



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 11, 2015

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, Sandra Hett, Mary Rayome, John Benbow, Katie Medina, Anne Lee

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

MEDIA PRESENT: Travis Plowman – 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

Carissa Vruwink provided updates and reports to the Board on the following topics concerning Lincoln:

- The *Guys & Dolls* musical was performed on April 18th.
- Sophomore ACT Aspire testing recently took place.
- Student Council members attended WSAC and are now working toward achieving the “Excellence Award.”
- Seniors are preparing for graduation and receiving supplies from Jostens.
- New National Honor Society members have been inducted.
- The school celebrated “Teacher Appreciation Week” by setting up a table during lunch to have students write notes of appreciation to staff members.
- New Student Council members were selected and sworn in.
- The Prom took place two weeks ago, with a king and queen selected.
- AP testing was and still is in progress.
- The 200 meter dash indoor track record was broken by a sophomore.
- A food pantry drive was held on May 9th.
- Woodlands Church volunteers came in to perform many renovations at Lincoln recently.

Carissa introduced Drake Blossfield, who will serve as the Board Student Representative for the 2015-16 school year. President Krings extended a warm welcome to Drake and provided special recognition to Carissa Vruwink, thanking her for her service as the Board Student Representative during the 2014-15 academic year.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by Anne Lee to approve regular Board of Education meeting minutes of April 13, 2015; special closed session meeting minutes of April 13, 2015; Board organizational meeting minutes of April 27, 2015; and special open and closed session meeting minutes of April 27, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

Comments from Citizens and Delegations

None.

Committee ReportsA. Business Services Committee – May 4, 2015. Report given by John Benbow.

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

- BS-1 Approval of the proposed increase to the single and/or second entrée price from \$1.50 to \$2.00 beginning with the 2015-16 school year.

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Katie Medina to approve consent agenda item BS 1. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Benbow provided updates and reports on:

- Purchases from the City of Wisconsin Rapids for Police Liaison services, Flocabulary for library media using Common School funds, and from WiLS for library media using Common School funds.
- Results of the 2014-15 kitchen inspections were reviewed. Mr. Benbow expressed gratitude to Food Service Director Julie Marie for her excellent contributions over the years in the District's food service area.

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Katie Medina to approve the balance of the Business Services Committee report and minutes of the regular May 4, 2015 Business Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Personnel Services Committee – May 4, 2015. 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 professional staff early retirement request of Terri Larson (Phy Ed Teacher - Lincoln), including approval to participate in the early retirement plan for the post-employment health insurance benefits as defined by current Professional Staff Employee Handbook language.
- PS-2 Approval of the professional staff early retirement request of Keri Siekert (Phy Ed Teacher - Lincoln) and to receive the professional staff post-employment health insurance benefit based on an annual amount of money equal to 85% of current family plan health insurance premiums for no more than eight years, which will be administered through a Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA).
- PS-3 Approval of the support staff early retirement requests of Cindy Hartjes (Special Ed Aide – Lincoln) and Kris Joosten (Receptionist/Assistant Principal Secretary – Lincoln).
- PS-4 Approval of the professional staff resignation request of Leigh Kraemer (School Psychologist – Lincoln/River Cities).
- PS-5 Approval of the support staff appointment of Lynn Nelson (Noon Duty Aide – Grove).
- PS-6 Approval of the summer grounds appointments of Tyler Sneen, Logan Zimmerman, and Jordan Hodgson.
- PS-7 Approval of the following clerical/aide support staff appointments for the 2015 Summer School program:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Summer School Position</u>	<u>Location</u>
Jim Alft	Secretary	Lincoln High School
Machelle Anderson	Secretary	Grove
Janet Babcock	Instructional Aide	Grove
Pam Berg	Instructional Aide	Howe
Desirae Brittnacher	Instructional Aide – Lil Spikers	LHS (Elem Program)
Nicole Crowley	Instructional Aide	Washington
Camille Dusterdeck	Instructional Aide	Grove
Crystal Fraundorf	Secretary	Washington
Dana Freeman	Instructional Aide	Grove
Terri Huebner	Instructional Aide – Sewing	LHS (Elem Program)

