

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

May 15, 2014

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: Vern Koepp, Superintendent; Laureen Frost, Business Manager; Melody Tenhoff, Elementary Principal; Brent Stavig, High School Principal; Dave Schroeder, Bob Schlagel, Paula Bengtson, LeeAnn Anderson, Daniel Kuchenbacker, Alissa Zeltinger, Nancy Schroeder, Kim Gibbons, and a representative from East Central Minnesota Post Review.

Approval of Regular School Board Meeting Agenda

Motion #04814 by Nessel seconded by Umbreit approving the Regular Board Meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Motion #04914 by Tryon seconded by Anderson approving the following Consent Agenda Items:
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of April 17, 2014 and Special Board Meeting of April 28, 2014.
Bills, obligations, and invoices totaling, \$698,465.98 for Rush City, and \$451,198.45 for SCRED.

Rush City Personnel:

Employ Lee Rood, Activities Director, effective July 1, 2014
Employ Robert Schlagel, Groundskeeper, effective July 1, 2014
Mary Kurvers, Technology Integration, continue as Teacher on Special Assignment for 2014-15
Employ James Monson, Math Teacher beginning 2014-15 school year
Employ Sara Erickson, Math Teacher beginning 2014-15 school year
Andrew Hackenmueller, Physical Education, increase to 1.0FTE beginning 2014-15 school year
Mary Grote, Elementary teacher, resignation effective end of 2013-14 school year

Clerical Staff Personnel Handbook

SCRED Personnel:

Employ Amanda Brown, Adult Basic Education Instructor effective July 1, 2014
Employ Jennifer DuFresne, Low Incidence Collaborative Planner effective July 1, 2014
Employ Tiffany Goodchild, Social Behavior Collaborative Planner effective July 1, 2014
Employ Holly Grams, Unique Learner's Manager effective July 1, 2014
Employ Molly Bishop, Social Behavior Collaborative Planner effective July 9, 2014
Employ Amy Carlon, School Psychologist effective August 4, 2014
Employ Jennifer Eldred, School Psychologist effective August 4, 2014
Employ Katie Goulet, School Psychologist effective August 4, 2014
Employ Maddie Sutton, School Psychologist effective August 4, 2014
Employ Angela Christenson, School Psychologist effective August 4, 2014
Employ Elizabeth Sowden, School Psychologist effective August 4, 2014
Employ Ann Meyer, EDMAP Chisago Count Truancy for 2014-15
Reassign Tiffany Goodchild, School Psychologist to Social Behavior Collaborative Planner
Reassign Holly Grams, Social Behavior Collaborative Planner to Unique Learner's Manager
Approve SCRED Administrator Contracts for Kim Gibbons, Jamie Nord, Nicole Jack, Nicole Woodward, and Holly Grams
Ann McCormick, Low Incidence Collaborative Planner, FMLA Leave for 2014-15 School Year
Cindy Bruning, Collaborative Planner/Blind/Visually Impaired, resignation effective end of 2013-14 school year

Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Item(s) Removed From Consent Agenda

None

Recognition/Policy Review

Board Chair Folkema and Vice Chair Tryon presented the following employees with plaques, thanking them for their years of service to Rush City Schools: David Schroeder, Custodian 19 years, Paula Bengtson, High School Math Teacher 40 years, LeeAnn Anderson, High School Spanish Teacher 18 years, and Bob Schlagel, Activities Director 39 years.

In a first reading the Board discussed the following policies: Policy #504 – Student Dress and Appearance, and Policy #515 – Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records.

After a second reading and final board review of proposed changes Motion #05014 by Nessel seconded by Umbreit approving the following policies: Policy #532 – Use of Peace Officers and Crisis Teams to Remove Students with IEPs from School Grounds, Policy #603 – Curriculum Development, and Policy #709 – Student Transportation Safety Policy. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Topics

Investments: Business Manager Frost reported the district has \$1,904,226 invested as of 4/30/14.

Quarterly Investment Report: Frost reported that the district currently has \$496,000 invested currently in the Liquid Asset Fund Portfolio with an average interest rate of .73%.

Frost reviewed the quarterly report for the Pool Trust Fund, noting that the March 31 Fund Balance was \$512,746.54 and that the interest income earned for the 2013 Aquatic Center season was \$3,712 compared to \$3,554 the previous year.

Revenue/Expenditure Update: Business Manager Frost reviewed the 2013-14 revenue and expenditure budget noting that the general fund revenues are running approximately \$140,000 behind than expenditures to date.

Communications

There were no items for consideration.

