



MINUTES

Wisconsin Rapids Board of Education  
**Educational Services Committee**  
510 Peach Street · Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494 · (715) 424-6701

Anne Lee, Chairman  
John Benbow, Jr.  
Katie Bielski-Medina  
Larry Davis  
Sandra Hett  
Mary Rayome  
John Krings, President

July 1, 2013

LOCATION: Board of Education, 510 Peach Street, Wisconsin Rapids WI  
Conference Room A/B

TIME: Immediately following the Business Services Committee and Personnel Services  
Committee meetings, but not before 6:15 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: John Benbow, Jr., Katie Bielski-Medina, Sandra Hett, John Krings,  
Anne Lee, and Mary Rayome

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Larry Davis

OTHERS PRESENT: John Bergin, Trudy DeSimons, Colleen Dickmann, Gus Mancuso, Rick Merdan,  
Jennifer Riggenschach, Jim Scott, and Kathi Stebbins Hintz

I. Call to Order

Anne Lee called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Actionable Items

A. Board Policy 342.5 – Title I Programs — First Reading

**ES-1 Motion by Mary Rayome, second by John Krings, to approve Board Policy 342.5 – Title I Programs for first reading.**

Kathi Stebbins Hintz, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, presented the revised version of Board Policy 342.5 – Title I Programs and Title I Parental Involvement Policy to Committee members for first reading.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

- B. SPDG Professional Learning Communities Focus on PLCs Grant Application – Grove Elementary

**ES-2 Motion by John Benbow, second by John Krings, to approve the SPDG Professional Learning Communities Focus on PLCs Grant Application for Grove Elementary School in the amount of \$16,000.**

Kathi Stebbins Hintz, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, explained the Wisconsin State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) has been developed to assist schools with the most significant gaps between Students with Disabilities and the state averages for students in this same subgroup.

Grove Elementary School qualifies and has decided to apply for the SPDG grant. The grant would provide support from PLC coaches, along with professional development, access to a supporting website, and up to \$16,000 per year for four years for professional development and PLC work.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

IV. Updates and Reports

A. Business-Education-Incourage Committee Update

Kathi Stebbins Hintz, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Gus Mancuso, Jennifer Riggerbach, John Bergin, and Rick Merdan of Incourage, were present to provide an update about the work of the Business-Education Partnership Committee. The Business-Education Partnership Committee formed in the fall of 2013 to address the skills gap and “silver tsunami” facing manufacturing and other industries in Central Wisconsin. The Committee is made up of representation from area businesses, school districts, and Incourage. The Business-Education Partnership Committee has worked hard throughout the year to become informed about the needs of students, educators, and industry in the area. Four sub-committees have been formed to continue this important work during the 2013-2014 school year. The four sub-committees are:

- **K-5 Curriculum:** Infuse contextualized Stem information and experiences into the K-5 curriculum.
- **6-14 Curriculum:** Infuse contextualized Stem information and experiences into the 6-14 curriculum.
- **Apprenticeships:** Create Business/Education partnerships which afford certified apprenticeships, job shadows, mentoring experiences, internships, and other work experience opportunities for students.
- **Community/Parent/Educator Education:** Educate the community, parents, and educators about the opportunities available in our region.

The update also included a list of accomplishments and goals specific to Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools focusing on how the District is working to close the "skills gap." The update was concluded with information from InCourage about how the Business-Education Partnership Committee fits into a larger network of organizations within the South Wood County area.

B. Tour of Caring Closet

The Caring Closet was opened several years ago in the basement of the Family Center in an effort to provide new and gently used essentials and clothing for Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools (WRPS) students. The location of The Caring Closet was moved to East Junior High School under the leadership of Heather Lisitza, current WRPS Homeless Coordinator. Committee members and members of the public joined Ms. Lisitza in a tour of The Caring Closet.

V. Consent Agenda Items

ES-1 Board Policy 342.5 – Title I Programs — First Reading

ES-2 SPDG Professional Learning Communities Focus on PLCs Grant Application – Grove Elementary

VI. Future Agenda Items/Information Requests

*\*Agenda items are determined by Committee Chair after consultation with appropriate administration depending upon other agenda items, presentation information, and agenda availability.*

Future agenda items include, but are not limited to:

- Student Information System (August)
- Math Workbook Purchase (August)
- VCA and Mead Elementary Charter Contracts (August)
- Courses and DEU/Credits for Teachers (August)

Anne Lee adjourned the meeting at 7:03 p.m.