



## 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

May 12, 2014

#### 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, Anne Lee, Katie Medina, John Benbow, Larry Davis, Sandra Hett, Mary Rayome

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Dr. Colleen Dickmann, Daniel Weigand, Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Amy Ryan, Ryan Christianson, Trudy DeSimons, Phil Bickelhaupt, Ronald Rasmussen, Ed Allison, Leslie Lewison

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

#### Student Representative Report

Emily Morzewski introduced the 2014-15 Student Representative to the Board, Carissa Vruwink. President Krings congratulated and welcomed Carissa to the Board. Mr. Krings also thanked Emily for her participation during the past year, providing a plaque in appreciation for her service.

Emily then provided updates and reports to the Board on the following topics concerning Lincoln:

- High attendance at the recent Prom event
- Upcoming National Honor Society induction
- Upcoming awards, events, and ceremonies related to Teen Leadership, Olympiad, *Bloodstone*, Reality Check, scholarship night, and graduation
- AP exams
- Sophomore presentation on potential trimester scheduling
- Recent painting and other volunteer work done to freshen up the LHS campus
- LHS participation at the State Student Council event
- Student Council officers elected for 2014-15
- Yearbook distribution

#### Approval of Minutes

Mr. Benbow requested that the Special Board of Education Meeting minutes of May 5, 2014 be held out for discussion.

**Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by Larry Davis to approve regular Board of Education meeting minutes of April 7, 2014; and special Board of Education meeting minutes of April 28, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.**

With regard to the May 5, 2014 open session Board minutes, Mr. Benbow clarified that it was his intention to abstain from voting, even though he did not clearly verbalize his intent when the voice vote to approve the wage base increase for the WREA bargaining unit was taken. Mr. Benbow requested that the unapproved minutes be amended to clarify his intent to abstain.

**Motion by Larry Davis, seconded by John Benbow to approve the special Board of Education meeting open and closed session minutes of May 5, 2014, with an amendment to the open session minutes to reflect that John Benbow abstained from voting on the WREA increase.** *President Krings reminded Board members to clearly verbalize their intent when future motions are voted upon.* **On a roll call vote, motion passed 6-1. Sandra Hett voted no.**

Comments from Citizens and Delegations

None.

Committee Reports

A. Business Services Committee – May 5, 2014 – Report given by John Benbow.

Mr. Benbow stated there were no consent agenda items for May. Mr. Benbow provided updates and reports on the following:

VeriTime Software – Mr. Benbow explained that the Committee felt this significant purchase warranted full Board review and requested that the item be placed on a future Board of Education agenda. Mr. Benbow stated that while at the Committee meeting, he presented a list of questions concerning the VeriTime proposal to Business Services Director Dan Weigand to be answered.

Ms. Hett requested to know whether the \$8,500.00 annual fee would be offset by savings from the implementation, and exactly which employees would be covered by the VeriTime system.

Purchases – The Committee received updates on purchases related to occupational therapy services, computer equipment, police liaison services, curriculum software fees, and copy paper.

**Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Katie Medina to approve the balance of the regular Business Services Committee report and minutes of the May 5, 2014, Business Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

B. Personnel Services Committee – May 5, 2014 – 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 support staff retirement of Shirley Pelot (Van Driver – District).

PS-2 Approval of the professional staff resignation of Betty Miller (Art – Mead/Washington/Vesper Elementary).

PS-3 Approval of the support staff resignation of Nicole Bessey (Noon Aide – Grove).

PS-4 Approval of a leave of absence request for Bridget Miller (Grade 1 – Washington).

PS-5 Approval of the professional staff appointments of Ethan Schooley (Technology Education Teacher – Lincoln/East), and Stacey Kunde (Agriculture Teacher Intern – Lincoln).

