

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

April 21, 2016

The Regular School Board Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Folkema at 5:30 p.m. in the Media Center at the Rush City High School.

Roll Call

Board Members present: Stefanie Folkema, Teri Umbreit, Scott Tryon, Scott Anderson, Matt Perreault, Matt Meissner. Board Members absent: None. Others in attendance: Teresa Dupre, Superintendent; Laureen Frost, Business Manager; Brent Stavig, High School Principal; Jason Mielke, Jacobson Elementary Principal; Lee Rood, Activities Director, a representative of the East Central Post Review, and other interested persons.

Approval of Regular School Board Meeting Agenda

Motion #04016 by Anderson seconded by Umbreit approving the Regular Board Meeting Agenda.
Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Motion #04116 by Umbreit seconded by Perreault approving the following Consent Agenda items:
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 17, 2016.

Bills, obligations, and invoices totaling \$733,684.93 for Rush City, and \$490,704.95 for SCRED

Rush City ISD #139 Personnel

Gary Wendorf, 3rd Grade Teacher, Retirement effective 9/30/16

Robert Schlager, Groundskeeper, continue for 2016-17

Nicole Widenstrom, Preschool Paraprofessional Long Term Sub, 4/11/16 – 6/8/16

Post Summer School positions

Approve Principal Contracts for 2015-2017

Reduce Food Service Director contract from 210 days to 202 days

Rachel Bigelow, Elementary EBD Teacher, beginning the 2016/17 school year

SCRED

Rebecca Aadalen, Social Behavior Collaborative Planner, starting 7/11/16

Hanna Rodenbaugh, Social Behavior Collaborative Planner, starting 7/18/16

Adjusting Emily Cooley Dobbins FMLA to be from 7/1/16-9/23/16

Correcting her February requested FMLA leave to use sick time from ~5/23/16-6/30/16

Motion carried unanimously.

Recognition/Policy Review

After a second reading and final board review of proposed changes Motion #04216 by Tryon seconded by Meissner approving the following policies: Policy 213 School Board Committees, Policy 303 Superintendent Selection, Policy 304 Superintendent Contract, Duties and Evaluation, Policy 210 Conflict of Interest, Policy 211 Criminal or Civil Action Against School District, School Board Member, Employee, or Student, Policy 212 School Board Member Development, Policy 214 Out-of-State Travel by School Board Members, Policy 301 School District Administration, Policy 302 Superintendent, Policy 305 Policy Implementation. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Information

Investments: Business Manager Frost reported the district has \$1,712,536 invested as of 3/31/16.

Revenue/Expenditure Update: Business Manager Frost reviewed the current 2015-16 revenue and expenditure budget noting that General Fund revenues were running approximately \$372,300 more than expenditures to date. Frost also noted that 67% of revenues have been received to date where as 61% of expenditures have occurred to date.

Communications

On the Unity Bank safety deposit box the signature card should read: Teresa Dupre, Superintendent, Laureen Frost, Business Manager, and Kristin Papke, Assistant.

Limited number will be printed again of the School Calendars for the 2016-17 year.

We will not be issuing the Food Service Products bid as we will be following the state agreed upon bid with Indianhead Foodservice.

Reports

Positive Points

Jacobson Elementary Principal Mielke shared the following positive points from Jacobson:

Priority Area 1: Achieve Academic Excellence

- Our first grade students and teachers are to be commended for a very well done readers theater presentation on March 23. Many parents and relatives were present to watch our students perform.
- We had great attendance at our 3/4th grade music program and recent Root Beer Rag choir concert. The students did a very fine job performing
- Our MCA tests are currently in progress and preliminary data so far on the reading tests show our students improving.
- We have completed the process of designing new report cards that will move toward a standard based grading system.

Priority Area 2: Foster a Positive and Safe Environment

- We will able to visit Golden Lake Elementary in Centennial to observe and learn about their student mentoring program
- We completed a very successful fire drill (1min, 17sec) and a statewide tornado drill very safely.

Priority Area 3: Financial Stability to Support the District Mission

- We received a donation of \$500 dollars from a family that wants to remain anonymous. This money will go toward books to add to our new-leveled library with our reading curriculum.

Priority Area 4: Strengthen Community Relationships

- Reading BINGO night happened on Thursday April 14th .We had about 40 people attend due to several other activities and finally sunny weather. We will look at an earlier date next year for this event. Each child that attended went home with 4 to 5 new books.

High School Principal Stavig shared the following positive points from the High School:

Priority Area 1: Achieve Academic Excellence

- All juniors have completed the ACT assessment. The average Rush City score was 19.3 as compared to the national average of 21 and the MN average of 22.9. It should be noted many students in the national and state average include only the students that self-selected to complete the assessment; whereas all Rush City Juniors are included. 20% of our students taking the ACT this year scored higher the state average, 39% of our students scored higher than the national average and our top score was a 34 out of 35 points!
- MAP testing is complete and MCA testing will begin next week. We look forward to sharing the final results next month
- We are very excited to welcome Charlie Cook as the long-term substitute teacher for our business program. His real world experience from the business world along with his commitment to student learning and developing positive relationships is resulting in his engaging our students in very meaningful learning
- Six juniors were selected to attend Chisago County Boys and Girls County (similar to Boys and Girls State). The event was held April 20 at the Chisago County Court House; it was sponsored by the American Legion and The American Legion Auxiliary. The purpose was to learn more about County government.

