

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

November 21, 2013

The Regular School Board Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Folkema at 7:01 p.m. in Room 201 at the Rush City High School.

Roll Call

Board Members present: Scot Tryon, Carol Cook, Stefanie Folkema, Brian Anderson, Brenda Nessel, and Justin Wood Board Members absent: None. Others in attendance: Vern Koepp, Superintendent; Laureen Frost, Business Manager; Brent Stavig, High School Principal; Melody Tenhoff, Elementary Principal; Julie Thom, Early Childhood Coordinator; Melissa Lahr, representative from MMKR Accounting; Scott Anderson, Kindle Perkins, Charlotte Thill, Shawn Chinn, Lee Rood, and Bob Schlagerl.

Approval of Regular School Board Meeting Agenda

Motion #13513 by Tryon seconded by Anderson approving the Regular School Board Meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Motion #13613 by Nessel seconded by Wood approving the following Consent Agenda Items:
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 17, 2013 and Special Board Meeting of November 5, 2013.

Bills, obligations, and invoices totaling \$855,317.75 for Rush City, and \$473,188.70 for SCRED

Rush City Personnel:

Accept the resignation by Lee Wagner-Baker, paraprofessional, effective 11-14-13

Accept the resignation by Betsy Carpenter from Junior Class Advisor

SCRED

David Jackson-Social Worker-Increase from .8 FTE to 1.0 FTE effective 10-21-13

Approve Melanie Hankins-Extend leave request, part-time work, return to full-time work 12-2-13

Accept the resignation by Brenna Perrin, Receptionist, effective 12-02-13

Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Item(s) Removed From Consent Agenda

None

Recognition/Policy Review

In a first reading the Board Members reviewed a new position summary for Finance Manager and Policy #601-School District Curriculum and Instruction Goals.

After a second reading and final Board review of proposed changes, Motion #13713 by Nessel seconded by Wood approving the following policies: Policy #413-Harrassment and Violence, and Policy #602-Organization of School Calendar and School Day. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Information

Financial Audit FY13

Melissa Lahr of Malloy, Montague, Karnowski, Radosevich & Co. reviewed the general purpose financial statements for Independent School District #139 and the St. Croix River Education District and issued an unmodified (clean) opinion through the audited financial statements and management letters. After board review of the various financial statements, including student activities accounts, Motion #13813 by Cook seconded by Tryon accepting the independent auditor's report on the general purpose financial statements of Independent School District #139 and the St. Croix River Education District for the school year 2012-13. Motion carried unanimously.

Note: The following table represents the audited financial statements by school district fund:

JUNE 30, 2013

RUSH CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #139 AND SCRED

2012-13 REVENUE/EXPENDITURE BUDGET AND ACTUAL

FUND NAME	ACTUAL FUND BAL. 6/30/12	2012-13 ACTUAL REVENUE	2012-13 ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	ACTUAL FD BALANCE 6/30/13
RUSH CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #139				
01-GENERAL	\$2.123.747.42	\$7.853.428.41	\$8.253.550.11	\$1.723.625.72

02 FOOD SERVICE	\$137,126.99	\$411,248.34	\$434,746.14	\$113,629.19
04-COMMUNITY SERV	\$68,561.94	\$423,029.86	\$438,956.69	\$52,635.11
07-DEBT REDEMPTION	\$280,785.30	\$3,835,365.67	\$3,831,636.26	\$284,514.71
08-SCHOLARSHIPS	\$156,011.46	\$10,387.99	\$17,400.00	\$148,999.45
10-TRUST/SWIM POOL	\$511,960.95	\$4,998.46	\$3,554.07	\$513,405.34
TOTAL #139 FUNDS	\$3,278,194.06	\$12,538,458.73	\$12,979,843.27	\$2,836,809.52
ST. CROIX EDUCATION DISTRICT				
61-SCRED/GENERAL	\$495,440.45	\$5,061,699.96	\$5,014,048.03	\$543,092.38
61-ASSIGNED (incl. above)	\$35,800.00			\$38,800.00
64-SCRED/COMM. SERV.	\$88,952.36	\$279,892.81	\$298,481.32	\$70,363.85
TOTAL SCRED FUNDS	\$584,392.81	\$5,341,592.77	\$5,312,529.35	\$613,456.23

Investments: Business Manager Frost reported the district has \$2,460,967 invested as of October 31, 2013. Investments produced an annual interest income of \$7,348 during the 2012-13 school year compared to \$3,621 for the 2011-12 school year.

