

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

April 19, 2012

The Regular School Board Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Tryon at 7:06 p.m. in Room 201 at the Rush City High School.

Roll Call

Board Members present: Scott Tryon, Carol Cook, Brian Anderson, Stefanie Folkema, Channa Tastsides, and Brenda Nessel. Board Members absent: None. Others in attendance: Vern Koepp, Superintendent; Laureen Frost, Business Manager; Stuart Fuhs, High School Principal; Melody Tenhoff, Elementary Principal; Julie Thom, Preschool Coordinator; Bob Schlagel, Athletic Director; Lee Rood, Pool Director; a representative of the East Central Post Review; and other interested persons.

Approval of Regular School Board Meeting Agenda

Motion # 04512 by Tastsides seconded by Anderson approving the Regular Board Meeting agenda with the following addition – V New Business, I – Authorize Bids for Rec. Center Roof. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Regular School Board Meeting Minutes and Special Board Meeting Minutes

Motion # 04612 by Anderson seconded by Nessel approving the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of March 15, 2012. Motion unanimously carried.

Recognition/Policy Review

In a first reading the Board discussed the following policies: Policy #413–Harassment and Violence, and Policy #526–Hazing Prohibition.

Motion #04712 by Anderson seconded by Tastsides removing Policy #902-Use of School District Facilities and Equipment from the table.

After a second reading and final board review of proposed changes Motion #04812 by Tastsides seconded by Anderson approving Policy #902-Use of School District Facilities and Equipment. Motion unanimously carried.

Board member Folkema arrived.

Financial Information

Following the Business Manager's review and the Superintendent's certification, Motion # 04912 by Nessel seconded by Tastsides approving the payment of invoices and obligations in the amount of \$659,342.75 for ISD #139 and \$359,672.71 for SCRED. Motion unanimously carried.

Investments: Business Manager Frost reported the district has \$1,660,252 in investments as of 3/31/12.

Revenue/Expenditure Update: Business Manager Frost reviewed the current 2011-12 revenue and expenditure budget noting that General Fund revenues were running approximately \$650,000 less than expenditures to date, due mainly to delays in state aid. Frost also noted the importance of a fund balance in maintaining good cash flow.

Communications

Board members noted the receipt of a thank you note from the family of Robert Koepp for plants, flowers, and gifts sent by school staff and board members to his memorial service. The board also received a note from East Central Energy thanking a number of school staff members for their contributions to the ECE annual meeting held at the Rush City High School.

Reports

Positive Points

Elementary Principal Tenhoff shared the following positive points:

Fifth grade students worked very hard this year to present a wonderful first time Science Fair! Their displays were professional, they were articulate about their project, and shared many, many creative ideas. We've not done a Science Fair in a long time, and these students did a fine job leading the way for this new tradition.

The Inventors' Fair went very smoothly with Hunter Schlangen and Jake Hageman/Shane Semple taking first place; Alexis Murphy and Melanie Fleming/Evyn Weston taking second; and third place: Sarah Bjork/Ella Blazek and Kylie Forcier/Katie McDonald. It is always so great to see the young, creative minds at work. Our thanks to Maureen Sybrant and Kelly Gunderson for bringing this activity to our school.

Four grade levels combined to put on two different programs this spring. Mrs. Holmstrom conducted both of these great shows with the support of the staff in all of the grades. The fifth and sixth graders had a wonderful message regarding *The Hero in Us All!* (with a tribute to service men and women during the program) and the third and fourth graders performed *We're Making Music* (which demonstrated the newly implemented technologies used in the classroom). To conclude our musical programs, our band and choir will perform on April 26th and the Spring Choir Recital is Thursday, May 17th.

The sixth grade students had a very interesting visit from Don Carrey from Moorhead State who demonstrated the wonders of Chemistry. It was a truly engaging demonstration and I'm sure it sparked some new chemists.

Targeted Services for Kindergarten students starts in May for an Alternate-Day program. Invite letters have been sent home this week and we are excited to start this new program for kindergartners.

MCA Update: 5th grade Science is done – 3rd grade Math is done – 4th grade Math is almost done – 3rd – 6th grade reading starts next week.

High School Principal Fuhs shared the following positive points:

Nine Spanish 4 students and I had a wonderful trip to Costa Rica. The students are putting together a slide show of pictures which they want to share with you at a later time.

At the section speech competition in Milaca, Marissa Belau and Beau Carlson took home 2nd place medals in Extemporaneous Reading and Discussion categories respectively. They will be heading off to the state competition Friday. Devan Larson placed 7th at sections. Congrats to all the speech participants for a great season. The Speech Awards banquet and Showcase is to be held April 30th at 5:00pm at RCHS. Pot luck dinner to start and performances to follow.

Rush City SADD chapter co-sponsored with Community Partnerships, a Town Hall Meeting Monday 4/16 @ 6:30-8pm in the RCHS Commons. The topic was Underage Drinking - it affects our whole community. There was food, displays from community organizations and a panel of experts who walked those present through the process from Minor Consumption Citation through the court response. The panel was made up of a police officer, lawyer, judge probation officer and athletic director.

Our band students competed at the MSHSL Solo & Ensemble Contest April 14th at Ogilvie High School. Six students received a coveted Superior rating: Marissa Belau, Justin Marty, Julia Westman, Jordyn Churchsmith, Eddie Lutrell, and Keanna Belau. Four of our students received Excellent ratings: Emily Haug, Jessi Bottomley, Kayla Nelson, and Hannah Jo Pavsek. Our Jazz Band also received an Excellent rating. This is the first time since Mr. Kuehn has been here that all Rush City soloists have received an Excellent or higher rating, congratulations to all!

