



MINUTES

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

REVISED *
October 14, 2013

October 7, 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., Larry Davis, Katie Bielski-Medina, Sandra Hett,
John Krings, Anne Lee, and Mary Rayome

OTHERS PRESENT: Ed Allison, Phil Bickelhaupt, Ryan Christianson, Trudy DeSimons, Colleen
Dickmann, Ronald Rasmussen, Amy Ryan, Jim Scott, Kathi Stebbins Hintz,
and Suzanne Szlagowski

I. Call to Order

Anne Lee called the meeting to order at 6:28 p.m.

II. Public Comment

* Jim Scott indicated he had comments regarding specific items, and asked if he could
share them at this time or when the topics were up for discussion. Anne Lee stated he
could comment when the topics were brought up. Jim Scott commented under IV. Update
– District and School Report Card Results and submitted written questions.

III. Actionable Items

A. Educator Effectiveness Grant

**ES-1 Motion by John Benbow, Jr., second by Larry Davis, to approve the Educator
Effectiveness Grant in the amount of \$32,960.00.**

Kathi Stebbins Hintz, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, gave an overview of the
Educator Effectiveness System. Highlights of the system include a more uniform way
to evaluate, and teacher goal setting.

Sandra Hett questioned if this was a yearly expense, and Superintendent Colleen
Dickmann explained that it was.

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Constellation E2 Energy to Educate Grant

ES-2 Motion by Katie Bielski-Medina, second by Mary Rayome, to approve participation in the Constellation E2 Energy to Educate Grant for the approximate amount of \$13,000.

Kathi Stebbins Hintz, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, explained that WRPS will collaborate with Port Edwards Public Schools, Assumption Catholic Schools, and Nekoosa Public Schools to write a grant with Mid-State Technical College Renewable Energy faculty. The grant will be used for the funding of transportation for students, supplies, curriculum, and Solar Photovoltaic Projects. Installation costs of the designed 2-4kW photovoltaic system will be an in-kind donation from MSTC as the system will be installed by students in their Renewable Energy class.

Motion carried unanimously.

C. Youth Options Request – 2013-14 Second Semester

ES-3 Motion by Larry Davis, second by John Benbow, Jr., to approve eighteen (18) students to attend Mid-State Technical College and/or the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point at a cost not to exceed \$14,408.61.

Trudy DeSimons, Director of Pupil Services, explained how 18 students have applied for Youth Options classes beginning second semester of the 2013-14 school year. Course requests were reviewed. The District is required to pay for tuition and book expenses for the students if these courses are approved for high school credit.

Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Updates

A. District and School Report Card Results

Kathi Stebbins Hintz, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, reviewed the District and School Report Card Results that were released to the public on September 17, 2013. It was noted that three of our elementary schools, Grove, Howe and Mead, met or exceeded expectations. These three schools are Title 1 buildings and have high percentages of free and reduced families. Overall the District had very positive report card results, with the District receiving a rating of 72.6 which is only .4 points away from a rating of "Exceeds Expectations." This ranking was higher than all other Valley and South Wood County School Districts, with the exception of Marshfield Public Schools.

B. Graduation Requirement Proposal

Ronald Rasmussen, Principal at Lincoln High School, shared with Board members how during the 2012-13 school year a committee of teachers examined graduation requirements. After several meetings and review of the DPI waiver, student ACT and

Accuplacer test results, a proposal was developed making some modifications to graduation requirements, starting with the 2016-17 school year.

Proposed changes include:

- ✓ Math credits from 2 to 3
- ✓ Science credits from 2 to 3
- ✓ Eliminating the swing credit
- ✓ Adding .5 technology credit
- ✓ Eliminating the .5 social studies requirement for senior year, but still requiring 3 social studies credits
- ✓ Allowing students who have completed 4 successful WIAA seasons to take 1 rather than 1.5 PE credits
- ✓ Maintaining the total required credits at 22.5

Sandra Hett questioned why no World Language credits are required, noting it is easier for students to graduate high school with two credits than to take the two credits at the college level. John Benbow requested that the proposal to eliminate the senior social studies requirement begin in the 2014-15 school year. The committee of teachers from Lincoln High School will continue to share the proposal, and results of their discussions will be shared at the December Educational Services Committee meeting. At that time, the administration will present a proposal to modify graduation requirements.

C. Eighth Grade Technology Assessment

Phil Bickelhaupt, Director of Technology, shared results from the "Next Generation Student Assessment" survey that was given to eighth grade students, and compared the results to the two previous years. It was noted that improvements were significant from the Spring of 2011 to Spring of 2013. Digital Citizenship is a targeted area for improvement. The current curriculum doesn't address this area prior to grade 8.

D. Common Core Standards

Amy Ryan, Literacy Supervisor, presented a PowerPoint outlining the steps WRPS has taken to implement the Common Core Standards in the English/Language Arts area. It was noted by Committee members that a great deal of time and effort was put into the maps that are now available in this content area.

V. Consent Agenda Items

- ES-1 Educator Effectiveness Grant
- ES-2 Participation in the Constellation E2 Energy to Educate Grant
- ES-3 Youth Options Requests

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:

- Wellness Committee Update (November)
- Mead Elementary Charter School and THINK Elementary Charter School Updates (November)
- New Course Proposals (November)
- RCHS Pre-College Project Grant (November)
- Graduation Requirement Proposal (December)

Anne Lee adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.