<u>Name (cont.)</u>	<u>Summer School Position</u>	<u>Location</u>
Cheryl Koch	Instructional Aide	Lincoln High School
Sara Matthews	Instructional Aide	Washington
Jean Merriman	Elementary IMC/Office Aide	Grove
Cheryl Panter	Instructional Aide – Sewing	LHS (Elem Program)
Jennifer Schudy	Office Aide	Lincoln High School
LeeAnn Tack	Instructional Aide	Washington
Tamara Twait	Elementary IMC/Office	Washington
Katherine Vruwink	Instructional Aide	Grove

- PS-8 Approval of the summer technology support appointments of Markus Hutnik, Sam Elzinga, and Sam Milkey.
- PS-9 Approval of Board Policy 345.52 – Early Graduation for second reading.
- PS-10 Approval of Board Policy 420 Rule – Admission of Transfer Students for second reading.
- PS-11 Approval of the students requesting to attend Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools under the Open Enrollment Law, pending a review of discipline records and special services needs.
- PS-12 Approval of the students requesting to attend non-resident school districts under the Open Enrollment Law, pending a review of discipline records and special services needs.

Motion by Sandra Hett, seconded by Mary Rayome to approve consent agenda items PS 1-12. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Hett provided updates and reports on:

- 2015-16 open enrollment data and the application process.

Motion by Sandra Hett, seconded by Anne Lee to approve regular Personnel Services Committee meeting minutes of May 4, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Educational Services Committee – May 4, 2015. 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 the Wisc. Rapids Area Middle School agenda planner changes for the 2015-16 school year.
- ES-2 Approval of the East Jr. High agenda planner changes for the 2015-16 school year.
- ES-3 Approval of the Lincoln High School agenda planner changes for the 2015-16 school year.
- ES-4 Approval of the proposed K-5 health curriculum for implementation beginning in 2015-16.
- ES-5 Approval of the secondary English/Language Arts curriculum for implementation beginning in 2015-16.
- ES-6 Approval of the proposal that for the 2015-16 school year, Lincoln will offer English 101 without a credit option, and offer English 102 as a concurrent enrollment course through UW-Marshfield at a cost not to exceed \$14,250 to be paid for by the Lincoln budget.
- ES-7 Approval of the State Farm Youth Advisory Board Service Learning grant request for Mead Elementary Charter School in the amount of \$85,000.
- ES-8 Approval of the 2015-16 Wisconsin Rapids Professional Development Plan.
- ES-9 Approval of the recommendation to use trimester report cards for students in grades 4K-5 for the 2015-16 school year.
- ES-10 Approval of the recommendation to transition from Build Your Own Curriculum (BYOC) to a curriculum mapping process for writing District curriculum, with curriculum maps published on the website for parents, and District maps published on Google for teacher access.

ES-11 Approval of the proposed changes to the eight year curriculum writing process.

ES-12 Approval of the purchase of Build Your Own Curriculum software for one additional year only, at a cost of \$11,584.00.

ES-13 Approval that River Cities High School applies to become a Title I School-Wide program.

Motion by Anne Lee, seconded by John Benbow to approve consent agenda items ES 1-13. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Motion by Anne Lee, seconded by John Benbow to approve the balance of the Educational Services Committee report and minutes of the May 4, 2015, Educational Services Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Referrals/Information Requests

None.