Updates

SCRED Facility

Board members reviewed an update provided by SCRED Executive Director, Kim Gibbons, indicating that bids for the financial package will be reviewed shortly, bids for the construction package will go out shortly, that the lots have been re-described, and that the lease levy bill and the legislature is moving along slowly.

Preschool Technology

Preschool Coordinator, Julie Thom showed how pre school students are using Smart Boards, iPads, and Student Response Systems to augment instruction.

Meetings Attended

Board member Tastsides attended an EDA Meeting regarding the schedule for street improvements in Rush City.

Old Business

Softball Field Shelter

Superintendent Koepp reported that the Softball Association would like Sherman Lumber to enclose the new shed at the softball fields, this secures a 10 year warranty from Sherman Lumber, and that some financial help from the school district would be greatly appreciated. Whereupon Motion #05012 by Folkema seconded by Nessel to contribute \$3,000 toward the construction of the new shed at the softball fields. Motion unanimously carried.

New Business

2012-13 Staffing Proposal

Board members reviewed two proposals, one to add 1 FTE Teacher for 2012-13, the other to add 1.17 FTE Teacher. Whereupon Motion #05112 by Anderson seconded by Cook to add 1.17 FTE Teacher for 2012-13 which includes an additional full time teacher at grade 2 and an increase .17 FTE for the ADSIS/Geography Teaching position. Motion unanimously carried.

Personnel

Motion #05212 by Tastsides seconded by Anderson accepting the resignation of Marilyn Fessenden-Bus Driver, Vandy Nelson-Special Education Teacher, Tracie Kuhlman-Cook, Stuart Fuhs-High School Principal, and Steve Ansell-Bus Driver. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion #05312 by Cook seconded by Anderson approving the addition of a Junior High Track Coach, Mark Henrich, for the 2011-12 season only. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion #05412 by Anderson seconded by Nessel approving the continuation of Mary Kurvers as a Teacher on Special Assignment for 2012-13 as a Technology Integration person. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion #05512 by Nessel seconded by Cook approving a leave request from Katherine Johnson-High School Art Teacher as an FMLA leave of absence beginning Sept. 4th 2012 – June 3rd 2013. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion #05612 by Cook seconded by Nessel approving the employment of Jessica Johnson-Cook, 3.75 hours per day beginning 4/4/12, Meghan Preissing-High School Special Education Teacher beginning with the 2012-13 School Year, and Paul Sommerfeld-Bus Driver, Kindergarten Route beginning 4/16/12. Motion unanimously carried.

Aquatic Center Summer 2012

Lee Rood and Bob Schlager reviewed the proposed Aquatic Center budget for the 2012 swimming season noting that the pool appears to be in good shape and that there are no repairs that are obvious at this time. The pool is scheduled to open June 4th and remain open for 84 days depending upon weather. The proposed budget shows a deficit of \$32,300. Whereupon Motion #05712 by Nessel seconded by Cook, approving the proposed Aquatic Center budget for 2012 and the recommended fee structure. Motion unanimously carried.

Boys Hockey Coop

Athletic Director Schlager informed board members that there has been discussion regarding combining the Pine City/Rush City Hockey Coop for boys with the Mora/Hinckley Finlayson Hockey Coop for boys. The discussion produced no changes so youth hockey and high school hockey will remain unchanged.

Pay Equity Report

Board members reviewed a letter from the Minnesota Management and Budget Office stating that Rush City Schools is in compliance with all areas of the Local Government Pay Equity Act.

LEA Disignation

Motion #05812 by Nessel seconded by Cook designating Elementary Principal Tenhoff as the Rush City LEA for 2012-13. Motion unanimously carried.

Alternative Services Contract

Board members reviewed a contract with North Branch area schools, with North Branch serving as fiscal host for the Targeted Service Program provided to Rush City students. Whereupon Motion #05912 by Anderson seconded by Nessel approving the contract between North Branch area schools and Rush City.

Authorization for Quotes/Bids: Milk, Fuel, Snowplowing, and Food Service Products

Upon the Superintendents request Motion #06012 by Anderson seconded by Tastsides authorizing the District to solicit quotes and bids for Milk, Fuel, Snowplowing, and Food Service Products for the 2012-13 school year. Motion unanimously carried.

Authorize Bids for Rec. Center Roof

Upon the Superintendents request Motion #06112 by Tastsides seconded by Anderson authorizing the District to solicit bids for the replacement of the Rec. Center roof. Motion unanimously carried.

St. Croix River Education District Issues

Motion #06212 by Cook seconded by Nessel authorizing a step adjustment retroactive to 7/1/11 for Kerry Bollman-Collaborative Services Planner. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion #06312 by Tastsides seconded by Anderson approving the employment of Emily Griffith-Clerical 24 hours per week beginning 3/26/12. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion #06412 by Cook seconded by Tastsides approving the individual contracts for, Kim Gibbons-Executive Director; Jamie Nord-Special Education Director; Troy Ferguson-Unique Learner Mgr.; and Sarah Brown-Unique Learner Mgr. Motion unanimously carried.

Calendar

Study Session	HS Conf. Rm.	4/24/12	6:00 p.m.
Meet and Confer Mtg.	HS Conf. Rm	5/09/12	6:00 p.m.
Regular Board Mtg.	Room 201, High School	5/17/12	7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion #06512 by Tastsides seconded by Nessel adjourning the Regular School Board meeting at 9:00 p.m. Motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Anderson
Clerk

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