

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

**November 17, 2011**

The Regular School Board Meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Cook at 7:02 p.m. in Room 201 at the Rush City High School.

**Roll Call**

Board Members present: Carol Cook, Stefanie Folkema, Brian Anderson, Brenda Nessel, and Channa Tastsides. Board Members absent: Scott Tryon. Others in attendance: Vern Koepp, Superintendent; Laureen Frost, Business Manager; Stuart Fuhs, High School Principal; Melody Tenhoff, Elementary Principal; Melissa Lahr (Malloy, Montague, Karnowski, Radosevich & Co.); Bob Schlagel; Lee Rood; a representative from the ECM Post Review; and other interested persons.

**Approval of Regular School Board Meeting Agenda**

Motion #18311 by Nessel seconded by Tastsides approving the Regular School Board Meeting agenda as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

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

Motion #18411 by Anderson seconded by Nessel approving the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of October 20, 2011 and the Special School Board Meeting minutes of November 8, 2011. Motion unanimously carried.

**Recognition/Policy Review**

In a first reading the Board discussed the following policies: Policy #515-Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records, Policy #520-Student Surveys, Policy #523-Policies Incorporated by Reference, Policy #525 Violence Prevention, and Policy #605 Alternative Programs.

After a second reading and final Board review of proposed changes, Motion #18511 by Nessel seconded by Anderson approving the following policies: Policy #201-Legal Status of the School Board, Policy #514-Bullying Prohibition Policy, Policy #532-Use of Peace Officers and Crisis Teams to Remove Students with IEPs from School Grounds, and Policy #806-Crisis Management Policy. Motion unanimously carried.

**Financial Information**

Following the Business Manager's review and the Superintendent's certification, Motion #18611 by Anderson seconded by Tastsides approving the payment of invoices and obligations in the amount of \$713,358.24 for Rush City, and \$385,484.80 for SCRED. Motion unanimously carried.

**Financial Audit FY11**

Melissa Lahr 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 unqualified (clean) opinion through the audited financial statements and management letters. After a board review of the various financial statements, including student activities accounts, Motion #18711 by Anderson seconded by Tastsides 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 2010-11. Motion unanimously carried. Note: The following table represents the audited financial statements by school district fund:

**JUNE 30, 2011**

**RUSH CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #139 AND SCRED**

**2010-11 REVENUE/EXPENDITURE BUDGET AND ACTUAL**

FUND NAME	ACTUAL FUND BAL. 6/30/10	2010-11 ACTUAL REVENUE	2010-11 ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	ACTUAL FD BALANCE 6/30/11
<b>RUSH CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #139</b>				
01-GENERAL	\$1,868,711.19	\$7,467,356.04	\$7,361,457.68	<b>\$1,974,609.55</b>
02 FOOD SERVICE	\$65,236.49	\$418,408.06	\$373,451.24	<b>\$110,193.31</b>
04-COMMUNITY SERV	\$41,165.44	\$387,034.67	\$372,487.10	<b>\$55,713.01</b>
07-DEBT REDEMPTION	\$306,631.65	\$1,444,913.37	\$1,511,703.76	<b>\$239,841.26</b>
08SCHOLARSHIPS	\$151,134.28	\$16,618.49	\$15,500.00	<b>\$152,252.77</b>
10-TRUST/SWIM POOL	\$508,962.82	\$11,925.68	\$8,116.98	<b>\$512,771.52</b>

TOTAL #139 FUNDS	\$2,941,841.87	\$9,746,256.31	\$9,642,716.76	<b>\$3,045,381.42</b>
07-DEBT REFINANCING	\$10,033,344.99	\$2,779,542.28	\$398,840.28	<b>\$12,414,046.99</b>
<b>ST. CROIX EDUCATION DISTRICT</b>				
61-SCRED/GENERAL	\$1,162,897.90	\$4,964,308.59	\$5,364,158.23	<b>\$763,048.26</b>
61-ASSIGNED (incl. above)	\$848,562.93			<b>\$418,333.70</b>
64-SCRED/COMM. SERV.	\$72,952.72	\$252,233.64	\$251,752.56	<b>\$73,433.80</b>
TOTAL SCRED FUNDS	\$1,235,850.62	\$5,216,542.23	\$5,615,910.79	<b>\$836,482.06</b>

Investments: Business Manager Frost reported the district has \$2,425,247 invested as of October 31, 2011. Investments produced an annual interest income of \$5,153 during the 2010-11 school year.

