

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

September 19, 2013

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, Brenda Nessel. Board Members absent: Justin Wood. Others in attendance: Vern Koepp, Superintendent; Laureen Frost, Business Manager; Brent Stavig, High School Principal; Melody Tenhoff, Elementary Principal; Kim Houle, Refugee Network; a representative from the ECM Post Review, and other interested persons.

Approval of Regular School Board Meeting Agenda

Motion #12213 by Cook seconded by Tryon approving the Regular Board Meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Motion #12313 by Anderson seconded by Nessel approving the following Consent Agenda Items:
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of August 15, 2013.

Bills, obligations, and invoices totaling \$932,347.45 for Rush City, and \$520,463.88 for SCRED

Rush City Personnel:

Employ Robert DeGroote, Special Education Teacher

Employ Andrew Hackenmueller, Physical Education/Health Teacher .66 FTE

Employ Thomas Dickey, Physical Ed/Health Teacher, long-term sub starting 9-12-13

Employ Javan Parker, Custodian, 4 days/wk, 9 months/yr, starting 9/25/13

Employ David Engstrom, Paraprofessional

Employ Alysia Hauner, Paraprofessional

Employ Jennifer Klingensmith, Paraprofessional

Employ Cynthia Martin, Paraprofessional

Michael Gorseger, Paraprofessional, decrease from 35 hrs/wk to 25 hrs/wk

Julie Risland, Paraprofessional, increase from 35 hrs/wk to 39 hrs/wk, 182 days

Darcy Stransky, Paraprofessional, increase from 35 hrs/wk to 36.25 hrs/wk, 172 days

Susan Mold, FMLA leave of absence 10-7-13 through 1-2-14

Extra Curricular Positions for 2013-14

Individual Transportation Contract with Maureen Kavanagh

Individual Transportation Contract with Bonnie Long

Individual Transportation Contract with Brenda & Grant Wilsey

Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Item(s) Removed From Consent Agenda

None

Recognition/Policy Review

New teachers and mentors were present and principals and mentors introduced new teachers to the school board.

Policy Review:

In a first reading the board discussed the following policies: Policy #405 – Veterans Preference; Policy #406 – Public and Private Personnel Data; and Policy #407 Employee Right to Know – Exposure to Hazardous Substances.

There were no policies for a second reading.

Financial Information

FY13 Fund Balance Review: Business Manager Frost reviewed the Rush City Schools ISD139 audited fund balance numbers as of 6/30/13. General Fund revenue was \$145,478 more than projected, while General Fund Expenditures were \$625 less than projected. The General Fund balance decreased \$400,122 compared to 6/30/12. These amounts include transfers out of the General Fund to the Community Service Fund to cover deficits of \$36,857 for the Early Childhood Program and \$6,882 for the recreation center. The Community Service Fund balance decreased \$15,926 and the Food Service Fund balance decreased \$23,497. Below are the actual Fund Balance amounts for 6/30/12, Actual Fund Balance for 6/30/13, and the Budgeted Fund Balance amounts for 6/30/13.

RUSH CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #139, June 30, 2013

FUND NAME	ACTUAL FUND BALANCE 6/30/12	ACTUAL FUND BALANCE 6/30/13	BUDGET FUND BALANCE 6/30/13
01-GENERAL	\$2,123,747.42	\$1,723,625.72	\$1,577,522.42
02 FOOD SERVICE	\$137,126.99	\$113,629.19	\$93,386.99
04-COMMUNITY SERV	\$68,561.94	\$52,635.11	\$71,536.94
07-DEBT REDEMPTION	\$280,785.30	\$284,514.71	\$287,508.30
08-SCHOLARSHIPS	\$156,011.46	\$148,999.45	\$154,511.46
10-TRUST/AQUATIC CENTER	\$511,960.95	\$513,405.34	\$515,400.95
TOTAL #139 FUNDS	\$3,278,194.06	\$2,836,809.52	\$2,699,867.06

Current Enrollment: Business Manager Frost reviewed enrollment figures noting that at the conclusion of the 2012-13 school year the average daily membership was 901 students and that as of 9/13/13 the average daily membership was approximately 908 students. Frost also reminded the board that the budget for FY14 was built on the projected enrollment of 911 students.

Revenue/Expenditure Update: Frost reviewed the 2013-14 Revenue/Expenditure Budget noting that there has not been much activity to date but that revenues are running ahead of expenditures and cash flow remains good at this time.

Investments: Frost reported the district has \$1,719,930 invested as 08/31/13.

Communications

There were no items for consideration.

Reports

Positive Points

Superintendent Koepp shared the following positive points provided by Early Childhood Coordinator Thom:

Preschool sections are full, transportation has been working well, and the collaborative class with Head Start will begin next week.

Elementary Principal Tenhoff shared the following positive points:

Not all of the new staff was able to attend for the school board meeting. Following are the people we are welcoming to our school: Kirsten Bjork, Early Childhood Special Education / Kristina Monson, Early Childhood / Brekka Giller, 4th grade / Wendy Schmidt, Kindergarten / Robert DeGroote, Special Education / Mary Grote, 1st grade / Alysia Hauner, Paraprofessional / David Engstrom, Paraprofession / Jennifer Klingensmith, Paraprofessional / Amanda Hudack, AmeriCorps / Deborah Messiner, School Nurse

Our school year has started very well! I am happy to report that 92 Students (our best ever) returned their *5 Over Summer Reading* sheets. The class with the highest return rate was second grade with 40%.

