

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

April 23, 2013

Note: The Regular School Board Meeting scheduled for April 18, 2013 was rescheduled to April 23, 2013 due to a snow storm.

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, Carol Cook, Brian Anderson, Stefanie Folkema, Channa Tastsides, and Brenda Nessel. Board Members absent: None. Others in attendance: Vern Koepp, Superintendent; Laureen Frost, Business Manager; Brent Stavig, High School Principal; Melody Tenhoff, Elementary Principal; Bob Schlager, Activities Director; Lee Rood, Kevin Smith, Mike Vaughan, Bob Frandsen; a representative of the East Central Post Review; and other interested persons.

Approval of Regular School Board Meeting Agenda

Motion #05113 by Tryon seconded by Nessel approving the Regular Board Meeting agenda with the following additions – V New Business, G – Fund Raiser Request, and G – Tiger Trail Sidewalk, II Communications, C - Negotiations Notice – Food Service/Paraprofessionals, and D - Negotiations Notice - Custodians. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Motion #05213 by Anderson seconded by Tastsides approving the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of March 21, 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

Recognition/Policy Review

In a first reading the Board discussed the following policies: Policy #101 – Legal Status of the School District, Policy #306 – Administrator Code of Ethics, and Policy #404 – Employment Background Checks.

After a second reading and final board review of proposed changes Motion #05313 by Nessel seconded by Cook approving the following policies: Policy #203.2 – Order of the Regular School Board Meeting, Policy #302.6 – Consent Agendas, Policy #707- Transportation of Public School Students, and Policy #805-Waste Reduction and Recycling. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Information

Following the Business Manager's review and the Superintendent's certification, Motion #05413 by Tastsides seconded by Anderson approving the payment of invoices and obligations in the amount of \$624,075.74 for Rush City and \$403,343.71 for SCRED. Motion carried unanimously.

Investments: Business Manager Frost reported the district has \$2,105,581 invested as of 3/31/13.

Revenue/Expenditure Update: Business Manager Frost reviewed the current 2012-13 revenue and expenditure budget noting that General Fund revenues were running approximately \$365,000 less than expenditures to date. Frost also noted the importance of a fund balance in maintaining good cash flow.

Communications

Board members noted the receipt of Negotiation Notices from the Teachers Organization, Principals Organization, Food Service/Paraprofessional Organization, and Custodian Organization.

Reports

Positive Points

Elementary Principal Tenhoff shared the following positive points:

Since last month there were some technology difficulties, I was unable to share the pictures from the 5/6 grade program or the PTO's SnowBall Dance. I will begin by sharing some views of these two events.

The school board meeting fell last month on the same night as the 3/4 grade music program. These programs provide additional opportunities for students to shine. As usual, they did a great job and all the teachers, support staff, and Mrs. Holmstrom are thanked for their efforts.

Our MCA Tests are concluding. We have nine math classes left to test. Because of the state-wide technology difficulties, we do have two additional reading tests to make up for the classes that were affected that day.

The annual Inventors' Fair went well again this year. Mrs. Sybrant and Mrs. Gunderson do a great job of coordinating this program for our students. In third place was, Hailey Whitledge and Kiyana Maynard, in second place was, Meghan May and Hailey Volk, in first place was, Brystin Lamont and Madelynn Hilton. Students had a great time, sharing their creative ideas.

PTO is sponsoring for the first time a Burger King Benefit Night. This is a great time to go out to eat for a good cause!

Our student council is sponsoring Tiger Pride wristbands. Show off your Tiger Pride for \$1.00 for each wristband!

High School Principal Stavig shared the following positive points:

Our 9-12 band students brought home 7 Superior ratings and 8 Excellent ratings at the MSHSL Solo & Ensemble Contest. The Rush City Jazz Band also earned a Superior rating. This year's contest was held on April 5th at Hinckley-Finlayson High School.

We have 63 couples going to prom on May 4th

Our sub is doing great and Angie Bohnert, Meghan Preissing, and Shawn Chinn have gone above and beyond to assist the Special Education department while we are shorthanded.

Graduation is scheduled for Sunday, June 2nd

MCA testing is going well. Sue, Wendy, and Colleen have done a great job organizing and proctoring the assessments.

Our monthly PLC meetings are going well.

Superintendent shared the following positive points:

Koepp wished to thank the anonymous donor who purchased 38 track hurdles for approximately \$3,200.

A thank you to the Grandy Lions for their recent donation of \$10,000 to support the summer recreation program.

Updates

Senator Sean Nienow

Due to the busy legislative schedule, Senator Nienow was unable to attend this meeting.

Study Session 4/11/13

Superintendent Koepp provided a brief summary of the study session topics. They included a transition plan for the Activities Director Position, Fiscal year 14 budget development including staffing proposals, technology considerations, and the fund balance, and discussion related to potential operating levy's for security, technology, or kindergarten.

Meetings Attended

Board member Cook attended the Board Advisory meeting, which included discussion about the Social Studies Curriculum work and Federal Title Programs.

Board member Anderson attended an ECMECC meeting, which included discussion about the budget, the ITV Schedule for 2013-14, and digital textbook projects related to math and science.

