

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

November 16, 2017

The Regular School Board Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Folkema at 5:32 p.m. in Room #201 of the Rush City High School.

Roll Call

Board Members present: Scott Tryon, Stefanie Folkema, Matt Meissner, Matt Perreault, Teri Umbreit and Scott Anderson. Others in attendance: Teresa Dupre, Superintendent; Brent Stavig, High School Principal; Laureen Frost, Business Manager; Lee Rood, Activities Director; Aaron Nielson (MMKR); member of the press and other interested community members.

Approval of Regular School Board Meeting Agenda

Motion #11017 by Tryon, seconded by Umbreit approving the Regular School Board Meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Motion #11117 by Umbreit seconded by Anderson approving the following Consent Agenda Items:

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 26, 2017

Bills, obligations, and invoices totaling \$841,886.13 for Rush City, and \$454,495.51 for SCRED

Approve Personnel

Rush City ISD #139

None

SCRED

None

Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Item(s) Removed From Consent Agenda

None

Recognition/Policy Review

The School Board recognized 100 students earning Academic Letters for achieving straight A's for the entire 2016/2017 school year. This is an increase from 86 students in 2015/2016 school year.

Policy Review - First Reading

Policy # 516 - Student Medication

Policy Review - Second Reading

Policy #404 – Employment Background Checks; Policy #405 – Veteran's Preference; Policy #407– Employee Right to Know – Exposure to Hazardous Substances; Policy #418 – Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School; Policy #419 – Tobacco-Free Environment; Policy #421 – Gifts to Employees and School Board Members; Policy #422 – Policies Incorporated by Reference; Policy #427– Workload Limits for Certain Special Education Teachers. Motion #11217 by Perreault seconded by Anderson approving all second reading policies. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Information

Financial Audit FY17: Aaron Nielson 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 opinion through the audited financial statements and management letters. After Board review of the various financial statements, including student activities accounts;

Motion #11317 by Umbreit seconded by Meissner accepting the independent auditor's report on the general purpose financial statements of Independent School District #139.

Motion #11417 by Tryon seconded by Anderson accepting the independent auditor's report on the general purpose financial statements for St. Croix River Education District for the school year 2015-2016.

Both motions carried unanimously.

Revenue/Expenditure Update: Business Manager Frost reviewed the 2017-18 revenue and expenditure report noting that general fund expenditures are approximately \$200,000 greater than revenue to date but that fund balances are sufficient to meet current cash flow obligation.

Investments: Business Manager Frost reported the District has \$2,088,539 invested as of October 31, 2017. The quarter ended September 30, 2017 investment reports were reviewed. In the general operating funds \$16,700 interest was earned in 2016-17 fiscal year. The Trust account earned \$5,018.95 interest for the Aquatic operation timeline of October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017. Motion #11617 by Perreault seconded by Anderson to transfer \$5,018.95 from the trust fund to the community service fund to offset operating loss for the aquatic center. Motion carried unanimously.

Quarterly Donations: Donation list of receipts from July 1, 2017 thru September 30, 2017 was presented with an amount total of \$40,022. Motion #11717 by Tryon seconded by Anderson to accept the quarterly donations report. Motion carried unanimously.

Aquatic Center Report: Lee Rood and Laureen Frost provided an overview of the Aquatic Center operation for the 2017 season. Revenues were \$113,236 and expenditures \$131,524, producing a deficit of \$18,287. The City of Rush City and Rush City Schools Community Service fund contribute 50% of the operating loss, for the 2017 season the amount is \$9,143.93 each. Motion #11717 by Perreault seconded by Tryon to accept the 2017 Aquatic Center Report. Motion carried unanimously.

Communications

The school board recognized the results of the November school board election which included the re-election of Teri Umbreit and of new members Becky LaMont and Jennifer Widell. Unfortunately, the Rush City referendum did not pass. No further discussion about the results occurred at the meeting.

Conferences: A summary of attendance for fall parent/teacher conferences was presented. CE Jacobson reported 94% attendance with the High School at 30%. In order to increase High School attendance, the suggestion was made to send an invitation to High School parents.

