



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

November 3, 2014

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: Phil Bickelhaupt, Sherry Marzofka, Liz Ottery, Ronald Rasmussen, Matthew
Renwick, Steve Slattery, Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Dan Weigand

I. Call to Order

Anne Lee called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Actionable Items

A. Board Policy 323.2 Special Observance Days and Board Policy 323.2 Rule Special
Observance Days – First Reading (Attachments A and B)

Kathi Stebbins Hintz explained the administration's request to eliminate Board Policy
323.2 Rule Special Observance Days – First Reading. The Department of Public
Instruction annually selects special observance days that districts must observe.
Board Policy 323.2 Special Observance Days, requires Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools
(WRPS) to recognize special observance days. Because the days and dates may
change annually, Board Policy 323.2 Rule Special Observance Days is unnecessary.

**ES-1 Motion by John Benbow, second by John Krings, to approve Board Policy 323.2
Special Observance Days – First Reading, and eliminate Board Policy 323.2 Rule Spe-
cial Observance Days – First Reading.**

Motion carried on a vote of 6 to 1. Larry Davis voted no.

IV. Updates

A. Spotlight School Grant – Howe School

Matt Renwick, Principal at Howe Elementary School, pointed out that Howe Elementary is the only Spotlight School in the CESA 5 area, and only one of 14 in Wisconsin. Mr. Renwick shared a letter with Board members inviting them to attend one of the three scheduled Spotlight School visits at Howe on the following dates: November 17, December 8, or January 26.

Mr. Renwick shared what happens during a typical visit. Sherry Marzofka and Liz Ottery, staff members at Howe Elementary, were also present. Kathi Stebbins-Hintz noted how proud WRPS is of the accomplishments of Howe's staff and students.

B. Curriculum Proposals: Modifications, New Courses, and Graduation Requirements

Ms. Stebbins-Hintz reviewed curriculum proposals being brought before the Board of Education for approval. She explained that the Council for Instructional Improvement (CII) will be meeting to review and provide an advisory vote on each proposal. At the December Educational Services meeting, committee members will be asked to vote on each proposal.

Ms. Stebbins-Hintz explained that there are several curriculum proposals being brought forward this school year because of the rapidly changing landscape in curriculum and instruction, along with several state and district initiatives. Global competition and interdependence, increased demand in the manufacturing job sector, exponential increases in the use of technology, and the transition to the trimester at the high school, have created the need for several curriculum modifications and additions.

Ms. Stebbins-Hintz, along with Ronald Rasmussen, Principal at Lincoln High School, and Phil Bickelhaupt, Director of Technology, reviewed the proposals. Highlights from the review of the proposals include:

- Increase High School Graduation Requirements to 24 beginning with the class of 2017 – Lincoln High School will be changing to a trimester schedule and students will have the opportunity to earn up to 29.5 credits as compared to 28 credits in the past.
- Global Education Achievement Certificate - Diploma Endorsement – Currently 28 districts in Wisconsin have this endorsement. It is felt that students that have the endorsement will have better scholarship and college opportunities. Students must complete several rigorous requirements to earn this endorsement. Sandra Hett requested examples of service projects that would meet the requirements of this endorsement.
- IT Fundamentals I: Graduation Requirement – This course is currently an elective. It is a pre-requisite for many other courses. John Benbow recommended that this proposal require that students take the class during their freshman

or sophomore year. There will be a test out option available to students to meet this requirement.

- Engineering Design and Development (EDD) – To be certified as a Project Lead the Way school, we must offer a fourth course in the engineering course sequence. EDD would be the fourth or capstone course.
- Mobility, Fitness and Nutrition – This course is designed for students who struggle in physical education. Students would be recommended for this class by their 9th grade physical education teacher. This course could be taken in place of PE II and III.
- English 250 – This class would be an extension of English 101 and 102. Students would need to test into this course. Students could receive college credit for this course. The course would be taught in a blended/on-line format.
- Exploratory Business 7 – This would be a one quarter course added to the 7th grade rotation. There would be a need for an increase in staff since the class would replace a study hall. However, this increase would be offset by the planned reduction in elementary keyboarding.
- Principles of Economics – This class would be offered in a blended/on-line format.
- English 101, 102, and 250 – These classes would be offered in a blended/on-line format.
- Math Equivalency Proposal – Digital Electronics – This course is being “cross-walked” so that it would be available for a math or an elective credit.
- AP Psychology – This course would be expanded to two trimesters for one credit.
- AP Calculus BC – This course would be expanded to three trimesters for 1.5 credits.

V. Consent Agenda Items

ES-1 Board Policy 323.2 Special Observance Days and Board Policy 323.2 Rule Special Observance Days – First Reading

VI. Future Agenda Items/Information Requests

Future agenda items/information requests include, but are not limited to:

- Curriculum Proposals: Modifications, New Courses, and Graduation Requirements (December)
- Supplemental Pay for Professional Development (December)
- Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Title Update (December)
- Board Policy Changes as Necessitated by Course Options (December)
- Language Arts Curriculum Update (January)
- RtI Document Update (January)
- Board Policy 345.5 Graduation Requirements (January)
- Elementary Health Curriculum Update (February)
- Business-Education Partnership/STEM Update (February)
- Strategic Plan Update (February)

Anne Lee adjourned the meeting at 7:28 p.m.