Legislative Agenda

Ms. Rayome provided the following updates which she received from the Wisconsin Association of School Boards:

- The state is soliciting proposals for a new 3rd-8th grade state assessment to replace the current Badger Exam. Proposals are due May 27. Governor Walker's 2015-17 budget proposal would prohibit the State Superintendent from adopting the Smarter Balanced assessment (renamed Badger Exam by the DPI) currently in use for 3rd-8th grade students beginning in the 2015-16 school year. Assuming the budget language becomes law and a new test vendor is selected, it would mean Wisconsin elementary and middle school students will be taking a different state exam next year for the third consecutive year.
- Republican lawmakers making changes to Governor Walker's \$68 billion state budget proposal will have no additional revenue to work with. They pledged to prevent education cuts the governor had proposed for next year. Rep. Robin Vos and Rep. Scott Fitzgerald stated lawmakers would restore the \$127 million Walker proposed cutting from K-12 education for the first year of the 2015-17 budget.
- Republican legislators are circulating a proposed bill that would require all schools to excuse a pupil enrolled in any grade from 3 to 12 from taking any state standardized exams. It would also remove the penalty that exists on the current state report cards if schools fail to test 95% of their student body. The bill draft would require all schools to provide the parent/guardian of each pupil a written summary of information about the tests and post the information on their website, if they have one.

Bills

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by Katie Medina to note April, 2015 receipts in the amount of \$1,414,838.44 and approve April, 2015 disbursements in the amount of \$3,196,447.94. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

New Business

District Health Insurance Plan and Renewal

Dr. Dickmann introduced John Preuss, Senior Account Executive at M3 Insurance, who provided an overview of plan design changes being proposed which would take effect July 1, 2015 in order to make it ACA (Affordable Care Act) compliant in the coming year. The plan *design changes* are as follows:

	2014-15	2015-16
Deductible	\$2,000 single \$4,000 family	\$2,000 single \$4,000 family
HRA: Employee pays*	\$ 500 single \$1,000 family	\$ 500 single \$1,000 family
HRA: WRPS pays	\$1,500 single \$3,000 family	\$1,500 single \$3,000 family
Coinsurance: WEA pays	100% after \$2,000/ \$4,000 deductible	100% after \$2,000/ \$4,000 deductible
Office Visit Copays (PCP = Primary Care Copayment)	\$10 PCP \$25 Specialist	\$10 PCP \$25 Specialist
Urgent Care Copays	\$50	\$50
ER Copays	\$150	\$150

	2014-15	2015-16
Medical Copay Out-of-Pocket Max paid by employee*	\$1,000 single \$2,000 family	\$2,000 single \$4,000 family
Prescription Copays	\$0/\$10/\$25/\$50	\$0/\$10/\$25/\$50
Prescription Copay Out-of-Pocket Max*	Unlimited copay liability	\$2,000 single \$4,000 family <i>Prescription max required by ACA</i>
% change	+9%	+5.57%

**After employees pay the first \$500 single/\$1,000 family of the deductible/HRA, their only liability for covered services is copays, which will now be capped as a result of the ACA legislation.*

Mr. Preuss explained that the plan was reviewed to find ways to make it ACA compliant, yet lowers the cost without adversely impacting employees.

Historically, copayments had to be made continuously, with an unlimited liability. No matter how many times an employee went to the doctor, the copayment had to be paid by the employee every time. Last year for the first time as a result of the Affordable Care Act, copays were required to be capped. Once the employee pays \$1,000/single and \$2,000/family, they receive 100% coverage thereafter and are no longer required to make copayments. The copayment out-of-pocket maximum amounts would be increased by \$1,000 for a single plan, and \$2,000 for a family plan with the July 1 renewal.

An additional item is being phased in by the Affordable Care Act in the coming year: a copayment cap on prescriptions. This change is advantageous to employees. By increasing the medical copayment cap and adding the prescription out-of-pocket copay, the WEA Trust renewal rate came in at 5.57% versus 9%. This plan mitigates costs and keeps the District compliant with the Affordable Care Act.

The Board took the opportunity to ask questions and discuss the change.

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Katie Medina to approve of the 5.57% health insurance plan renewal through WEA Trust, including recommended plan changes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Employee Resignation

Mr. Ryan Christianson, Director of Human Resources, presented an employee resignation request for Megan Onesti, elementary school teacher at Washington Elementary effective June 5, 2015.