PS-6 Approval of the appointments of Tyler Sneen and Simon Stevenoski effective May 19, and Jordan Hodgson effective May 28 as District Summer Grounds workers, at the rate of \$10.00 per hour, 40 hours per week, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

PS-7 Approval of clerical/aide support staff appointments for the 2014 Summer School program: Crystal Fraundorf – Washington Secretary, Jean Merriman – Woodside Elementary IMC/Office Aide, Tamara Twait – Washington Elementary IMC/Office Aide, Janet Babcock – Woodside Instructional Aide, Pam Berg – Howe Instructional Aide, Camille Dusterdeck – Woodside Instructional Aide, Sara Matthews – Washington Instructional Aide, Cheryl Statz – Washington Instructional Aide, LeeAnn Tack – Washington Instructional Aide, Suzanne Onesti – Woodside Instructional Aide, Jim Alft – Lincoln Secretary, Jennifer Schudy – Lincoln Office Aide, Cheryl Koch – Lincoln Instructional Aide, Terri Huebner – Lincoln Sewing, Cheryl Panter – Lincoln Sewing.

PS-8 Approval of the appointments of Lucas Piltz, Samuel Elzinga, Taylor Wolf, and Andrew Dumitrescu-Mihaly to the position of Summer Technology Support for 2014 at the rate of \$9.25 per hour, starting no earlier than June 9 and finishing no later than August 29.

PS-9 Approval of the following Board Policies, all for second reading:

Policy 731.2 – Use of Electronic Surveillance Technology in Public Areas of School Buildings and Property

Policy 751.21 – Use of Electronic Surveillance Technology on School Bus  
Policy 443.3 – Smoking and/or Use of Tobacco/Nicotine Products by Students  
Policy 522.2 – Smoking and/or Use of Tobacco/Nicotine Products by Employees  
Policy 831 – Smoking and/or Use of Tobacco/Nicotine Products on School Premises  
Policy 345.11 – Procedures for Academic Excellence Scholarships

**Motion by Sandra Hett, seconded by Anne Lee to approve consent agenda items PS 1-9. Motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Hett provided updates and reports on 2014-15 staff assignments for 2014-15. Board members received correspondence concerning guidance ratios for the upcoming year due to a 1.0 FTE reduction in this area. The Committee learned that the reduced guidance position will be spread out across remaining District guidance assignments, resulting in a counselor to student ratio of 290:1. Examples of guidance ratios in other districts were reviewed. A special education position will be eliminated, and while three librarians are retiring, only two will be replaced. Response to Intervention staffing time in the math and language arts areas will be shifted from the secondary to the elementary level. Elementary positions in Kindergarten and first grade continue to be filled, and elementary staff shifting is being done to accommodate retirements.

**Motion by Sandra Hett, seconded by Mary Rayome to approve the regular Personnel Services Committee meeting minutes of May 5, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.**

C. Educational Services Committee – May 5, 2014 – 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 phase I of the elementary science acquisition, not to exceed the amount of \$174,900 to be paid for with curriculum acquisition and referendum dollars.

ES-2 Approval of the proposed secondary school agenda planner changes, including any changes discussed, for the 2014-15 school year.

**Motion by Anne Lee, seconded by John Benbow to approve consent agenda items ES 1-2. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.**

Ms. Lee provided updates and reports on:

2013-14 Wisconsin Knowledge and Concept Exam (WKCE) Results – Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Director of Instruction, provided an update on 2013-14 (WKCE) results, which were very good. WRPS is ahead of the state average in all areas except seventh and eighth grade math. The Committee requested more data on the following:

- a) Longitudinal data for same student groups
- b) Longitudinal data for ELL students
- c) Achievement gap between males and females
- d) Impact of students not tested and virtual students

Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS): 2014-15 – Ms. Stebbins-Hintz reviewed significant changes in student testing for 2014-15. Several assessments will be added or modified for the upcoming school year. Information was shared on the Smarter Balanced Assessment, ACT Aspire, ACT, ACT WorkKeys, Dynamic Learning Maps, ACCESS 2.0, PALs, and WKCE. The Administration expressed concern about the impact that additional testing will have on technology availability and instructional time.

**Motion by Anne Lee, seconded by John Benbow to approve the regular Educational Services Committee meeting minutes of May 5, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.**

Agenda Referrals/Information Requests

None.