Priority Area 2: Foster a Positive and Safe Environment

- We conducted our annual severe weather drill on the national severe weather awareness day. Students and staff responded well; however the sirens could not be heard in the building. The district contacted the city to notify of them of the concern, yet there is only one siren in town. The city did provide us with support in getting connected with the emergency radio signals.
- Five Senior High Speed team members advanced to the State Meet. Although no members were advanced to the final round, they all gave exemplary speeches and are to be commended for an amazing and very successful season.

Priority Area 3: Financial Stability to Support the District Mission

- Teachers have been directed to begin the process of ordering supplies for next school year; budget reductions have also been communicated with all staff

Priority Area 4: Strengthen Community Relationships

- Rush City High School hosted the GPS 45-93 meeting over at SCRED. David Wittwer (USDA) presented information about USDA rural development programs. The meeting was followed by a tour of Plastech.
- The Dodgeball tournament raised \$1752.00 for each of the three beneficiaries. This is a grand total of \$5256.00. Tiger Pride, staff and our community worked diligently to make this happen. Thank you to everyone that supported and participated in this event.
- Student counsel brought in the American Red Cross to conduct a blood drive. They collected 38 pints of blood. The American Red Cross will award two scholarships to our students as a thank you for their efforts.

Survey

Superintendent Dupre shared results from the Strategic Action Plan survey completed by staff, students and parents. Summary results can be found on our school website under the School Board tab. The summary includes statements of strength that received a strongly agree/agree rating of 80% or higher as well as areas of concern that received over 20% ratings of disagree/strongly disagree. Thank everyone that took time to complete the survey. The results will be used to help guide our Strategic Action goals for 2016/2017.

Meetings Attended

Board member Umbreit summarized her April attendance at the NSBA Convention in Boston.

Board member Folkema attended the April School Board Advisory Committee Meeting, Member Meissner attended the ECMECC Board Meeting and Member Tryon attended the SCRED Board meeting.

Old Business

Prior to the school board vote to proceed with the purchase of a new bus, superintendent Teresa Dupre explained the financial benefits (current cash flow) and consequences (more expensive in the long run) of leasing a bus vs. buying a bus. The board approved to proceed with the purchase of a new school bus. Motion # #04316 by Tryon seconded by Anderson. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Actuarial Study Motion #04416 by Umbreit seconded by Anderson to accept the Rush City study. Motion carried unanimously. Motion #04516 by Tryon seconded by Umbreit to accept the SCRED study. Motion carried unanimously.

Post-Employment Benefit Valuation Report: Business Manager Frost reviewed reports with the Board. Motion #04416 by Umbreit seconded by Anderson to accept the Rush City study. Motion carried unanimously. Motion #04516 by Tryon seconded by Umbreit to accept St. Croix River Education District's report. Motion carried unanimously.

Aquatic Center Summer 2016: Lee Rood reviewed the proposed Aquatic Center budget for the 2016 swimming season, proposing the same fee structure as 2015 with a slight increase in lesson rates and a deficit of \$33,625. Rood also noted that the 2016 season would be open less days than 2015. Whereupon Motion #04616 by Anderson seconded by Perreault approving the proposed Aquatic Center budget for 2016 and the recommended fee structure. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Participants for Graduation: Chair Stefanie Folkema and Vice Chair Teri Umbreit will participate as School Board members at the 2016 Graduation Ceremony on June 5, 2016.

Upon the Superintendents request Motion #04716 by Umbreit seconded by Meissner authorizing the district to solicit quotes and bids for milk, fuel, and snow plowing for the 2016-17 school year. Motion carried unanimously. Note previously approved going with the state agreed upon bid for food service products from Indianhead Food Service for the 2016-17 school year.

Substitute Teacher Rate of Pay – tabled until May 2016 agenda

Graduation 2017 will be held on Sunday June 4, 2017

Staffing for 2016/2017: Board members reviewed the scenario for reducing expenditures for the 2016/2017 school year prepared by the Principals, Business Manager and Superintendent. The scenario included reductions in staff development expenditures, supplies, Para Professionals and 3.0 FTE teaching positions to equal \$266,588.00. School Board members assured those in attendance the only reason for the reduction in staff is out of necessity to balance the budget and avoid deficit spending. They are very disheartened to act on the reductions. Superintendent Dupre, Business Manager Frost, Principal Stavig and several teachers and students in attendance provided input into the discussion. Motion #04817 by Perreault seconded by Tryon. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution to Non-Renew Staff: The resolution relating to the termination and nonrenewal teaching contracts of Angela Mazzuca and Tylor Sorgert, probationary teachers, was read by School Board Chair Stefanie Folkema. The motion #04910 for the adoption of the resolution by Tryon was duly seconded by Perreault. All school board members voted in favor of the resolution. No School Board members voted against the resolution.

Operating Referendum: The School Board Directed Superintendent Dupre to research and investigate the impact a voter approved operating referendum (levy) will have on the school district and community. Superintendent Dupre is scheduled to report the findings at the May 19, 2016 regularly scheduled School Board Meeting.

Calendar

Board Workshop	Conference Room	5/16/16	5:30 p.m.
Regular Board Mtg.	Room 201, High School	5/19/16	5:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion #041016 by Anderson seconded by Umbreit adjourning the Regular School Board meeting at 7:35 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Tryon
Clerk

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