

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #139**

November 19, 2015

The Regular School Board Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Folkema at 7:00 p.m. in Room 201 at the Rush City High School.

Roll Call

Board Members present: Scott Tryon, Stefanie Folkema, Brenda Nessel, Scott Anderson, Matt Perreault, Teri Umbreit Board Members absent: None. Others in attendance: Teresa Dupre, Superintendent; Laureen Frost, Business Manager; Brent Stavig, High School Principal; Jason Mielke, CE Jacobson Principal; Aaron Nielson (MMKR); Bob Carlson, Jason Foster; and staff members.

Approval of Regular School Board Meeting Agenda

Motion #110715 by Tryon, seconded by Anderson approving the Regular School Board Meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Motion # 110815 by Nessel seconded by Anderson approving the following Consent Agenda Items:

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 15, 2015

Bills, obligations, and invoices totaling \$747,590.21 for Rush City, and \$546,354.47 for SCRED

Rush City Personnel:

Resignation from Don Moulton as Lead Bus Driver as of 10/31/15

Employ Anders Johnson as Lead Bus Driver as of 11/1/15

Resignation of Wayne Boesen, HS Custodian, as of 11/6/15

FMLA for Deborah Meissner 11/9/15-12/7/15

FMLA extended for Don Moulton 11/1/15 – 11/18/15

7th Grade Girls Basketball Coach – Jami Friday

SCRED

FMLA for Nicole Woodward 2/29/16-5/23/16

Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Item(s) Removed From Consent Agenda

None

Recognition/Policy Review

The School Board recognized the heroic efforts of our High School Emergency Response Team as well as Bob Carlson for providing CPR training and to Jason Foster for his role as a first responder. Chair Folkema also acknowledged appreciation and gratitude for the volunteer time all members of our EMTs spend in training and preparing for an emergency including staff members from CE Jacobson.

In a first reading the board discussed the following policies: Policy #709 – Student Transportation Safety and Policy; and Policy #504 – Student Dress and Appearance.

After a second reading and final Board review of proposed changes, Motion #111015 by Nessel, seconded by Anderson approving the following policies: Policy #502 – Search of Student Lockers, Desks, Personal Possessions and Student's Person; Policy #527 – Student Use and Parking of Motor Vehicles: Patrols, Inspections and Searches.

Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Information

Financial Audit FY15

Aaron Nielson of Malloy, Montague, Karnowski, Radosevich & Co. reviewed the general purpose financial statements for Independent School District #139 and the St. Croix River Education District and issued an unmodified opinion through the audited financial statements and management letters. After board review of the various financial statements, including student activities accounts, Motion #110915 by Tryon, seconded by Nessel accepting the independent auditor's report on the general purpose financial statements of Independent School District #139 and the St. Croix River Education District for the school year 2014-15. Motion carried unanimously. Note: The financial and management report can be viewed on the District website under School Board. http://www.rushcity.k12.mn.us/school_board/finance

Investments: Business Manager Frost reported the district has \$2,123,570 invested as of October 31, 2015. The quarter ended September 30, 2015 investment reports were reviewed. In the general operating funds \$9,140 interest was earned in 2014-15 fiscal year. The trust fund earned \$4,058.64 interest for the operating timeline of October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015.

Motion #111115 by Perreault, seconded by Nessel to transfer \$4,058.64 from the trust fund to community service fund to offset operating loss for the aquatic center. Motion carried unanimously.

Revenue/Expenditure Update: Business Manager Frost reviewed the 2015-16 revenue and expenditure report noting that general fund expenditures are approximately \$130,000 greater than revenue to date but that fund balances are sufficient to meet current cash flow obligations.

Communications

Received rebate check from MN Association of School Administrators based on P-card charges

Motion #111215 was made by Tryon, seconded by Anderson to approve Teri Umbreit to attend National School Board Association Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Matt Meissner to attend School Board Association Meeting Dec 11-12 in St. Cloud. Teresa Dupre will also attend Phase I training with Matt on Friday December 11 in St Cloud.

Extended School Year (ESY)/Summer School Dates for 2016 will be August 1 -5, 8 - 12, 15 – 19. Sessions will be four hours per day.

Principal Stavig informed the board a decision was taken in the spring of 2015 changing from National Honor Society to MN Honor Society. The decision was made based on the increase of fees for National Honor Society membership. Research was conducted to ensure colleges and universities will acknowledge the same level of importance for either recognition. Several smaller school districts in MN and other states have made the same decision.