Legislative Agenda

Board Member Mary Rayome provided updates she received through the Wisconsin Association of School Boards on the following topics:

- Recommendations from a report of the Assembly Rural Schools Task Force call for creating a new version of the TEACH program to provide more funding for broadband access, equipment, and training to facilitate technology-empowered learning in rural schools. Other recommendations include providing more state aid for transportation; tweaking state-imposed revenue limits to use a five-year enrollment high rather than the current three-year average and applying a weighting factor for school enrollment in small school districts; allowing school districts to fund co-curricular activities using community service levies (Fund 80); freeing small rural districts from certain mandates; authorizing school districts to adopt whole-grade-sharing agreements as an alternative to consolidation; and creating a loan forgiveness or grant program for rural teachers as a way to help rural districts attract and retain quality teachers. No legislative action is likely on the recommendations until 2015 at the earliest. Resources to adequately fund the recommendations will be a challenge.
- At a recent state Republican convention, Assembly Speaker Robin Vos voiced frustration over the compromise on voucher schools that passed the Legislature last year as part of the 2013-15 state budget. The deal expanded the voucher system statewide, but capped new participation to 500 students in the first year, and 1,000 in the second year and thereafter. Speaker Vos stated that the next time around, the cap will be gone.

Bills

**Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by Larry Davis to note April, 2014 receipts in the amount of \$1,264,110.38 and approve April, 2014 disbursements in the amount of \$3,318,677.92.** *After inquiring about unemployment compensation claims, Ms. Hett requested to receive a recap of what was paid in unemployment in the last 12 months. She expressed interest in seeing the difference between employees who were in regular jobs versus those in limited term positions. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.*

New Business

2014-15 District Budget Shortfall

Superintendent Colleen Dickmann provided an overview of the 2014-15 budget, including recommendations to accommodate for a \$3,112,607.92 shortfall as follows:

**Shortfall:**

Declining Enrollment .....	\$1,202,154.00
Health Insurance ( <i>Affordable Care Act Compliant</i> ) .....	\$1,053,196.00
Dental Insurance.....	\$42,815.00
Supplemental Pay (DEU’s, credits – <i>calculated on potential full amount used</i> ) .....	\$350,615.00
Transportation of District Students ( <i>still to be negotiated</i> ) .....	???.??
Staff raises if at maximum 1.46% Consumer Price Index (CPI) .....	\$463,827.92

**TOTAL DEFICIT..... (\$3,112,607.92) plus transportation**

**Amount Towards Deficit:**

Boys & Girls Club ( <i>savings for their leasing Pitsch facility</i> ).....	\$20,000.00
Food Service ( <i>funding something differently</i> ) .....	\$6,000.00
Department / Building Budgets .....	\$100,000.00
Special Education – Preschool.....	\$12,000.00
Snow Days ( <i>2 not made up</i> ) .....	\$50,000.00
Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) ( <i>less goes into OPEB from prior Board change to benefit level</i> ).....	\$203,800.00
Department Chair/CII/Cadre Stipends .....	20,000.00
Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) .....	\$1,200,000.00
Staff Retiree/Resignation Savings .....	\$584,994.00
Clerical ( <i>Buildings &amp; Grounds Dept. clerical reduction</i> ) .....	\$40,960.00
Insurance Deductible Change ( <i>savings from plan revisions which increase employee contributions</i> ) .....	\$229,200.00
Possible Less Make-up Day ( <i>instructional minutes requirement met - students do not need to return on 6/9/14 for half day</i> ) .....	\$25,000.00
Increased Categorical Aid ( <i>\$75 per student last year, additional \$75 per student this year</i> ) .....	\$382,500.00

**TOTAL AMOUNT TOWARD DEFICIT .....**\$2,874,454.00

**DEFICIT REMAINING..... (\$238,153.92)**

The Board took the opportunity to ask questions concerning the recommendations. No employees have lost their jobs as a result of the budget reductions – staff time is being reduced through attrition. Recognition was given to the fact that employees across the District are working harder than ever to accomplish all that must get done. Stipend reductions in areas such as the department chair positions may cause some employees to lose interest in them.

The final deficit number will be better known once transportation negotiations are concluded, and payments for supplemental pay (DEU’s, credits) are finalized in September. The prior year’s supplemental pay was around \$86,000.00, and this year’s amount is anticipated to be twice that.

Dr. Dickmann explained that a budget meeting will be set in June, 2014 to approve tax levy recommendations. The Administration will likely be recommending levying for debt service, which hasn't been done in the last couple of years as some debt has been paid out of the General Fund. While the recommendations are not popular, and they are difficult to recommend, it is imperative that the budget get balanced as the Administration anticipates going into the 2015-16 budget year with \$2 million in necessary reductions. The District will continue to experience budget challenges that will require much thought and tough decision making in 2015-16.