Old Business

Board Vacancy Process

Board members discussed options for filling board member Tastsides' position. Whereupon Motion #05513 by Anderson seconded by Tryon to seek applications for the vacant position until 4 pm May 6th, 2013, and to review applications at a Special Board Meeting on May 8th, 2013 at 6 pm. Motion carried unanimously. Note: Board members may appoint someone May 8th to fill the vacant position and that person could take the Oath of Office at the May 16th Board Meeting and begin serving as a board member.

PTO Playground Improvements

Principal Tenhoff reported that she has met with PTO members and Jeanne Korf to review playground upgrades and funding for the playground. The District will cover the cost of the playground border and mulch, and the elementary activity account will cover expenses that exceed the funds raised by the PTO for this project. It was a consensus among board members to use rubber mulch instead of wood fiber mulch for this playground project.

New Business

2013-14 Staffing Proposal

Board members reviewed a staffing proposal for 2013-14 recommend by administration. The proposal included adding .5 FTE Teacher at Jacobson Elementary to reduce class size for reading and math instruction at grade 3. Kristine Peterson would be reassigned to full-time position at Jacobson Elementary and Grant Nicoll would be reassigned to a full-time position in High School Social Studies. A .5 FTE Physical Education teacher would be hired. The second item was an increase in the payroll position by two hours per week from

.75 FTE to .8 FTE. Whereupon Motion #05613 by Tryon seconded by Anderson approving the staffing proposal as recommended. Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel

Motion #05713 by Tryon seconded by Tastsides to accept the resignations of, Katherine Noble – Art Teacher; Mike Saari – Assistant Football Coach; John Nolte - Chemistry/Physics Teacher; David Stevens – English Teacher and All-School Play Director; and Jennifer Pearson – Cook. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion #05813 by Anderson seconded by Cook approving a resolution relating to the termination and non-renewal of the teaching contract for Lila Bennett a probationary teacher. Motion carried unanimously. Note: The complete resolution is available on the District website and in the District office.

Motion #05913 by Tastsides seconded by Cook to close the meeting to discuss a personnel issue. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion #06013 by Cook seconded by Anderson closing the closed meeting and reopening the public meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion #06113 by Cook seconded by Anderson approving a resolution relating to the termination and non-renewal of the teaching contract for Ben Mettling a probationary teacher. Voting in favor: Tastsides, Anderson, Tryon, Cook. Voting against: Nessel, Folkema. Motion carried. Note: The complete resolution is available on the District website and in the District office.

Motion #06213 by Anderson seconded by Tastsides approving the following: Linda Lindeman – FMLA Leave Request, March 20 – May 7, 2013; Lila Bennett – Extend FMLA Leave Request Full-time leave April 8-June 3, 2013; An additional Track Coach for the 2012-13 season only and employing Ben Mettling as a Jr. High Track Coach for that position; Additional Paraprofessional for High School needs; and Mary Kurvers – Technology Integration Position continue as a Teacher on Special Assignment for 2013-14 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion #06313 by Anderson seconded by Tastsides approving the employment of: Elizabeth Carpenter – HS Reading Long-term sub, April 8, 2013 through May 31, 2013; Daniel Kuchenbacker – High School Art Teacher; and Kathleen Stepp – Paraprofessional, an increase from 12 hrs/wk to 30.5 hrs/wk. Motion carried unanimously.

Aquatic Center Summer 2013

Lee Rood and Bob Schlagel reviewed the proposed Aquatic Center budget for the 2013 swimming season noting that the pool seems to be in good shape and that there are no repairs that are obvious at this time. The pool is scheduled to open June 3 until August 25. The proposed budget shows a deficit of \$30,500 Whereupon Motion #06413 by Tastsides seconded by Tryon approving the proposed Aquatic Center budge for 2013 and recommended fee structure. Motion carried unanimously.

LEA Designation

Motion #06513 by Cook seconded by Tastsides designating Elementary Principal Tenhoff as the Rush City LEA for 2013-14. Motion carried unanimously.

Authorization for Quotes/Bids: Milk, Fuel, Snowplowing, and Food Service Products

Upon the Superintendents request Motion #06613 by Anderson seconded by Nessel authorizing the district to solicit quotes and bids for milk, fuel, snowplowing, and food service products for the 2013-14 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Fundraiser Request

Kevin Smith and Mike Vaughan asked permission for track and cross-country teams to serve as assistants at the Wild Mountain 5K Race in June. Whereupon Motion #06713 by Tryon seconded by Nessel approving the fundraiser request. Motion carried unanimously.

Tiger Trail Sidewalk

Bob Frandsen, member of the Rush City Park Board, encouraged board members to consider including a sidewalk along Tiger Trail when the road is resurfaced. It was a consensus among the board to get estimates for a sidewalk project and bring information to the board for consideration.

St. Croix River Education District Issues

Motion #06813 by Tryon seconded by Tastsides eliminating a Social Worker position at Pathways to Change. Motion carried unanimously.

Board members reviewed a letter from Susan Erickson – Social Worker, Whereupon Motion #06913 by Tryon seconded by Anderson denying a leave request by Susan Erickson. Motion carried unanimously.

Calendar

Special Board Mtg.	Room 201, High School	5/8/13	6:00 p.m.
Regular Board Mtg.	Room 201, High School	5/16/13	7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion #07013 by Tastsides seconded by Tryon adjourning the Regular School Board meeting at 9:29 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Anderson
Clerk

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