



AGENDA

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

August 3, 2015

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.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment
- III. Actionable Items
 - A. Fountas & Pinnell Leveled Literacy Intervention Kits
 - B. National Geographic Life Science Materials
 - C. Renaissance Learning Products
 - D. Fuel Ed
- IV. Updates
 - A. Civics Test
 - B. Academic Career Plans (ACP)
 - C. 2015-16 Student Test Results
 - D. Course Options
- V. Consent Agenda Items
- VI. Future Agenda Items/Information Requests

The Wisconsin open meetings law requires that the Board, or Board Committee, only take action on subject matter that is noticed on their respective agendas. Persons wishing to place items on the agenda should contact the District Office at 715-424-6701, at least seven working days prior to the meeting date for the item to be considered. The item may be referred to the appropriate committee or placed on the Board agenda as determined by the Superintendent and/or Board president.

With advance notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of persons with disabilities by providing a sign language interpreter or other auxiliary aids, by calling 715-424-6701.

School Board members may attend the above Committee meeting(s) for information gathering purposes. If a quorum of Board members should appear at any of the Committee meetings, a regular School Board meeting may take place for purposes of gathering information on an item listed on one of the Committee agendas. If such a meeting should occur, the date, time, and location of the Board meeting will be that of the particular Committee as listed on the Committee agenda.



BACKGROUND

Anne Lee, Chairman
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- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment
- III. Actionable Items
 - A. Fountas & Pinnell leveled Literacy Intervention Kits

Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI) is an elementary reading intervention used by District Reading Interventionists and classroom teachers to provide support to struggling readers. LLI is a tier two intervention provided through the Response to Intervention (RtI) program for students in grades K through 2.

Both classroom teachers and Reading Interventionists have found LLI to be an effective literacy intervention. Thus, LLI would be a useful intervention for students in grades 3 through 5. The proposed purchase as set out in Attachment A would provide four LLI kits for use at grades 3 through 5.

The administration recommends the approval of four additional LLI kits for elementary reading instruction and intervention at a cost of \$20,900 to be paid for by curriculum referendum funds.

- B. National Geographic Life Science Materials

In May of 2014, the Board approved the elementary science acquisition. However, it was acknowledged at that time that the Science CII still needed to find materials to support the curriculum in the area of Life Science for grades 2 through 4. Over the past year, the Science CII has identified materials from National Geographic to meet this need. Attachment B sets out the proposed purchase in the amount of \$35,067.75. In addition, there are some other smaller materials gaps for specific science standards that still need to be addressed by the Science CII.

The administration recommends approval of the purchase of elementary science materials from National Geographic in the amount of \$35,067.75 to be paid for from the district curriculum acquisition budget.

C. Renaissance Learning Products

In August of 2015, the District contract with Renaissance Learning expires. Currently WRPS utilizes the following Renaissance Learning products:

STAR Math: STAR Math is used as the RtI math screener by all WRPS students in the fall, winter, and spring of the school year. It is used as one of the assessments to determine student need for intervention and/or remedial instruction in math.

STAR Reading: STAR Reading is used as the RtI reading screener by all WRPS students in grades 3 through 5 in the fall, winter, and spring of the school year. It is used as one of the assessments to determine student need for intervention and/or remedial instruction in reading.

Accelerated Math: Accelerated Math is used as one of the math interventions provided through the RtI program for students in grades 1 through 12.

Accelerated Reader: Accelerated Reader is used as a classroom activity in grades 1 through 5 as part of balanced literacy instruction.

Accelerated Math Fluency: Formerly known as Math Facts in a Flash, this product is used by classroom teachers in grades 1 through 6 to support students as they learn their math facts. It is also used as part of the elementary math screening process to assess student knowledge of their math facts.

Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Director of Curriculum and Instruction will be present to explain the details of the purchase.

The administration recommends the renewal of the purchase of Renaissance Learning products.

D. Fuel Ed

Fuel Ed is a program that offers a library of on-line courses for grades 6 through 12. The program offers several options for students including credit recovery, remediation, standard middle and high school courses, AP courses, and access to an online library with several resources. Several District programs utilize Fuel Ed including the secondary Virtual Program, LEAP, LHS EBD, credit recovery and remediation, gifted and talented, and summer school.

Attachment C sets out the proposed contract renewal for the Fuel Ed program.

The administration recommends the renewal of the Fuel Ed contract at a cost of \$21,500 to be paid for from the following budgets: Virtual School, Lincoln High School, East Junior High School, Wisconsin Rapids Area Middle School, WRPS Curriculum.

IV. Updates

A. Civics Test

Beginning with the class of 2017 (current Juniors), all students must pass a Civics Test before they are able to receive a high school diploma. The test must be based on the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Naturalization Test. Students must get 60 out of 100 items correct in order to graduate. The test may be taken multiple times. ELL students may take the test in their language. Special Education students must take the test but do not need to pass it to graduate. It is up to local Districts as to when and how the test is taken.

