



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

July 14, 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, Larry Davis, Anne Lee, Katie Medina, Sandra Hett, Mary Rayome, John Benbow

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Colleen Dickmann, Daniel Weigand, Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Ryan Christianson, Trudy DeSimons, Ed Allison

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

Recognition of District Retirees

No employees were recognized.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by Anne Lee to approve regular Board of Education meeting minutes of June 9, 2014; two special open session, and one special closed session Board of Education meeting minutes of June 23, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.

Comments from Citizens and Delegations

Gus Mancuso of Incurage Community Foundation expressed appreciation to the Board for its support of the Business Education Committee, as well as Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) initiatives in an effort to close the local workforce skills gap. Mr. Mancuso thanked four Committee members from WRPS in particular: Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Director of Instruction; Eric Siler, Career & Technical Education Coordinator; Ronald Rasmussen, Principal of Lincoln High School; and Phillip Bickelhaupt, Director of Technology.

In addition to the Business Education Committee, five sub-committees have been formed and continue to meet on a regular basis in order to focus on particular areas to advance the initiative. Many staff members from WRPS are involved in these sub-committees. Mr. Mancuso explained that community education will continue to be a focus in order to change the language and understanding about current and future job opportunities in the local area. As an extension of communicating locally, best practices and achievements were recently shared at a National Federal Grants conference held in Chicago, Illinois. Details were provided about four particular focus areas of the manufacturing partnership group, including: peer-to-peer leadership support, pipeline solutions, training solutions, and sector awareness and promotion. Wisconsin Rapids is one of two rural sites in the country that has been funded by grants obtained through National Workforce Solutions as a result of efforts to meet worker demand with worker opportunity.

Mr. Mancuso explained that through the business education collaboration, students are being encouraged and curriculum is being aligned to help close the workforce skills gap. The group plans to continue working toward creating excitement and a better understanding about future local jobs that will be available to students as the “Silver Tsunami” kicks in. It was mentioned that Principal Rasmussen and Workforce Central Employer Facilitator Rick Merdan worked together to teach a summer class recently which related to the importance of business and education partnerships. Approximately 16 WRPS staff members participated in this class which included tours of local business sites. Mr. Mancuso stated that Incurage is willing and ready to continue to do its part in strengthening local community partnerships.

Committee ReportsA. Business Services Committee – July 7, 2014. Report given by John Benbow.

Mr. Benbow reviewed the following consent agenda items brought before the Board through the Business Services Committee, and asked if there were any motions to be held:

- BS-1 Approval of the proposal for the 66.03.01 cooperative agreement for students attending the Virtual program from the Pittsville School District as listed.
- BS-2 Approval of a service contract with Complete Control Inc. in the amount of \$15,750.00 for 192 hours of service to be funded from the 2014-15 Building and Grounds budget.
- BS-3 Approval of a proposal to purchase supplies as listed on the General Office Supply Bid Summary.
- BS-4 Approval of the purchase of two (2) HP DL380P V2 servers from Camera Corner Connecting Point at a cost not to exceed \$24,000.00 to be funded through the 2014-2015 District technology budget and the technology referendum funds.
- BS-5 Approval of the purchase of thirty-five (35) ByteSpeed computers at a cost of \$18,550.00 to be funded from the 2014-15 District technology budget.
- BS-6 Approval of the purchase and implementation of the Skyward Fee Management module beginning with the 2014-15 school year at a one-time cost of \$3,670.00 for training and implementation to be paid for by technology referendum funds, and an annual fee of \$1,383.50 to be paid for on a per pupil allocation from building budgets.

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Larry Davis to approve consent agenda items BS 1-6. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Mr. Benbow provided updates and reports on purchases from Mid-State and Marshfield Clinic for Advanced Placement coursework, AmeriCorp program purchases, and the purchase of a salt truck for the Buildings & Grounds Department.

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Katie Medina to approve the balance of the Business Services Committee report and minutes of the regular July 7, 2014 Business Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Personnel Services Committee – June 2, 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 retirement requests of Judith Esselman (Psychologist – Howe) and Gregory Jensen (Maintenance – Buildings & Grounds); staff appointments of Collette Altmann (ESL – Mead/Grove), Elizabeth Schrader (Special Ed Teacher – THINK), Leah Boon (Counselor – Mead), Ka Zoua Thao (ELL – Howe), Megan Onesti (Grade 1 – Washington), Eric Brittnacher (PAC Director/AV Specialist – District), Rick Kehrberg (Head Custodian – Howe), Carrie Lau (Head Cook – Grant), and Ann Kronenberg (Head Cook – East); and a leave of absence request for Kurt Springob (Counselor – Mead).

Ms. Hett noted that the request for Elizabeth Schrader's appointment has been withdrawn.

Motion by Sandra Hett, seconded by Anne Lee to approve consent agenda item PS 1. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Sandra Hett, seconded by Mary Rayome to approve regular Personnel Services Committee meeting minutes of July 7, 2014 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Educational Services Committee – July 7, 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 to table suggested changes to Board Policy 347-RULE(1) Guidelines for the Control and Maintenance of Student Records, and 347 EXHIBIT – Request to Disclose Directory Information for first reading.

ES-2 Approval of the 2014-15 Carl Perkins Grant in the amount of \$47,172.00.

