



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

July 8, 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: Larry Davis, John Krings, Sandra Hett, Mary Rayome, John Benbow, Troy Bier, Katie Medina

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

MEDIA PRESENT: Andy Radig – River Cities Community Access

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Special Recognition

President Krings paid special recognition on behalf of the Board to retiree Jill Thom and former Board member Anne Lee.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by Larry Davis to approve regular Board of Education meeting minutes of June 10, 2019; special open and closed session Board of Education meeting minutes of June 10, 2019; and special Board of Education meeting minutes of June 24, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

Comments from Citizens and Delegations

None.

Committee Reports

A. Educational Services Committee – July 1, 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 the Pupil Academic Standards that will be in effect for the 2019-20 school year, as presented.

Committee Reports (continued)

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by John Benbow to approve consent agenda item ES-1. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Rayome provided updates and reports on:

- Superintendent Craig Broeren shared Achievement Gap Reduction (AGR) mid-year and end-of-year report information with Committee members. The report detailed information relative to each school's performance in grades Kindergarten through grade 3 to achieve District benchmark goals set for Reading and Math. The Committee discussed the report and considered how the Student Achievement Guarantee in Education (SAGE) initiative has changed and evolved to current AGR requirements, performance objectives, expectations of students, and success in attaining the objectives.

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by Katie Medina to approve the balance of the Educational Services Committee report and minutes of the July 1, 2019 Educational Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Business Services Committee – July 1, 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 proposed modification to Board Policy 723.1-Rule – Emergency School Closing Procedures for first reading.
- BS-2 Approval of the proposed National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Equipment Grant in the amount of \$7,594.00.
- BS-3 Approval of the proposed purchase of one 40-quart mixer from Boelter at a cost of \$11,403.00, to be used in the School Lunch Program at Mead Elementary School.
- BS-4 Approval of the revised 10-Year Facility Plan with further additions as discussed.
- BS-5 Approval of the proposed purchase of 2019-20 school supplies as listed.

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

Mr. Benbow provided updates and reports on:

- The Committee was updated on Port Edwards School District invoices related to 4K services.

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Katie Medina to approve the balance of the Business Services Committee report and minutes of the July 1, 2019 Business Services Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Personnel Services Committee – July 1, 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 professional staff appointments for the 2019-20 school year of Megan Sondalle (Teacher – Woodside), Becky Dean (Teacher – Grove), Carrie Andres (Teacher – Mead), Danica Harrison (Teacher – WRAMS), Barry Walsh (Teacher – WRAMS), and Karen Salzwedel (Teacher – WRAMS).
- PS-2 Approval of the support staff appointments for the 2019-2020 school year of Jacob Jarvis (Custodian Helper – Lincoln/PAC), Amanda Mrozek (Special Ed Aide – THINK), Kristine Novey (Special Ed Aide – Mead), Barbara Enright (Special Ed Aide – Mead), Michael Sallet (Special Ed Aide – Mead), Anita Hernandez (Special Ed Aide – Woodside), Debbie Jepson (Special Ed Aide – Woodside), Kerry Fox (Special Ed Aide – Woodside), Kourtney Keyzer (Special Ed Aide – Grove), Patricia Smith (Special Ed Aide – Washington), Shannon Cornette (Special Ed Aide/EC – Grant), Beth Crotteau (Special Ed Aide – Grant), Bonnie Olson (Kitchen Helper – Lincoln), Abbi McCarty (Instructional Aide – WRAMS), Joy Brey (Office Aide – Mead), Linda Weinfurter (Secretary – Grove), Tonya Hawke (Supervisory Aide – WRAMS), Dawn LaMarche (Special Ed Aide/EC – Woodside).

- PS-3 Approval of the professional staff resignation requests of Mary Molski (Teacher – WRAMS) and Emma Schunk (Teacher – WRAMS).
- PS-4 Approval of Board Policy 365.1 – Network and Internet Responsible Use and Internet Safety Policy for Students, second reading.
- PS-5 Approval of Board Policy 365.1 Rule – Network and Internet Responsible Use and Internet Safety Guidelines for Students, second reading pending the noted changes/clarification. *(The Committee recommended removal of the word “comprehensive” on page 1 and “A/V Director” from page 4. They also discussed whether or not “users” should be changed to “student users” on page 1, with a consensus reached that this additional change is not necessary.)*

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

Ms. Hett provided updates and reports on:

- Brian Oswald, Director of Human Resources, and Craig Broeren, Superintendent, shared how multiple emergency school closures impact certain hourly staff. The Committee requested that the Administration develop options along with suggested Employee Handbook language revisions for the Committee to consider.

Motion by Sandra Hett, seconded by Larry Davis to approve the balance of the Personnel Services Committee report and minutes of the July 1, 2019 Personnel Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Referrals/Information Requests

None.