President Krings expressed appreciation to the administrative team for their work and effort to recommend a balanced budget for 2014-15, despite the challenges it presents for each building and/or department.

**Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Mary Rayome to approve the 2014-15 budget recommendations as presented. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.**

#### Employee Health Insurance Deductible

Ryan Christianson, Director of Human Resources, explained that when the WEA Trust plan was approved last year, it included a second year rate cap at 12%. The 12% cap was adjusted for the Affordable Care Act (ACA) compliance, resulting in an adjusted renewal rate of 10.88% for 2014-15. For 2014-15, the Administration is recommending that the plan design remain the same, with the exception of the employee deductible portion. Currently, the plan design includes a \$2,000/single and \$4,000/family deductible amount. Employees are responsible to pay \$300/single and \$600/family deductible amounts, while the HRA picks up the remaining deductible amount. The recommendation is to increase the employee portion of the deductible amounts to \$500/single and \$1,000/family effective July 1, 2014. The HRA would continue to pick up the remaining amount of the deductibles. Mr. Benbow questioned whether or not a \$400/\$800 deductible was considered, and what the cost difference might be if this was considered. Mr. Christianson explained that the amount being recommended is actually the smallest amount that was considered. The group was also considering amounts as high as \$750/\$1,500.

Mr. Krings explained that as a participant of the Insurance Committee, many different plan designs and coverage options were explored, and the final recommendation seems to be the most budget friendly and least disruptive to employees. A recent staff survey regarding potential insurance changes revealed that employees felt a deductible change would be the most palatable. Eighty percent of employees responding to the survey are "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the services of WEA Trust.

**Motion by Larry Davis, seconded by Katie Medina to approve of modifications to the employee health insurance deductibles to be \$500/\$1,000 as presented. Motion carried on a voice vote 6-1. John Benbow voted no.**

#### Dental Insurance Renewal Rate

Daniel Weigand, Director of Business Services, explained that Delta Dental proposed a 7.5% rate increase for employee dental insurance coverage in the upcoming year. The Administration also considered another option proposed by Delta Dental to self-fund. A majority of Delta insurers are self-funded, including districts much smaller than WRPS. Dental insurance is a relatively stable insurance with little or no fluctuation in activity from year to year. A savings of \$12,000 could be realized with this option. The plan would still be run through Delta Dental, with the company charging the District each week for claims submitted. The plan design would remain intact, and provider discounts enjoyed through Delta Dental would still continue. Employees wouldn't notice any change in the plan, and the card they are accustomed to presenting at the time of service would continue to be utilized.

A charge of \$4.28 per policy, per month to have Delta administer the plan would apply. Premium amounts to employees would continue to be charged as they have been, and the program would be reviewed at the end of the year to determine the amount of savings realized through this option. Any savings could help offset budget reductions needed in the following year.

**Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Larry Davis to approve of the 7.5% dental insurance renewal rate, and for the plan to be self-funded. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### Employee District-Wide Sick Leave Bank Modifications

Ryan Christianson provided an overview of how the district-wide sick leave bank is currently administered, and explained changes being recommended to the benefit. The sick leave bank originated with the teacher collective bargaining agreement many years ago, and the intent of the language was for the leave to be used in cases of employee events when their sick leave was exhausted and the additional days donated by other employees helped get their co-workers to a point when long-term disability insurance could be activated. The

leave was intended for catastrophic, life-threatening events such as disease or accidents that the individual *employee* was experiencing.

In the years following the 2007-2009 collective bargaining agreement, updates were made to the sick leave bank language which resulted in the benefit being expanded district-wide to all employee groups. Additionally, the benefit began to allow for employee *family* members to be covered. This extended access has been used quite frequently by employees, and the benefit has grown well beyond its original intent with the District essentially providing a short-term disability option for employees through the program.

The Administration's proposed language for the WRPS sick leave bank brings the program back into line with its original intent. Under the proposal, the benefit would continue to be available to all District employees.

Dr. Dickmann explained that the Administration would request action on the proposed modifications at a future meeting, after the Board has had additional time to consider the requested changes.