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by Katie Medina to approve of the professional staff resignation request of Megan Onesti (Grade 1 – Washington) effective June 5, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

CESA 5 Purchase of Fort Winnebago Elementary School

Dr. Dickmann explained that CESA 5 has rented the Fort Winnebago Elementary School from the Portage Community School District since 2013-14 for one of their alternative education programs (COMAN: Columbia/Marquette Alternative Needs). In 2014-15, the Reach Alternative Elementary program was started and is also housed at the Fort Winnebago School. Purchasing the elementary building will provide a stable location for the two programs.

While the CESA 5 Board of Control has unanimously approved the acquisition of this property, it needs the approval of three-fourths of the school boards in CESA 5 to allow the Agency to own this property. As a result, CESA 5 has asked that the WRPS Board of Education consider a resolution to approve the purchase. There is no cost to the District, unless students from the District are participating in the programs.

Motion by John Benbow, seconded by Anne Lee to approve of the Resolution for CESA 5 to purchase Fort Winnebago Elementary School located in the Town of Fort Winnebago in Portage Community School District for the Columbia/Marquette Alternative Needs (COMAN) and Reach Alternative Needs program. Motion carried unanimously.

Update on South Wood County Hockey Building Property Use

Dr. Dickmann explained that the administration has updated the Board in the past concerning a potential request from the South Wood County Rec Center Board to allow the sale of alcohol during events that do not involve WRPS youth or are WIAA affiliated. Dr. Dickmann has been working with legal counsel to potentially modify the South Wood County 2000 lease which would allow the sales to occur. Proposed changes to the lease will be

brought to the Board for consideration in June. Mr. Christianson affirmed that the SWC Rec Center Board met recently and expressed an interest in working with the District to move forward on the topic.

The SWC Rec Center Board has made no decisions about the possibility of the River Kings having the ability to sell alcohol at their events; however, non-hockey events are of a more immediate concern because the Rec Center Board has scheduled another curling tournament to be held this summer which they hope will become an annual event. Interested teams from around the country are being drawn in for the tournament, and part of the social aspect of the event is to have alcohol served. The Rec Center Board recognizes the financial benefits of having these types of events scheduled because the revenue generated would help offset operational expenses and to keep “summer ice” available. This would result in more practice times being opened up for children in the community. The hockey facility is very expensive to maintain, particularly in the summer months.

Dr. Dickmann explained that there is a statute that covers municipalities from civil liability, with the school district being covered under the statute. The new lease would contain exemptions defining when the Rec Center Board may or may not allow the sale of alcohol.

The Board expressed support for a potential revised lease as it provides opportunities for community youth, as well as an economic boost for local businesses in the community with the revenue that could be generated.

Dr. Dickmann will bring proposed language revisions for the lease to the next regular Board meeting for consideration and possible approval.

Employee Wage Increase for Food Service and Office/Clerical and Aide Support Staff Employees

Mr. Christianson explained that the administration is recommending a 1.46% CPI wage increase for the Food Service and Office/Clerical Aide Support Staff employee groups. This is the same increase approved for a few other employee groups earlier in the year. The pay would be retroactive to July 1, 2014.

Motion by Anne Lee, seconded by John Benbow to approve of a 1.46% wage increase for food service employees for the 2014-15 fiscal year, retroactive to July 1, 2014, with each individual food service employee receiving a 1.46% increase above their current base year hourly rate. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Mary Rayome, seconded by John Benbow to approve of a 1.46% wage increase for office/clerical aide support staff employees for the 2014-15 fiscal year, retroactive to July 1, 2014, with each individual office/clerical support staff employee receiving a 1.46% increase above their current base year hourly rate. Motion carried unanimously.

Calendar

Calendar items were reviewed.

President Krings adjourned the meeting at 6:54 p.m.



John A. Krings – President

Maurine Hodgson – Secretary

Larry Davis – Clerk