

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

**March 17, 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. Board Members absent: Teri Umbreit. Others in attendance: Vern Koepp, Superintendent; Laureen Frost, Business Manager; Brent Stavig, High School Principal; Kim Erdman, Interim Elementary Principal; Lori Nelson, Lee Rood, a representative from the East Central Post Review, and other interested persons.

**Approval of Regular School Board Meeting Agenda**

Motion #02015 by Tryon seconded by Nessel approving the Regular Board Meeting Agenda with the following addition, New Business, Item C – Jr. High Baseball and Softball Coaches. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Consent Agenda Items**

Board Chair Folkema wished to remove Sue Williams leave request from the Consent Agenda. Whereupon

Motion #02115 by Nessel seconded by Anderson approving the following Consent Agenda items:

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 19, 2015.

Bills, obligations, and invoices totaling \$718,169.59 for Rush City, and \$387,561.01 for SCRED

Rush City ISD #139 Personnel

Melody Tenhoff, Elementary Principal, FMLA leave request 2/23/15-5/23/15

Barbara Theis, Paraprofessional, resignation effective 2/27/15

Tanya Leatherman, Paraprofessional, FMLA leave request 3/19/15-6/03/15

Reassign Kim Erdman as Interim Elementary Principal beginning 3-2-15

Employ Paulette Dreissig as long-term sub teacher beginning 3-2-15

SCRED

Kathryn Letourneau, Deaf/Hard of Hearing Teacher, resignation effective 6/05/15

Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Items Removed from Consent Agenda**

Susan Williams, Teacher, 5 Year Leave Request pursuant to MS 122A.46

After discussing 5 year leave request by Susan Williams and with the understanding that she was agreeable to a 3 year leave request

Motion #02215 by Perreault seconded by Nessel approving a 3 year leave request for Susan Williams beginning with the 2015-16 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

**Recognition/Policy Review**

In a first reading the Board discussed the following policies: Policy #205-Open Meetings and Closed Meetings, Policy #206-Public Participation in School Board Meeting/Complaints About Persons at School Board Meetings and Data Privacy Considerations, and Policy #208-Development, Adoption, and Implementation of Policies.

After a second reading and final Board review of proposed changes, Motion #02315 by Tryon seconded by Nessel approving the following policy: Policy #307-Power and Duties of the Superintendent. Motion carried unanimously.

**Financial Information**

Investments: Business Manager Frost reported the district has \$1,544,403 invested as of February 28, 2015.

Revenue/Expenditure Update: Business Manager Frost reviewed the current 2014-15 revenue and expenditure budget noting that General Fund revenues were running approximately \$200,000 less than expenditures to date.

**Communication**

**Negotiations Notice**

Board members noted receipt of a letter from the Rush City Education Association indicating a desire to negotiate a new Master Agreement.

**Congratulatory Letter**

Superintendent Koepp briefly reviewed a letter from the Minnesota Department of Education, Commissioner Cassellius, congratulating Rush City Schools on attaining a 90% graduation rate, which is consistent with recent years for Rush City Schools.

## **Reports**

### **Positive Points**

High School Principal Stavig shared the following positive points:

Senior Adam Hendrick was awarded a \$4,000 scholarship at Bemidji State University after his French Horn audition. Adam plans to major in Music Education at BSU starting in the fall.

Mr. Telander worked with the county and took his college level environmental science class on a field trip to the recycling center in Wyoming and the landfill in Mora. Students also created recycled art out of common household waste as a part of this unit. Projects are currently in the commons area display case. The final part of this unit is for the students to generate a plan to improve a trash or recycling program locally.

Band and Choir both performed wonderful concerts this month and then competed in the Large Group MSHSL contest last Thursday. Band received three excellent ratings and Choir received two excellent and one superior!

Winter Sports have ended and Spring sports have begun. All teams performed well, Girls Basketball finished exceptionally strong, winning the conference and making it to the section semifinals. Bailey Murawski made it to state in Gymnastics and Isaiah Johnson made it to state in wrestling.

Interim Elementary Principal Erdman shared the following positive points:

The PTO is offering another Lego class after the first one was a huge hit with the 5th and 6th grade kids.

In Mrs. Sybrants class the kindergarteners are checking on two baby eaglets each day online on the eagle cam.

The 2nd grade art class had 25 members.

### **Updates**

#### **Elementary Enrichment Program**

Elementary Enrichment Coordinator Lori Nelson provided a summary of enrichment activities and programs offered to elementary students. Nelson listed the various enrichment experiences, the grades that participate in these activities, and pictures for the activities. Superintendent Koepp and Board Members thanked Nelson for her coordination of the enrichment activities.

#### **Study Session 2/25/15 and 3/4/15**

Board Chair Folkema summarized recent Study Sessions focused on preparation for the Superintendent Search process and one meeting which included the community committee and staff committee which will be participating in the interview process.

#### **Meetings Attended**

Board Chair Folkema reviewed the recent School Board Advisory Meeting, which included a discussion of communication and school safety.

Board member Tryon thanked Nicole Woodward for her assistance in the Board Advisory Meeting.

## **Old Business**

### **Technology Initiative**

Board members reviewed estimates for curriculum replacement and the cost to lease Chrombooks for grades 7-12, iPads for grades 5 and 6, and iPads on carts for other grades. After much discussion it was a consensus among board members for administration to continue to refine the plan for a one-to-one device initiative for grades 5-12 for the 2015-16 school year. Administration should build this in to the budget, develop the insurance fee agreement, and plan staff development for technology integration.

## **New Business**

### **Three Year Audit Quote**

Business Manager Frost summarized a three year quote for auditing services from Malloy, Montague, Karnowski, Radosvich & Co. (MMKR). Frost recommended excepting the quote from MMKR; for ISD139: FY15-\$20,400; FY16-\$20,910; FY17-\$21,430; for SCRED: FY15-\$10,760; FY16-\$11,300; FY17-\$11,865. Whereupon Motion #02415 by Tryon seconded by Nessel accepting the three year quote from MMKR. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Authorize Health Insurance Bids**

Business Manager Frost summarized changes to the health insurance bid process Whereupon Motion #02515 by Tryon seconded by Perreault authorizing health insurance bids. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Jr. High Baseball and Softball Coaches**

Activities Director Lee Rood presented information comparing coaching staff for Jr. High Baseball and Jr. High Softball for Great River Conference teams. Rush City has operated with volunteer Jr. High Coaches for these two sports. Mr. Rood asked the school board to provide one paid coach for each sport. Whereupon Motion #02615 by Nessel seconded by Anderson approving a paid coach for Jr. High Baseball and a paid coach for Jr. High Softball. Motion carried unanimously.

Calendar

Superintendent Search	High School Conference Rm.	3/19/15	5:30 p.m.
Regular Board Mtg.	Room 201, High School	4/16/15	7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion #02715 by Nessel seconded by Anderson adjourning the Regular Board meeting at 8:31 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.*