Wednesday we had our School-Wide Extravaganza. We disrupt schedules for one day and schedule school picture, Bus Safety practice, and Vision and Hearing Screening. It's a busy day, but all went well!

We are half way done with our MAP testing and the process is moving along fine. Parents will have their child's results delivered at conferences.

I'd like to formally thank the following for their support to students in our school: Rush City Fairview Clinic, William Hellms, Rush City Prison, Restoration Church of Rush City, Harris Covenant Church, First Lutheran Church of Harris, The Grant House, First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Rush City.

We have gotten started with our second year with our Compassion Theme. We will be continuing with our WiseSkills lessons, have already scheduled an assembly, and students this year will be wearing "slap bracelets" that say *Compassion / Jacobson Elementary* for when their name gets called as a "Caught Being Good" kid.

High School Principal Stavig shared the following positive points:

Current HS enrollment is 414 students. Eric Telander's rain gardens are growing well and complementing his science curriculum. The new door has allowed us to better control access to the building. PLC's are off to a good start and will spend 2.5 hours October 7th

working with data and making changes to curriculum, instruction, and other areas that affect student achievement. Finally the board viewed the RCHS procedures and resources website; this is a teacher website that outlines common building procedures.

Superintendent Koepp thanked Scot Friday, the Rush City Education Foundation, Jeanne Korf, and others for making the all school reunion a big success. There have been many positive comments about the buildings, the grounds, class pictures displayed in halls, access to facilities, etc.

Updates

The Refuge Network

Kim Houle discussed domestic violence and sexual assault resources available through The Refuge Network in Chisago, Isanti, and Kanabec counties. She wanted to increase awareness of these services and be available to schools that wish to tap into this resource.

MCA and MAP Results Summary

Superintendent Koepp provided a brief summary of the spring 2013 MCA and MAP test results.

Rush City Schools administers:

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) tests to students in grades 2-10 each fall and spring to measure growth during the school year. Progress toward growth targets is calculated for each student and nation wide 50% of the students meet their growth target and 50% do not. The Rush City School Board set a goal of 60% of our students to meet their growth targets.

Reading: Grades 2-9 tested - 6 of 8 grades tested were above the national average and three grades met the more rigorous school board goal of 60%.

Math: Grades 2-10 tested - 8 of 9 grades tested were above the national average and 6 grades met the more rigorous school board goal of 60%.

Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) test results have been less consistent especially as state academic standards are revised and new state tests are developed to measure progress related to new state standards.

Math: Grades 3-8 and grade 11 - 2 of 7 grades tested were above the state average.

Reading: Grades 3-8 and grade 10 - 2 of 7 grades tested were above the state average.

It is important to use multiple measures to assess student achievement and to look at trends in individual and group achievement over several years. Administration and teachers have been engaged in a process to align curriculum and instruction with the changing academic standards and that process will continue.

Meetings Attended

Board member Anderson reported on the recent ECMECC meeting during which they reviewed the ITV class schedules and discussed an increase need for bandwidth, the shared firewall project, and data center upgrades. ECMECC is pursuing grants to upgrade equipment and is partnering with other organizations to develop digital curriculum for math, science, and social studies.

Old Business

There were no topics for consideration.

New Business

Proposed Levy Pay 2014

Business Manager Frost reviewed components of the school levy for property taxes payable for 2014, producing a preliminary levy increase of 3.28%. Frost reminded board members that the levy had decreased 5.16% and 8.08% the last two years. Upon the recommendation of Frost and Superintendent Koepp Motion #12413 by Tryon seconded by Nessel certifying the 2014 levy at the maximum. Motion carried unanimously. Note: Due to state adjustments and limitations the status of the levy may vary. A portion of the December 19, 2013 Regular School Board Meeting will be set aside for a review of the levy, public input regarding the levy, and final levy certification.

Board Advisory Nominees

Board members were encouraged to submit names of parents a community members who may be interested in serving on the School Board Advisory Community for the 2013-14 school year.

Election Judges

Board members reviewed a list of trained election judges and identified individuals for the district to contact for the November 5th election.

Resolution Calling General Election

Motion #12513 by Anderson seconded by Nessel approving the following resolution:

RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE ELECTION OF SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS AND CALLING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT
GENERAL ELECTION

Be resolved by the school board of Independent School District #139 State of Minnesota as follows:

1. It is necessary for the school district to hold its general election for the purpose of electing three school board members for terms of four (4) years each.
2. The general election is hereby called and directed to be held on Tuesday, the 5th day of November, 2013 between the hours of 12 o'clock p.m. and 8:00 o'clock p.m. at the Rush City High School.

Motion carried unanimously. Note: The resolution further authorizes the board clerk to work with appropriate government agencies so that the school board election will be held November 5th, 2013. The resolution also included a sample ballot. The complete resolution is included in the official minutes on the district website and in the district office.

St. Croix River Education District Issues

There were no issues to discuss

Calendar

Negotiations – RCEA	High School Conf. Rm.	9/23/13	6:00 pm
Negotiations – Teamsters	High School Conf. Rm.	10/1/13	6:00 pm
Negotiations – RCEA	High School Conf. Rm.	10/7/13	6:00 pm
Regular Board Mtg.	Room 201, High School	10/17/13	7:00 pm
Negotiations – Teamsters	High School Conf. Rm.	10/22/13	6:00 pm

Adjournment

Motion #12613 by Cook seconded by Tryon adjourning the Regular Board meeting at 8:48 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.