Swimming Pool Trust Fund: Business Manager Frost reviewed the Swimming Pool Trust Fund noting that the fund balance was \$513,965.68 as of June 30, 2011 and that interest earnings for the 2011 Aquatic Center Season totaled \$2, 965.68.

Revenue/Expenditure Update: Business Manager Frost reviewed the 2011-12 revenue and expenditure report noting that revenues are running slightly behind expenditures to date but that fund balances are sufficient to meet current obligations.

### **Communications**

Board Members reviewed a letter from Resource Training & Solutions inviting nominations for a vacancy on the Governing Board of Resource Training & Solutions.

### **Reports**

#### **Positive Points**

Elementary Principal Tenhoff shared the following positive points:

- ⇒ The PTO has been very busy this month with providing families with both a book fair and a family event movie night. It was very well attended.
- ⇒ We are fortunate to be able to access the new Chisago County Truancy program, "Every Day Matters." We have had good success with programs such as these in the past and know that this will be a good support for families.
- ⇒ Another new program for students in K-8 is the Targeted Services program. We will work with North Branch's ALC, offering a program where students can stay after school two afternoons per week (from now until April) and will work specifically on their area of need.
- ⇒ Youth First Club has started again this year with even more students than what they have had in the past. Youth First Club is provided by Community Partnerships and offers fun activities for the students with some lessons of making good choices being part of the curriculum.
- ⇒ Taylor Anderson and Kyle Wiener were the winners of the Fire Safety Poster Contest winners this year! Congratulations on their artistic talents!
- ⇒ WE have concluded this season of Elementary Basketball. I hear it went very well and not only did the students learn good basketball skills, but they also had fun!
- ⇒ Parent/Teacher Conferences went very well and following are the statistics:
  - Number of conferences scheduled -- 686
  - Number of scheduled conferences not held --59
  - Number of unscheduled "extra" conferences -- 40
  - Number of female parent/guardians -- 600
  - Number of male parent/guardians -- 324
  - Number of students attending -- 280

High School Principal Fuhs shared the following positive points:

Congratulations to Coach Telander for being selected as the Great River Conference volleyball coach of the year.

The high school bowling team took 3rd place in their conference tournament. Alex Enns made the all-conference team and will be competing in the All-Conference tournament November 26th in St. Cloud.

47 Students have earned awards on Artsonia this year including Jacob Pauna who has been inducted into the Artist's hall of fame on Artsonia! Our high school art gallery is ranked #1 in the state and #35 in the nation. Our 7th grade gallery is ranked #7 in the state!

Governor Mark Dayton declared November 14-18, 2011 as Minnesota College Application Week. Rush City High School has been selected as a pilot school by Minnesota Department of Education for MN College Application Week. The counselor, Mrs. Larson,

Senior Advisor, Ms. Matzke and the counselor's paraprofessional, Adriene Wimmer are working with seniors all week with the goal that every senior completes a college application. To help make this pilot project a success at RCHS, the staff will be decorating doors to represent their college or favorite college, wearing college apparel, and talking about their college experiences and knowledge with the students, especially seniors. Elia Dimayuga-Bruggeman, the Assistant Commissioner of Education for Minnesota helped kick off the week by visiting with the seniors on Monday. Pictures from the visit can be found at the Minnesota college access website: <http://www.mncollegeaccess.org/CollegeApplicationWeek.html>

Ten junior high students have signed up for the targeted services after school program that will be held at the elementary from 3:00 to 5:00 on Tuesday's and Thursday's through April.

Rush City High School is starting a Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) club. The first meeting will be on Friday, Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>. Muffins and juice will be served. Guest Ms. Melissa Vrudney from Chisago County's Community Partnership with Youth & Families will be joining them and sharing ideas. Judi Cope is getting it started along with Mr. Nolte, Mrs. Larson, Mr. Bingham, Mr. Saari and Mrs. Daniels.