Reports

Positive Points

Elementary Principal Tenhoff shared the following positive points:

The entire MCA testing season is done! Reading, Math, and Science (for fifth grade) have been completed. Preliminary results look good, but we will have to see how the data looks once it goes to the data team at the state. I wish to thank Nancy Moulton for all of the data support she does throughout the testing period.

Spring ACES went very well and we thank Mrs. Lakeberg for leading this opportunity for our students.

Our Yearbooks look GREAT this year and are still available. Mrs. Sybrant does a great job with this project every year.

The music department completed a busy spring with band concerts, a music program, choir concerts and a choir recital. Mrs. Holmstrom and Mr. Kuehn do a great job of sharing their love of music with all of our students.

Tomorrow is our annual Track and Field day for students in grades 4-6. We were finally able to get the Track and Field day for the younger students in between raindrops. Both Track and Field days ended up being back-to-back, so thanks Mr. Henrich for organizing the busy couple of days.

Mrs. Kurvers and Ms. Hedberg led another year of Academic Triathlon for the students in grades 2 and 3. This is a great opportunity for students that stretch their creative thinking.

Last week Thursday, we Pinked out the School to show support for Kim Sarago. Some great pictures will be shared to Mrs. Sarago to show our thoughts.

High School Principal Stavig shared the following positive points:

1. Mr. Kuchenbecker attended the meeting and showed off some wonderful art projects to include ceramic projects and paintings. The artwork won several ribbons at the art show to include best of show.
2. Andrew Heavirland has been accepted into the All-State Orchestra. This is the first time a Rush City student has been accepted to this prestigious orchestra.
3. Rush City High School will begin a bring your own device (BYOD) initiative next year. Students are encouraged but not required to bring an electronic device with a keyboard such as a Chromebook or laptop. These devices will be managed similar to the current electronic device policy; they are to be used only when instructed to do so and the school is not responsible for loss or damage of the device. Again, it is optional the school will provide devices as necessary for students who do not have a device.
4. Grant Nicoll's class experienced a virtual field trip that allowed the students to interact with a Pearl Harbor survivor.
5. We are very pleased with the candidates we have received for the teaching positions that have opened up this spring.

Updates

None

Meetings Attended

Board members and Folkema and Umbreit reported on a recent School Board Advisory meeting which included discussions about the district mission statement and goals, emergency procedures, and bullying.

Board member Nessel reported on a recent SCRED Governing Board meeting that she attended.

Old Business

There were no topics for consideration.

New Business

Staffing 2014-15

Elementary Principal Tenhoff presented kindergarten enrollment information and recommended three sections of kindergarten for 2014-15. Whereupon Motion #05114 by Nessel seconded by Perreault to plan for three sections of kindergarten with the possibility of adding a fourth section if enrollment increases sufficiently. Motion carried unanimously.

High School Principal Stavig explained a restructuring of special education staff for 2014-15. The changes will increase the number of special education teachers in the high school and decrease teachers in the elementary school consistent with the number of special education students served in both buildings. The changes will also reduce shared staff and keep proper certifications in both buildings.

Review 5 Year Capital Expenditure Plan

Superintendent Koepf and Board Members reviewed an updated 5 Year Capital Expenditure Plan noting new items and significant changes to the plan. Whereupon Motion #05214 by Tryon seconded by Perreault approving the plan as presented with the understanding that this plan is a working document and that it can change as circumstances change. Motion carried unanimously.

Property, Liability, Auto Insurance

Business Manager Frost reviewed information from Minnesota Insurance Scholastic Trust and Marsh & McLennan Agency explaining areas covered, deductibles, and costs. Frost recommended staying with Marsh & McLennan at this time. Whereupon Motion #05314 by Nessel seconded by Tryon to continue to contract with Marsh & McLennan for insurance needs. Motion carried unanimously.

Art Trip to France Summer 2016

High School Art Teacher Daniel Kuchenbacker presented information about an art trip to France in June 2016 and requested to move forward with plans for the trip. Whereupon Motion #05414 by Tryon seconded by Anderson approving an art trip to France in June of 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

SCRED Teacher Evaluation Process

SCRED Executive Director Kim Gibbons reviewed the SCRED Teacher Evaluation Process with board members. Gibbons noted that this was a preliminary review and that she would seek board approval on the plan in June.

St. Croix River Education District Issues

There were no items to consider.

Calendar

School Board Retreat	Rush City Community Ctr.	5/29/14	5:00 p.m.
Regular Board Mtg.	Room 201, High School	6/19/14	7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion #05514 by Tryon seconded by Nessel adjourning the Regular School Board meeting at 9:38 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.