Information about the Civics Test will be shared with the secondary Social Studies staff and the Social Studies CII Sub-Committee at the beginning of the school year. The Social Studies CII Sub-Committee will make a recommendation to the District CII and the Educational Services Committee regarding how best to prepare and to administer the Civics test to WRPS students. For the 2015-16 school year only, all sophomores at Lincoln High School will take the Civics Test on October 27, 2015.

B. Academic and Career Plans (ACP)

State law requires every school board to provide Academic and Career Planning (ACP) services to all students in grades 6 through 12 by the 2017-18 school year. ACP is a process that helps students engage in academic and career development activities, as well as develop a plan that is created and maintained for a student's academic, career and personal advancement. Districts will be expected to provide planning and monitoring tools that help students create personalized programs of study that are aligned with high school graduation requirements, personal interests and individually-defined career goals.

The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) selected 25 Districts to participate in a state-wide pilot to develop exemplary ACP practices and processes. DPI's intent is that pilot districts will successfully embed academic and career planning in district and school culture and be able to serve as demonstration sites or exemplars for districts/schools implementing in the future. Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools (WRPS) was selected as one of the pilot districts for the state. Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Director of Curriculum and Instruction will be present to explain what WRPS is already doing in the area of ACP, and the ACP pilot expectations that must be met during the 2015-16 school year.

C. Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS) Update

Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, will be present to update the committee on state testing.

2014-15 Assessment Results

In the past, the Department of Public Instruction mailed to districts two copies of individual student test results. One of these copies was mailed home to parents and the other was placed in the student's record file. However, all test results, including individual, building, and District, are now sent electronically. Accordingly, test results will be placed electronically in Skyward for parent access.

Parents will be notified of this change via a letter from the curriculum department. Parents will also be able to request a paper copy of their son or daughter's test results if this is their preference. Having parents electronically access their child's test results will be a significant savings both in postage and printing.

The District has received test results for the 2014-15 school year. However the ACT and Badger Exam results are embargoed until September or October. After that embargo is lifted, a report will be presented to the Educational Services Committee of the Board, sharing the results of all state assessments administered during the 2014-15 school year.

2015-16 WSAS

The legislature enacted several changes in the state testing system for the 2015-16 school year. Below is a list of the state assessments that are administered to WRPS students and the status of each assessment for the coming school year.

PALS: There will be no changes for 2015-16. This assessment is administered in the fall and spring to students in grades 4K through 2. The status of this assessment is uncertain for 2016-17.

ACCESS for ELLs: This assessment will transition from paper/pencil to an on-line format. This assessment is administered to ELL students in December through February.

ACT Plus Writing: There will be no changes for 2015-16. This assessment will be administered to all grade 11 students on March 1, 2016.

ACT WorkKeys: There will be no changes for 2015-16. This assessment will be administered to all grade 11 students on March 2, 2016.

Badger Exam: This exam will no longer be administered. Instead, a different assessment in the areas of ELA and math will be administered to all grade 3 through 8 students between March and May of 2016.

WKCE: This exam will no longer be administered. Instead, a different assessment in the areas of science and social studies will be administered to all grades 4, 8 and 10 students between March and May of 2016.

Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM): There will be no changes for 2015-16. This assessment is administered to students with significant cognitive disabilities between March and May of 2016.

ACT Aspire: This assessment will be administered to all grade 9 and 10 students in May of 2016. There will no longer be a fall administration of the ACT Aspire to students in grade 9.

Civics Exam: Beginning with the class of 2017, this assessment, based on the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Naturalization Test, must be passed by all students before they are able to receive a high school diploma.

D. Course Options

2015 Wisconsin Act 55 (the 2015-2017 Biennial Budget) changed the Course Options statute, Wis. Stat. sec. 118.52. The statute has been modified to permit institutions of higher education to charge a student (or his or her parents) additional tuition and fees if the student receives post-secondary credit upon completion of a course through course options while enrolled in high school. As a result of this change, parents of students taking English 101 and English 102 will pay \$296.00 for each class if their son or daughter is to receive college credit for the class. This tuition amount is half of what UW-Marshfield regularly charges for credits. This change also enables us to allow students to take English 101 for credit.

V. Consent Agenda Items

Committee members will be asked to decide which items should be placed on the consent agenda for the regular Board of Education meeting.

VI. Future Agenda Items/Information Requests

Agenda items are determined by the Committee Chair after consultation with appropriate administration depending upon other agenda items, presentation information, and agenda availability.

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

- Academic Standards (September)
- Grade Advancement Policies (September)
- 6-9 Scheduling Committee Update (September)
- Course Options/Open Enrollment Changes (September)
- Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS) Results (October)
- Elementary and Secondary Education Act Grants Update (October)
- WRPS Professional Development Document (October)
- Elementary Health Acquisition (October)
- Elementary Report Card (October)