Swimming Pool Trust Fund: Business Manager Frost reviewed the Swimming Pool Trust Fund noting that the fund balance was \$514,712.35 as of September 2013 and that interest earnings for the 2013 Aquatic Center Season totaled \$3,712.35.

Revenue/Expenditure Update: Business Manager Frost reviewed the 2013-14 revenue and expenditure report noting that revenues are running approximately \$80,000 behind expenditures to date but that fund balances are sufficient to meet current cash flow obligations.

Communications

None

Reports

Positive Points

Preschool Coordinator Julie Thom shared the following positive points:

1. 254 parents and children have participated in our fall activities, events and classes thru ECFE and Preschool. Some activities that have been held this year, either one time or ongoing have been:

Fall Carnival, Open House, Parent Visiting Day, Pumpkin Fun Class, Pumpkin Patch Field Trip, and weekly ECFE classes

In addition to well attended events and classes, roughly 75% of preschool parents attended conferences last week. All 5 preschool sections are comfortably full with 68 students attending.

2. Multiple “projects” are underway this school year for Early Childhood.

-EE Student is not how programs will report enrollment and participation to MDE.

-Parent Aware Ratings and Pathway II scholarships have many requirements, first of which is a new assessment tool. Training is now complete.

-TIES/Early Childhood project which enters all early childhood students into the TIES student information system

Elementary Principal Tenhoff shared the following positive points:

Fall means Fire Safety at school. Our local Fire Department is very active with our students, making fire safety awareness part of their lives. Our students were also able to share their appreciation to representatives from the Fire Department at our recent assembly.

⇒ PTO had a very successful Book Fair and Movie night as well as a good fall fundraiser. Our new playground on the east side of the school was possible due to PTO’s previous fundraisers.

⇒ Photos of Halloween were shared.

⇒ Student Council held a very successful food drive for our local Food Shelf. Mrs. Sybrant’s class brought in the most items – 317!

Student Council will also be sponsoring ACES tomorrow night after school – come join in the fun!

⇒ Second graders were able to attend an additional field trip this fall because they sought out a grant. They had a great time at the North West Company Fur Post.

⇒ Late in October, I was very honored to attend this year’s Leadership in Educational Excellence Award where both Mrs. Thom and Mrs. Karvonen were honored. They both have brought excellence to our school!

⇒ Also awarded last month was Laura Nelson who received the Innovative Economic Educator Award sponsored by the Minnesota Council on Economic Education. Her lesson was on currency using Jelly Beans! – sounds like a fun lesson!

- ⇒ Conferences were very well attended with 93% of our students represented at a Parent/Teacher Conference.
- ⇒ Climb Theatre will be here on December 2nd our students.
- ⇒ Our teachers have been working very hard with our Continuous Improvement status. We are busy adjusting curriculum to better meet the standards.

High School Principal Stavig shared the following positive points:

1. Student Council has collected over 4.5 carts of food for the Stuff a Truck food drive. North Branch County Market will match a portion of the items collected.
2. Jr. High Math League: Junior High Math League is very competitive this year. The 7th grade math students won by 2 points in October and the Algebra 1 students won this month by 2 points. 20+ students participating each month!
3. NHS Induction Ceremony will be held on December 2nd at 7:30 pm in the theatre.
4. Both the Boys and Girls section Cross Country Teams were recognized at the Gold Level for having a Grade Point average above 3.75. This is the highest level of achievement. The GPA is an average of the 5 highest team members on their respective 9 person squads.
5. A DCD student has been nominated for National Honor Society. A DCD student made the A honor roll
6. Emergency Response Team (ERT) We have a seven member team: Deb Meissner, Erika Matzke, Mike Vaughan, Kevin Smith, Paula Bengtson, Brent Stavig and Grant Nicoll
Responses to the few emergencies we've had have been highly effective. Team participated in CPR/First Aid training last night. Deb Rocks!
7. PLC Update: Mapping Curriculum in Eclipse, Analyzing data, Reviewing MCA Test Specs, Reviewing MCA Item Samplers, Reviewing Achievement level Descriptors, ELA Standard mapping/implementation.
I'm proud of our staff and kids... change is not easy!!!