ES-3 Approval the adoption of the recommended revisions to the WRPS Co-Curricular Code of Conduct, including two additional revisions noted by Mr. Rasmussen, effective July 14, 2014 with the understanding that:

- Code violations having occurred through July 13, 2014 will be dealt with according to the Co-Curricular Code regulations in effect on that date;
- Code violations occurring on or after July 14, 2014 will be dealt with in accordance with the revised Co-Curricular Code of Conduct adopted by the Board of Education on July 14, 2014;
- In moving from the current Co-Curricular Code to the revised Code effective July 14, 2014, a one-time exception to the second paragraph of the revised Code in Section V – *Guidelines for Minimum Penalties (Categories 1 & 2)*, which states: “Code violations are cumulative throughout a student career (grades 6-8 career and then grades 9-12). NOTES: 1) A student has 3 strikes and out at their grades 6-8 career and then again at their grades 9-12 career.” will be made as follows:
 - ❖ Any student with strikes in their 6-8 or 9-12 career will have one strike automatically removed from their cumulative record, but only after the penalty has been served.

ES-4 Approval of the contract with FuelEducation™ for the 2014-15 school year at an annual cost of \$22,045.00, and an additional one time cost for professional development of \$3,250.00.

ES-5 Approval of the purchase of “Do the Math” at a cost of \$35,700.00 to be paid for out of curriculum and curriculum referendum dollars, and for “Do the Math” implementation training at a cost of \$3,698.00 to be paid for out of Title II dollars.

Ms. Lee requested that Consent Agenda Item ES-3 be held out.

Motion by Anne Lee, seconded by Larry Davis to approve consent agenda items ES 1, 2, 4, and 5. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

With regard to Consent Agenda Item ES-3, Ms. Lee explained that one additional revision is needed for the Co-Curricular Code, which Dr. Dickmann will explain. Dr. Dickmann reviewed the grades 8-12 Academic Eligibility Overview chart found on page 6 of the Code, noting that the number of days listed in Progress Report 1 and 3 needs to be changed to “15” instead of 10, “9th” to “14th”, and 11th to “16th” in order to be consistent with WIAA regulations. This was an oversight in the first draft brought to the Committee for initial review on July 7, 2014.

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Larry Davis to approve of the adoption of the recommended revisions to the WRPS Co-Curricular Code of Conduct effective July 14, 2014, to include the two additional revisions noted by Mr. Rasmussen at the Educational Services Committee meeting on July 7, 2014, and to also include changing the grades 8-12 “Academic Eligibility Overview” chart on page 6 to have the number of days listed in Progress Report 1 and 3 to “15” instead of 10, “9th” to “14th,” and “11th” to “16th,” and with the understanding that:

- Code violations having occurred through July 13, 2014 will be dealt with according to the Co-Curricular Code regulations in effect on that date;
- Code violations occurring on or after July 14, 2014 will be dealt with in accordance with the revised Co-Curricular Code of Conduct adopted by the Board of Education on July 14, 2014;
- In moving from the current Co-Curricular Code to the revised Code effective July 14, 2014, a one-time exception to the second paragraph of the revised Code in Section V – *Guidelines for Minimum Penalties (Categories 1 & 2)*, which states: “Code violations are cumulative throughout a student career (grades 6-8 career and then grades 9-12). NOTES: 1) A student has 3 strikes and out at their grades 6-8 career and then again at their grades 9-12 career.” will be made as follows:
 - ❖ Any student with strikes in their 6-8 or 9-12 career will have one strike automatically removed from their cumulative record, but only after the penalty has been served.

Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Ms. Lee provided updates and reports on:

- An update to the Committee by Dr. Dickmann concerning the loss of the Homeless Grant award for the 2014-15 school year. Only 11 out of 17 applications were funded for the coming year. In homeless student situations, the District is required to provide transportation and school supplies to students. The issue of providing transportation was discussed, and Ms. Dickmann explained that transportation is an area which is monitored closely; transportation costs can be paid from Title funding. There is some concern about how the Homeless Liaison salary will be covered without this grant, and Business Services is investigating options. Sandra Hett asked if the District had a list of unfunded mandates such as this so that when meeting with state representatives, this can be discussed. It was agreed that a list should be started.

Motion by Anne Lee, seconded by Larry Davis to approve the balance of the Educational Services Committee report and minutes of the July 7, 2014, Educational Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Referrals/Information Requests

Anne Lee requested to have Principal Rasmussen provide the Board with an update about the course he and Rick Merdan taught concerning business education partnerships as referenced by Gus Mancuso.

Legislative Agenda

Ms. Rayome provided the following update:

- For the third straight year, state general aid to Wisconsin school public schools is projected to increase, the overall level of state aid remains below what public school districts received before state aid was cut dramatically in the 2011-13 state budget. A recent study by the Washington based Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP) found that Wisconsin has made the second deepest cuts to K-12 per student public education spending in the nation since 2007-08, second only to Alabama. Compared with 2008, spending per pupil in Wisconsin was down \$1,038 for the school year just ended. Alabama cut per-pupil spending by \$1,242 during that same period.

According to the study, Wisconsin 2013-14 spending per pupil is 15.3 percent lower than in 2008, making it among 14 states where per-pupil spending remains at least 10 percent lower than before the economic recession.

Bills

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by John Benbow to note June, 2014 receipts in the amount of \$16,083,024.71 and approve June, 2014 disbursements in the amount of \$4,461,174.60. Ms. Hett noted the cost of elevator permit fees as being another unfunded mandate that the District is responsible for. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

New Business

Employee Retirements, Resignations, and Appointments – No items presented or action taken.

Calendar

Calendar items were reviewed.

President Krings adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.



John A. Krings – President

Maurine Hodgson – Secretary

Larry Davis – Clerk