



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

January 7, 2014  
\* Corrected

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, Larry Davis, Sandra Hett,  
John Krings, Anne Lee, and Mary Rayome

OTHERS PRESENT: Ed Allison, Phil Bickelhaupt, Colleen Dickmann, Kathi Stebbins Hintz, Ronald  
Rasmussen, Jim Scott

I. Call to Order

Anne Lee called the meeting to order at 6:16 p.m.

II. Public Comment

No public comment.

III. Actionable Items

No actionable items.

IV. Updates

A. Lincoln High School Schedule Study Update

Ronald Rasmussen, Principal at Lincoln High School (LHS), provided an overview of the steps taken at LHS to explore scheduling options. He noted that a committee of teachers, counselors, and administrators was formed in 2012-13 to examine various schedules. The group identified criteria to use when studying the various schedules. Several options were studied, and the committee selected three schedules to explore further: block, modular and trimester. After research and discussion, block scheduling was found to be the least favorable option, mainly because it would increase staffing. The modular system, which has been used by Wausau West for many years, was an interesting option. The committee realized that the building would most likely have to

undergo renovations to accommodate this type of schedule. This brought the trimester option to the top of the list.

With trimester, the school year would be divided into three sections: fall, winter, and spring. Students would take five classes each trimester, enabling them to earn a possible 7.5 credits per year. Staff members visited the Mequon and DePere School Districts as both are on a trimester schedule.

Mr. Rasmussen indicated the committee would continue to explore the possible implementation of the trimester schedule, but no schedule changes would be recommended to begin until the \*2015-16 school year.

#### B. Skylert

Kathi Stebbins Hintz, Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Phil Bickelhaupt, Director of Technology recapped the benefits of implementing Skylert as a district mass notification system that could be purchased as an add-on module to Skyward. Notifications can be sent from individual buildings or from the District level. Because it is directly linked to Skyward, student data should be up-to-date.

Colleen Dickmann, Superintendent, indicated this would be purchased for one year on a trial basis, at a cost of \$9,503.00. Funds will come from the curriculum and technology referendum dollars. The contract would run from January to December of 2014.

#### V. Consent Agenda Items

No consent agenda items.

#### 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:

- Keyboarding Pilot Evaluation (February)
- Strategic Plan Update (February)
- Elementary I-Pad Update (February)
- RtI Update (March)

Anne Lee adjourned the meeting at 7:13 p.m.