#### Facility Group Work

Dr. Dickmann explained that the facilities study process began a few years back with former Director of Buildings of Grounds, Tom Helgestad. Building and maintenance needs began to be prioritized. The conversations have continued with the current Director of Buildings and Grounds, Ed Allison. A number of individuals have been participating on a committee formed to address the facilities study topic. Committee members include: Ed Allison, Director of Buildings and Grounds; Phil Bickelhaupt, Director of Technology; Ryan Christianson, Director of Human Resources; Trudy DeSimons, Director of Pupil Services; Colleen Dickmann, Superintendent; Rod Henke, Assistant Principal at Lincoln; Leslie Lewison, Assistant Director of Pupil Services; Paul Mann, Principal at Woodside; Brian Oswald, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director at WRAMS; Ronald Rasmussen, Principal at Lincoln; Patti Ritchay, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director at East; Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Director of Curriculum; and Dan Weigand, Director of Business Services. The group has been meeting regularly since October, 2013 to consider the current state of WRPS facilities and various configurations that might offer more efficiency and align well with the District Strategic Plan. No recommendations are being made yet, but it is anticipated that the group will have some options for the Board to consider in the coming months. Any approved changes would be implemented for the **2015-16** school year, and could be done all at once, or potentially through a "phase-in" process.

While the changes that are eventually recommended will not solve all of the budget problems that continue to plague the District, doing nothing at all will ultimately result in a cost to the District. The last facility study performed by an outside agency was in 2004-05 when capacity numbers were identified. Since that time, one of the options studied in 2004-05 has been implemented (making WRAMS a grades 6-7 building, and East a grades 8-9 building). Due to the changes which have occurred in facility usage and programming over the years, the Administration believes that it would be wise to once again engage the assistance of an architectural firm to update the information.

The facility group has been considering the pros and cons of several different configurations, including:

- a) EC-5K Center + 1-4/5-6/7-8/9-12 or 1-4/5-8/9-12  
1-5/6-7/8/9-12 or 1-5/6-8/9-12
- b) 4K-4<sup>th</sup> Grade + 5-6/7-8/9-12 or 5-8/9-12
- c) 4K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade + 6-7/8/9-12 or 5-8/9-12
- d) 4K-6<sup>th</sup> Grade + 7-8/9-12

Another option in the 2004-05 study was to move 9<sup>th</sup> grade to Lincoln High School (LHS). In 2004-05, ten rooms were being utilized for EEN and ELL services. When the LHS building was designed, only four rooms were being used for this purpose. Five rooms were used for technological reasons (i.e., computer labs) in 2004-05, and zero rooms were designed for this purpose at the time LHS was built. Other programs added since the initial design of the building include the Volunteer Program, In-House Suspension, and Central Cities Health Institute (CCHI). Rooms are scheduled at about 80% capacity, which is typical.

The fundamental question for the Board to consider is whether the Board believes that 9<sup>th</sup> grade belongs at LHS to make it a 9-12 high school building. In 2004-05, the facilities study indicated that most Wisconsin high schools were four year high schools. Students would earn high school credit in the same facility, and participate

in extra-curricular activities with their peers. Dr. Dickmann shared some of the pros and cons of moving 9<sup>th</sup> graders to LHS as identified by the facilities group:

PROS	CONS
• 9-12 staff collaboration/communication	• Limited room for growth
• 9-12 curriculum alignment	• Require additional science space ( <i>est.</i> \$120,000)
• Maximize facility space	• Require wall for classroom ( <i>est.</i> \$10,000)
• 9th graders are high school students	• Technology needs/wiring ( <i>est.</i> \$50,000)
• Eliminates/saves staff travel time	• Reconfigure traffic flow – pedestrian pick-up/drop-off
• Saves busing/coordination for athletics and other co-curriculars	• Move library collection
• 9-12 students on same schedule	
• 9 <sup>th</sup> grade activities, courses, experiences	
• 9 <sup>th</sup> grade planning/future	
• Parallels other districts	
• Enables other restructuring to save ongoing budget dollars	

Mr. Benbow was involved in the 2004-05 facilities study, and questioned why locker room space and lockers wasn't addressed on the list since it was a concern even at that point in time.