Reports

Positive Points

Elementary Principal Mielke shared the following positive points:

- Staff development time has been focused on looking at grade specific reading standards and gaps that our current curriculum does not include. The focus also includes exploring new curriculum materials and instructional strategies that include all MN state standards.
- Five teachers will be attending a math conference on guided math to expand their instructional strategies in the area of guided math and developing math centers to provide hands-on learning and differentiated instruction.
- Successful lock down drill (1st of five for the school year)
- Teachers continue to work on PBIS matrix for consistent expectations across all areas of the school environment
- Enrollment at CE Jacobson for K – 6 was 462 at the conclusion of first quarter.
- A Technology Survey will be distributed the first week in December to students in grades 5 – 12 via Chromebooks and / or iPads and a paper copy will be sent home with students in grades K – 4. The purpose of the survey is to gather better information regarding Wi-Fi access for parents and students in their homes and preferred method for receiving information from the school.
- Teachers continue to work on Google Sites to promote a common platform to communicate with parents. Some teachers have started to upload these sites to our School District Website.
- 94% of families attended fall parent / teacher conferences

High School Principal Stavig shared the following positive points:

- Twenty-two students participated in Sr. High Math League and earned on the highest scores on record.
- Professional Learning Communities (PLC) are becoming more student achievement focused and benefit from greater teacher support.
- 31% of families attended fall parent / teacher conferences.
- ERT Team and district staff in all roles assisted in the remarkable response that saved a student's life on October 20th.
- A team from the HS attended Lifelines training regarding suicide prevention, intervention and "postvention". Immediate action has been the planning for creating a Rush City Schools Crisis Response team.
- Rush City School District is now a seizure safe school.
- Successful / coordinated Lock Down drill with CE Jacobson (also the first of five drills)
- Twenty students will be inducted into the MN Honor Society on December 4th.
- Mr. Rood provided a summary of fall sports accomplishments and special honors and a tribute to hard work and dedication put forth to create what promises to be a very successful school play.
- The newly planted butterfly garden is the result of a grant Jeanne Korf was awarded allowing the grade 7 science class to work with our custodians on a joint effort project.
- Eric Olson will represent Rush City as a member of the Pine Technical College Advisory Committee
- The first Principal / Parent night (topic: Open Lunch) was not well attended; therefore, other communication means will be used to provide information to parents and to gather input.

Updates

Motion #111315 to approve the 2015/2016 Strategic Action Plan inclusive of the World's Best Workforce Plan by Umbreit, seconded by Perreault. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Dupre shared with the board that Rush City Schools is benefiting from a Chisago County Grant that provides a mental health worker from Therapeutic Services Agency (TSA) for our students and families one day a week in each building. The program is called the School Link Program.

A Crisis Response team inclusive of community members is in the process of being formed. Superintendent Dupre and Principal Stavig met with Bob Carlson to expand the planning and will be meeting again on November 30th to confirm membership, send invitations to community members and create training sessions.

Superintendent Dupre provided a summary of the extensive staff development initiatives Rush City teachers and other staff members have participated in to date. Staff has participated in sessions both at school during our staff development days and at SCRED or other locations. All staff development activities are directly connected to our Strategic Action Plan priorities.

Meetings Attended

Board member Tryon provided a brief update regarding a recent SCRED Governing Board Meeting.

Old Business

Granite Electronics have examined and tested our antenna located on the Rush City water tower. The purpose of the tests is to determine if a new antenna is required to improve bus radio communication. The test results indicate we do not need a new antenna and that interference from a Genesis Wireless satellite is causing some interference with our receiver – Granite Electronic is working with Genesis to remove the interference, which in turn should dramatically improve our bus radio reception.

New Business

The regularly scheduled school board meeting on Thursday January 21, 2016 will begin at 5:30 pm instead of 7:00 pm to allow board members and administration the opportunity to attend the Band Concert scheduled for the same evening at 7:30.

Aquatic Center 2015

Lee Rood provided an overview of the Aquatic Center operation for the 2015 season. Revenues were \$139,979 and expenditures \$173,152, producing a deficit of \$33,173. This was \$3,527 better than the budgeted deficit of \$36,700. The City of Rush City and Rush City Schools Community Service fund contribute 50% of the operating loss; for the 2015 season the amount is \$16,586.66 each. Motion # 111415 to approve the report by Anderson, seconded by Nessel. Motion carried unanimously.

Calendar

Teacher Negotiations	District Office Conference Room	11/30/15	6:30 pm (Board meets @ 6:00)
Regular Board Meeting	High School Room 201	12/17/15	7:00 pm
23 rd Annual Legislative Forum	Pine City High School	01/20/16	5:00 pm
Regular Board Meeting	High School Room 201	01/21/16	5:30 pm

Adjournment

Motion #111515 by Anderson seconded by Umbreit adjourning the Regular Board meeting at 8:45 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Nessel

Clerk

Our mission is to provide each learner with appropriate educational opportunities to reach his or her potential.