Ms. Matzke and the student council collected 636 pounds of food (up from 542 last year) for the food pantry the past week and a half. A big thanks to all the faculty and students that contributed. Also to Country Market for matching the amount collected.

Travis Just, a graduate of Rush City, will be here on November 29<sup>th</sup> to present to the entire high school on how a positive attitude and making the correct choices will help you succeed. The presentation will be in the gym starting at 9:10 a.m.

#### Updates

##### SCRED Facility

Superintendent Koepp reported that MLA Architects, St. Paul, Minnesota, have been selected for the building project. The city expects to open and act on bids for the demo of the city owned building and the pizza place by the end of November. If demolition can be completed this fall, construction could begin next spring.

##### Meetings Attended

Board member Cook attended the November School Board Advisory Meeting at which teachers discussed revisions to the music curriculum and the early childhood curriculum. Both groups are integrating technology into their revised curriculums.

##### Old Business

There were no items for discussion.

##### New Business

###### Personnel

Motion #18811 by Folkema seconded by Nessel approving the employment of Karen Melin, Paraprofessional, John Nolte, JH Girls Basketball, and Joe Lattimore, JV Boys Basketball. Motion unanimously carried.

##### Aquatic Center – 2011 Summer Summary

Lee Rood and Bob Schlagel were present to provide an overview of the Aquatic Center operation for the 2011 season. Pool usage was down during June due to cold and wet weather but pool usage improved during July and August. Trust fund earnings of \$2,965 were down from \$8,116 in 2010. Revenues came in slightly below budget and expenditures came in slightly below budget resulting in a loss of \$32,834.38. The City of Rush City and Rush City Schools Community Service Fund will need to contribute to the Aquatic Center operation expenses for the summer of 2011. Mr. Rood stated that approximately 14 thousand people used the pool during the 2011 season, including approximately 450 swimmers who participated in summing lessons. Concrete repair has been completed around most of the pool and two shade structures are anticipated to be added next spring, one from a grant from East Central Electric and one through a donation.

##### Transfer Pool Trust Fund Interest

Motion #18911 by Tastsides seconded by Nessel transferring interest earnings of \$2,965.68 from the Aquatic Center Trust Fund to the Community Services Fund. Motion unanimously carried.

##### Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Certificates of Election

Motion #19011 by Anderson seconded by Tastsides approving the following resolution:

#### RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATES OF ELECTION AND DIRECTING SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK TO PERFORM OTHER ELECTION RELATED DUTIES

WHEREAS, the board has canvassed the election for school board members held on November 8, 2011.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 139, State of Minnesota, as follows:

1. The chair and clerk are hereby authorized to execute certificates of election on behalf of the school board of Independent School District No. 139 to the following candidates:
  - a. Stefanie Folkema
  - b. Scott Tryon
  - c. Brenda Nessel

who have received a sufficiently large number of votes to be elected to fill vacancies on the board caused by expiration of term on the first Monday in January next following the election, based on the results of the canvass.

2. The certificate of election shall be in substantially the form attached hereto.
3. After the time for contesting the election has passed and the candidate has filed all campaign financial reports required by Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 211A, the clerk of the school board is hereby directed to deliver the certificates to the persons entitled thereto personally or by certified mail.
4. The clerk is hereby directed to enclose with the certificate a form of acceptance of office and oath of office in substantially the form attached hereto.

#### St. Croix River Education District Issues

Motion #19111 by Tastsides seconded by Folkema approving the employment of Troy Ferguson, Unique Learner Manager beginning 7/1/11. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion #19211 by Tastsides seconded by Folkema approving the reassignment of Lolene Borsheim to Shared Curriculum Director beginning on 7/1/11. Motion unanimously carried.

#### Calendar

Negotiations Strategic Planning	HS Conference Rm.	11/21/11	7:00 p.m.
Teamster Negotiations	HS Conference Rm.	11/28/11	6:00 p.m.
RCEA Negotiations	HS Conference Rm.	12/08/11	6:00 p.m.
Regular Board Meeting	High School Room 201	12/15/11	7:00 p.m.

#### Adjournment

Motion #19311 by Tastsides seconded by Anderson adjourning the Regular Board meeting at 8:38 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.*