Ronald Rasmussen, Principal at LHS, explained that while the male locker room design is not an issue since it was remodeled approximately four years ago, the female locker room is in need of upgrading regardless of the outcome of the facility and restructuring study. There are ample lockers located at the high school to accommodate the addition of 9<sup>th</sup> graders. Mr. Rasmussen also created a sample combined schedule taking the current LHS schedule and adding the East 9<sup>th</sup> grade schedule in order to determine whether the East schedule and needed classes could be accommodated at LHS. The East schedule does fit at LHS; however, additional classroom space in areas such as science would need to be taken into consideration (particularly with the additional graduation requirements in this area), and/or certain classrooms might need to be remodeled to create two distinct instructional spaces. While there is room, the schedules could be tight. Mr. Rasmussen explained that LHS does have a few vacant classrooms presently because of staff now teaching 6 out of 7 periods. There likely would be some scaled efficiencies through course offerings not having to be made at both East and Lincoln for high school students.

In terms of whether all of the students would fit at LHS, Dr. Dickmann explained that they would, based upon the future projected enrollment number of 1,520-1,530. Mr. Rasmussen stated that LHS would need to revert back to 3 lunch periods per day with freshman in the building. With trimester scheduling being considered, Mr. Rasmussen believes schedules would still be able to work out since teachers would still be teaching 12 sections of classes. He plans to review scheduling options in more detail to determine impact. Dr. Dickmann expressed concern about students scheduled too tightly, and the repercussions should the District increase its enrollment in years to come.

Dr. Dickmann stated that if 9<sup>th</sup> grade were to move to LHS, the Board would then need to consider what reconfiguration should happen next. For example, if a 6-7-8 model is implemented, the pros and cons of utilizing either East or WRAMS as the building to house these grade levels would need to be considered. Having a 6-7-8 model would cut down on the number of transitions students would be required to experience. A possible 5-6 and 7-8 building might also be an option, leaving 4K through grade 4 buildings at the elementary level. Perhaps elementary buildings could be combined to gain efficiencies. Consideration must also be given to how long a building such as East will last – for example, if the facility has only 20 years of life expectancy, a plan to deal with this in the future should be developed.

Director of Instruction Kathi Stebbins-Hintz stated it will be important to also consider curricular modifications and cohesiveness for any changes that are recommended, as well as how behavior and relationships fit well together at particular age groups, such as at the grades 6-8 level. The eighth grade level typically matches up better with a grades 6-8 model.

The Board discussed various options. There is consensus among Board members that the 9<sup>th</sup> grade class does belong at LHS, but there is also concern about the potential tight scheduling. The Board would like the Administration to continue exploring a reconfiguration that puts 9<sup>th</sup> grade students at LHS, but would like to see a recommendation brought forward that takes all of the concerns mentioned into consideration. Student Representative Emily Morzewski was asked for her opinion about whether she believes freshman would prefer

to be at LHS or East. Emily stated that she believes freshman would prefer to be at LHS since these students are supposed to act like they are in high school, yet get treated like they are in middle school.

A listing of facility needs and dollars necessary for upgrades and/or maintenance was requested by the Board to aid in the decision making process. Utilizing an architecture firm such as Plunkett Raysich Architects, who has knowledge and experience working with the District, to perform an educational capacity study would be beneficial. Dr. Dickmann stated that the group will continue to explore options for future facility use, as well as secure a proposal for a capacity study for Board consideration.

Virtual Program Move from Vesper Community Academy to Grant Elementary

The Board was provided information at the April 7, 2014 regular Board meeting concerning the possibility of moving the District Virtual Program from Vesper to Grant. Ryan Christianson, Director of Human Resources and Administrator for the District Virtual Program provided rationale to support the recommendation. Some of the benefits in moving the program include: expansion of on-site tutoring activities and additional visitation time with parents, more space and rooms available, and the potential for program growth.

The Board discussed the recommendation, and took the opportunity to ask questions.

**Motion by Larry Davis, seconded by Sandra Hett to approve moving the District Virtual Program from Vesper Community Academy to Grant Elementary effective with the 2014-15 school year. Motion carried unanimously.**

Calendar

Calendar items were reviewed.

John Krings adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m.



John A. Krings – President

Maurine Hodgson – Secretary

Sandra K. Hett – Clerk