Legislative Agenda

John Benbow explained that Troy Bier has offered to share Legislative updates with the Board beginning with this meeting, and President Krings has expressed support for this change. Troy Bier shared the following information:

- An anti-bullying ordinance was passed by the Wisconsin Rapids City Council for first reading in June, and will now move on for second reading in July.
- The Wisconsin Supreme Court has ruled that the State Superintendent and the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) must submit proposed administrative rules to the Governor for approval as is required of all other state agencies. The Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB) and School Administrators Alliance joined together to file an amicus brief in support of the position that the State Superintendent should not be subject to such processes; however, the ruling came despite the fact that the State Superintendent is a constitutional official, and despite at least two prior Supreme Court decisions that held such a requirement as unconstitutional.
- Governor Evers signed the state budget into law with several partial vetoes which provided nearly \$87 million in per pupil aid to school districts and roughly \$570 million more in state aid over the next two years. The increase includes \$97 million for special education, which still remains below the \$606.1 million boost the Governor had proposed. More money was directed toward K-12 education by changing the annual per-pupil aid amount to set the payments at \$742 per student in each year of the two-year budget period. Mr. Bier shared his impressions about responses from Representative Krug and Representative Testin’s offices following passage of the budget.
- On July 1, 2019, the DPI released general school aid estimates for the 2019-20 school year which total \$4.74 billion for the State, representing a 1.8% increase over last year. Of the state’s 421 school districts, 59% (248) are estimated to receive more general aid in 2019-20, while 40% (168) are estimated to receive less; five districts will have no change in aid between the 2018-19 and 2019-20 fiscal years.

Bills

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by John Benbow to note June, 2019 receipts in the amount of \$12,691,567.10 and approve June, 2019 disbursements in the amount of \$5,085,066.52. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

New Business

Employee Resignation and Appointment Requests

None.

Update on Status of District Energy Projects

Ed Allison, Director of Buildings & Grounds, introduced Nexus Solutions representatives Jeff Mangan, Account Executive, and Dylan Thill, Project Manager. Mr. Mangan and Mr. Thill reviewed the status of various District energy projects which have been completed, as well as on-going projects. In 2018, projects at Lincoln High School included the addition of gymnastics and wrestling room space, pool and office renovations, lighting upgrades, and mechanical improvements in the form of air handling units, exhaust fans, a dust collector, destratification fans, the addition of a cooling tower, and HVAC controls. Mechanical improvements in 2019 include energy recovery ventilation units, boiler replacements, and radiant fin tubes for Woodside and Washington Elementary Schools. Additionally, lighting improvements and ceiling replacements have been on-going throughout the district, and a number of building envelope repairs, door/window replacements, and water conservation projects have been accomplished. Numerous local contractors have been successful in securing the work related to these projects. Mr. Thill provided the following overall budget summary:

Project Budget Phase 1	\$14,436,768
Project Budget Phase 2	\$ 2,155,573
Project Budget Phase 3	<u>\$ 9,387,865</u>
Total Budget	\$25,980,206
Current Contingencies	\$ 2,546,552
Capital Project Savings	\$ 327,328

As projects conclude, tasks yet to be completed include final budget reconciliations, completion of commissioning, energy savings and utility measurements, and review the potential for any additional improvements. The Board had an opportunity to ask questions concerning the projects. President Krings thanked the Nexus representatives for their report.

Lease for CESA 5 to Utilize Vesper Facility

Superintendent Broeren explained that he has been in contact with CESA 5 representatives concerning their interest in leasing the Vesper facility for the Wood County Alternative School (WCAS) program beginning with the 2019-20 school year. CESA 5 would pay an annual rental fee of \$23,000 to the District, which would help offset some of the expense to maintain the building. Vesper students who now attend THINK Academy in Rudolph would still be picked up/transferred by bus at the Vesper facility. The District would allow the CESA group to utilize existing furniture and equipment located in the building that is not needed elsewhere. CESA 5 has provided a proposed lease agreement which contains language similar to that drafted for use in other districts.

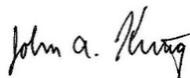
The Board questioned whether or not the lease provides for a decrease in the contracted amount charged to WRPS for students enrolled in the WCAS program, and if the lease would operate on a year-to-year basis. Mr. Broeren stated that no program discounts would be applicable, and the lease would be in effect on a year-to-year basis. The District shares a harmonious relationship with CESA 5, and Mr. Broeren expressed confidence that the parties could come to mutually agreeable terms concerning details related to the agreement in the future. Operational costs were evaluated and discussed.

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Larry Davis to approve of the proposed lease agreement for CESA 5 to utilize the Vesper Community Academy facility. Motion carried unanimously.

Calendar

Calendar items were reviewed.

President Krings adjourned the meeting at 6:54 p.m.



John A. Krings – President

Maurine Hodgson – Secretary

Larry Davis – Clerk