

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

**October 15, 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. Board Members absent: Matt Perreault and Teri Umbreit. Others in attendance: Teresa Dupre, Superintendent; Jason Mielke, CE Jacobson Principal; Brent Stavig, High School Principal; and Jon from the ECM Post Review.

**Approval of Regular School Board Meeting Agenda**

Motion #10015 by Nessel seconded by Anderson approving the Regular Board Meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Consent Agenda Items**

Motion #10115 by Anderson seconded by Nessel approving the following Consent Agenda Items:

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 17, 2015

Bills, obligations, and invoices totaling \$698,163.49 for Rush City, and \$506,907.54 for SCRED

**Rush City Personnel:**

Assign Marlen Holmberg to van route special transport

Individual Transport Contract with Maureen Kavanagh

Motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Item(s) Removed From Consent Agenda**

None

**Recognition/Policy Review**

In a first reading the board discussed the following policies: Policy #502 – Search of Student Lockers, Desks, Personal Possessions, and Student's Person; Policy #527 – Student Use and Parking of Motor Vehicles; Patrols, Inspections and Searches.

**Financial Information**

Investments: The district has \$2,133,203 invested as of 9/30/15.

Revenue/Expenditure Update: The General Fund Revenue is about \$160,000 greater than General Fund Expenditures to date.

**Communications**

Superintendent Dupre shared aerial photos of the school and suggested the school include a few of them on the website, have some large canvas photos framed for the district office and share them with the city for public relations use. A Thriving Communities grant for Rush City has allowed for the city to produce a promotional video for their website. We are very pleased and thankful that the school district will be highlighted in the video. The board listened to ideas for improving the video capabilities in the High School Theater. Superintendent Dupre will begin seeking community support to help with the cost of the updates in exchange for use of the facility. The School Board Election Public Notice that will appear in the ECM Post Review was shared, Rush City School District Calendars highlighting High School student art were distributed to the board members, and the school board verbalized support for the application from CE Jacobson and High School teachers for Q Comp support (\$169.00 per pupil) from the state – no extra tax payer levy will be added to application – state funded only.

**Reports**

**Positive Points**

High School Principal Brent Stavig shared the following highlights

Priority Area 1: Achieve Academic Excellence

- Teachers have developed SMART goals that are directly aligned with building goals and guided by data Supt. Dupre compiled.
- ELA Curriculum Review – Kickoff event at SCRED – Great information and we will use a new process this year – work in-house.
- I've been very impressed with classroom walkthroughs.

#### Priority Area 2: Foster a Positive and Safe Environment

- Homecoming week was a huge success. Lee engaged more of the elementary at the pep fest, the dress-up days had the most participation I've seen at RC.
- All homecoming games were fun, safe, and well attended.
- Students added to the School Board Advisory Committee

#### Priority Area 3: Financial Stability to Support the District Mission

- The Higher Learning Commission established new education requirements for our college instructors. PTCC has provided a report of our teacher's status. We need to keep this a focus; they must have a MA in field or an MA plus 18 credits in field.

#### Priority Area 4: Strengthen Community Relationships

- Pig Roast – Great food, well attended, excellent event for brining community members in the school.
- Homecoming coronation – Samantha Herberg and Nick Martin are Queen and King. Great evening for all.
- Our first Parent/Principal Night will be Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM - Media Center. Main topic will be Open Lunch.

CE Jacobson Principal Jason Mielke shared the following highlights:

#### Priority Area 1: Achieve Academic Excellence

- Teachers have met with PLC's, and worked at examining data and have set student achievement goals for the upcoming year.
- Teachers from our reading committee recently attended an ELA kick off day. Where they reviewed standards, and we started formulating a plan for curriculum review and reading interventions.
- Registered four teachers for Guided Math workshops to learn how to differentiate instruction in math settings.

#### Priority Area 2: Foster a Positive and Safe Environment

- PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Supports) Consistency
- Very Positive Feedback to school messenger system, fixed missing and changed numbers for future.
- Emergency radios worked very effectively for second fire drill.

#### Priority Area 4: Strengthen Community Relationships

- Google Sites – Will include Google calendars, and messages from each teacher.
- PTO is helping to support Climb Theatre to give anti-bullying lessons to students of all ages. They also have assisted in bringing MN author David LaRochelle in to speak to generate excitement for writing and illustrating.

#### Updates

Rush City Education Foundation: Unfortunately we had very low application responses for the grants available. Another application deadline for December has been set and principals will work with their on an application that will benefit students in their schools.

#### Strategic Planning Process

Superintendent Dupre presented the 2014/2015 World's Best Workforce Report for approval. Motion # 10315 was made by Nessel and seconded by Anderson to accept the report as written. The 2014/2015 is posted on our school website under School Board Tab. Motion carried unanimously. Strategic Action Plan 2015/2016 will include the state required content for the World's Best Workforce plan. The Board Advisory committee will now include students and serve as the oversight and recommendation committee for the District Strategic Action Plan.

Teacher Development and Evaluation Plan Modifications: The teachers have suggested and agreed to remove the evaluation markings for the peer review process. They will also only comment on observable teaching behaviors yet will include professional development and planning process in their follow up conversations.

#### Meetings Attended

Board members Umbreit and Folkema are members of the Board Advisory Committee. Most School Board members were present for the teamster negotiations meeting on October 13, 2015.

#### Old Business

None

#### New Business

Motion # 10410 by Tryon and seconded by Nessel to approve the catering hourly rate of \$17.00 for each job classification. Motion carried unanimously

Motion # 10215 by Tryon and seconded by Nessel to award the resolution for \$9,175,000 General Obligation School Building Refunding Bonds, Series 2015A. Seven bids were received. The low bid has a true interest cost of 1.71% which will save the District approximately 1.5 million in payments over the life of this bond that matures in 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

St. Croix River Education District Updates

None

Calendar

Board Advisory Committee	HS Media Center	11/09/16	6:30 to 8:00
Teamsters Negotiations	District Office Conference Room	11/17/15	6:00 planning / 6:30 meeting
Teachers Negotiations	District Office Conference Room	11/18/16	6:00 planning / 6:30 meeting
Regular Board Mtg.	High School Rm 201	11/19/15	7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion #10614 by Tryon seconded by Nessel adjourning the Regular School Board meeting at 8:10 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.*