips and tools which can be found on the WASB website.

Ms. Hett mentioned that Wisconsin lawmakers introduced a proposal to require the Wisconsin Dept. of Public Instruction and Dept. of Natural Resources to develop curriculum for an elective firearm safety course that school districts could use.

Mr. Davis expressed concerns about the federal healthcare bill and its impact on low-income individuals if it is passed, suggesting that legislators be contacted by those who also have similar concerns.

#### Bills

**Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by John Benbow to note June, 2017 receipts in the amount of \$12,634,928.79 and approve June, 2017 disbursements in the amount of \$4,783,024.71. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.**

#### New Business

##### Employee Appointment, Resignation, Retirement Requests

Dr. Christianson presented a recommendation to approve of the following professional staff resignation requests:

Christina Mitchell effective June 30, 2017 (1.0 FTE – Lincoln High School)  
Katlin Maloney effective June 30, 2017 (1.0 FTE – East Jr. High School)

Liquidated damages have been received by both individuals as required.

**Motion by Larry Davis, seconded by Mary Rayome to approve of the two professional staff resignation requests as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

##### Supplemental Wage Increase to Retain Individual Professional Staff Employee

Dr. Christianson explained that staff retention continues to be a challenge in particularly hard-to-fill areas such as business education. The Board just approved a resignation request by a professional staff member who teaches

business education and ended up accepting a position in another district after being recruited by them. The Personnel Services Committee has had ongoing conversation about this topic in prior months, and a recommendation was being developed for potential consideration and approval in August. Another business education teacher, Ashley Tessmer, has been in conversation with Dr. Christianson concerning her wage level. In the interest of retaining Ashley Tessmer as an employee, the administration recommends approval of a \$5,000 recurring supplemental wage increase beginning with the 2017-18 school year. A similar supplemental increase was approved for technical education teachers in the past for the purposes of retention.

**Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by Sandra Hett to approve of a recurring supplemental wage increase of \$5,000.00 for Ashley Tessmer beginning with the 2017-18 school year. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.**

Contract With Nexus Solutions

Mr. Daniel Weigand, Director of Business Services, explained that a listing of potential energy conservation and capital improvement projects was shared with the Board at a meeting on June 26, 2017. The Board took action to authorize the administration to enter into a performance contract with Nexus Solutions, LLC. A contract has been developed, and the administration recommends approval to enter into the contract with Nexus Solutions, LLC.

**Motion by Larry Davis, seconded by Katie Medina to approve of entering into a contract with Nexus Solutions, LLC for energy conservation and capital improvement projects. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.**

Energy Efficiency and Capital Improvement Projects

Mr. Weigand provided an overview of the capital improvement and energy conservation projects which the Board reviewed during a June 26, 2017 Board meeting. The administration recommends that all projects listed in the *Facilities Upgrade Plan* dated June 26, 2017 and developed by Nexus Solutions be approved for completion.

**Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by Larry Davis to approve of all projects as proposed to be completed by Nexus Solutions at Lincoln High School for energy efficiency and capital improvements. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.**

Resolution Authorizing a State Trust Fund Loan from the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands

Mr. Weigand reviewed a proposed Board Resolution to authorize application for a State Trust Fund loan from the Board of Commissioners in the amount of \$11,500,000.00 for the purpose of financing energy efficiency and capital improvement projects. The loan would be repaid within ten years and carry an interest rate of 3.5 percent per annum. Mr. Weigand outlined publication and petition period requirements concerning the Resolution.

**Motion by Larry Davis, seconded by Katie Medina to approve a Resolution authorizing a loan from the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands for a State Trust Fund loan in the amount of \$11,500,000.00 for the purpose of financing energy efficiency and capital improvement projects. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.**

Supply Bid Request Results

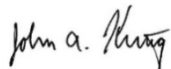
Mr. Weigand reviewed bid results for a variety of general supplies, paper supplies, nurse supplies, and custodial supplies used in the District each year. The Board noted the savings to the District as a result of bidding, since vendors were selected based upon cost.

**Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Larry Davis to approve of all bid request results as presented. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.**

Calendar

Calendar items were reviewed.

President Krings adjourned the meeting at 6:46 p.m.



John A. Krings – President

Maurine Hodgson – Secretary

Larry Davis – Clerk