Updates

Annual Outcomes Report – St. Croix River Education District Outcomes Manager Kindle Perkins provided a review of test data for the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA), Measures of Academic Progress (MAP), and General Outcome Measures (GOM).

MCA Results 2013

Reading – 2013 was the first year for the more rigorous MCA III reading test. Scores dropped throughout the state but Rush City reading scores dropped slightly more than the state average.

Math – Rush City students were at or above state averages in math in three grades but below state averages in four grades.

MAP Results 2012-13

Reading – Rush City students met or exceeded national growth targets in six grades and were below national growth targets in two grades. Rush City students in grades two, three, and nine met the more challenging district growth goal.

Math – Rush City students met or exceeded national growth targets in eight grades and were below national growth targets in one grade. Grades two, three, four, five, six, and ten met the more challenging district growth goal.

GOM Results – (Oral Reading Fluency and Math Applications) are given in fall, winter, and spring and are used to predict student proficiency on the MCA's. In general the GOM's show that students are making progress but in some grades student gains lag behind growth targets.

Meetings Attended

Board member Tryon reported on a recent SCRED Governing Board Meeting during which the annual financial audit was presented, building updates were discussed including the sidewalk improvement in front of the downtown building.

Board member Cook reported on a recent School Board Advisory Committee Meeting which included conversations about revised social studies curriculum, the use of Chrome Books in social studies, the revised guidance curriculum which included information about career and college readiness, school climate, ACT testing, and a discussion about the school lunch program and promoting healthy food choices within that program.

Old Business

There were no items for discussion.

New Business

Aquatic Center – 2013 Season Summary

Bob Schlagel was present to provide an overview of the Aquatic Center operation for the 2013 season. The facility planned to be open for 84 days but weather issues caused the pool to be closed on eight days and to close early an additional nine days. Trust fund interest earnings for 2013 were \$3,712 slightly ahead of the \$3,554 in 2012. Revenues were down slightly from the previous year due to decreased pool usage. Expenditures were almost identical to the previous year but higher than anticipated resulting in a loss of \$44,011.95. The City of Rush City and Rush City Schools Community Service Fund will need to contribute to the Aquatic Center operation expenses for the summer of 2013. Mr. Schlagel stated that approximately 14,700 people used the pool during the 2013 season including approximately 465 who participated in swimming lessons.

Transfer Pool Trust Fund Interest

Motion #13913 by Cook seconded by Nessel accepting the 2013 Aquatic Center season summary and transferring \$3,712.35 of interest earnings from the Pool Trust Fund to the Community Service Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

Elementary Enrichment Program Activities

Board members reviewed information provided by Lori Nelson, Elementary Enrichment Coordinator. Seven activities have been offered through the Teacher Master Agreement and other activities have been offered through Community Education. Whereupon Motion #14013 by Cook seconded by Nessel to provide an additional four positions through the Teacher Master Agreement. Elementary enrichment activities/positions will include: Knowledge Bowl, Intermediate Play Director, Intermediate Play Assistant, Primary Play Director, Academic Triathlon, Spanish Club, Spelling Bee, Inventors Fair, Rush City News Coordinator, Intermediate Art Club, and Primary Art Club. Motion carried unanimously.

Staff Development Day Change

Board members discussed a recommendation from administration to make December 13th a staff development day and to make February 14th a regular school day. This calendar change would not change the number of instruction days or staff development days. After considering potential advantages to students and the potential impact to family plans Motion #14113 by Cook seconded by Wood to approve the recommended calendar change. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Certificate of Election

Motion #14213 by Nessel seconded by Cook approving the following resolution: Resolution Authorizing Issuance of Certificates of Election and directing School District Clerk to perform other election related duties. The Chair and Clerk are authorized to execute certificates of election on behalf of the School Board of Independent School District 139 to the following candidates: Matt Perreault, Teri Umbreit, and Scott C Anderson, who were elected to School Board terms on November 5th, 2013. The complete resolution is included in the official minutes on the district website and in the District Office. Motion carried unanimously.

St. Croix River Education District Issues

None

Calendar

Regular Board Meeting	High School Room 201	12/19/13	7:00 p.m.
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Adjournment

Motion #14313 by Cook seconded by Anderson adjourning the Regular Board meeting at 9:15 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.