Winter Newsletter will be published December 15, 2017

Reports

Positive Points - Elementary

Priority Area 1: Achieve Academic Excellence

- We received word that NWEA MAP testing is going to give us a pilot opportunity for our 5th graders to take the MAP science test this winter and check progress towards proficiency before the MCA science test.
- Our trimester one ends next week and we have several students whom have made significant progress moving up reading levels and getting in to more rigorous text at younger ages.

Priority Area 2: Foster a Positive and Safe Environment

- School Counselor Sam Hines and Principal Mielke are attending the Midwest Trauma informed schools conference in Rochester. The goal is to help staff become more aware and sensitive to the mental health needs of students.
- We visited multiple schools in St. Cloud with our PBIS team this last week and came away with several new ideas from a well-established program that has been operating for 15 years.

Priority Area 3: Financial Stability to Support the District Mission

- Our students did a fantastic job with the fundraiser and sold 287 boxes of candy bars, which will help ensure all students will get to participate in field trips, and we will be able to purchase additional leveled text books for our library.

Priority Area 4: Strengthen Community Relationships

- We were very proud of all of our students for their contributions towards the Veteran's Day program, and we also sent several cards off to the VA hospital in St. Cloud.
- Our second grade students from Mrs. Vandekamp's class visited the nursing home Thursday and read to the residents. A fun opportunity to blend ages.

Positive Points - High School

Priority Area 1: Achieve Academic Excellence

- Academic Eligibility Procedure update
 - First quarter 2014 (first year): 8 students/week average, high of 15 in one week.
 - First quarter this year: 1 student/week average and a high of 2.
- Staff development on Tier 1 best practices and interventions

- PLC leaders learned to utilize EduClimber
- Attended an ESSA Meeting: Moving from policy to implementation

Priority Area 2: Foster a Positive and Safe Environment

- Leos are preparing for Santa Days
 - Accepting donations now
 - Student made signs are posted around town
 - Santa days will be at Chuckers on December 2nd from 10:00 to 1:00
- Developed and implemented an improved system to ensure meds are always given at the proper time

Priority Area 3: Financial Stability to Support the District Mission

- Brainstorming for 2018-2019

Priority Area 4: Strengthen Community Relationships

- Veterans Day celebration was again a success!
- Big Buck Contest now includes family pictures

Updates

As mentioned in positive points, Rush City Schools was very proud of the Veterans Day program held on November 9th. Almost 100 Veterans were present to be honored by our band, choirs, student speakers, our entire student body, and members of the community. We are very grateful to Dennis Pederson for his leadership and guidance, and to the Rush City Boy Scouts for their participation and flag ceremony. It truly was an amazing event.

School Board Advisory Committee met for the second time on November 13th. Students, parents, staff, school board members and administration are all members of the committee. The focus topic for the meeting was an overview of Rush City Assessment plans. The plans were presented by the principals. Next meeting will be held on December 11th. The focus topic will be the 2017/2108 Strategic Action Plan.

Superintendent Dupre provided a summary of the extensive staff development initiatives Rush City teachers and other staff members have participated in to date in a follow-up email to school board members. Staff has participated in sessions both at school during our staff development days and at SCRED. Due to budget cuts our staff has not been able to attend any regional or state level staff development conferences. All staff development activities are directly connected to our Strategic Action Plan priorities, and meet the state licensure requirements.

Meetings Attended

N/A

Old Business

New Business

The resolution canvassing returns of school board members was presented. Motion #11817 by Perreault seconded by Anderson in favor of the resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

The resolution canvassing returns of the school's special election (operating referendum) was presented. Motion #11917 by Umbreit seconded by Tryon in favor of the resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

The resolution authorizing issuance of certificates to recently elected school board members was presented. Motion #111017 by Tryon seconded by Anderson. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Dupre submitted her official letter of retirement effective June 30, 2018. Motion #111117 by Perreault seconded by Anderson to accept the letter of retirement. Motion carried unanimously.

Calendar

Principal Negotiations	District Office Conference Room	11/28/17	6:00 pm
Regular Board Meeting	High School Room #201	12/21/17	5:30 pm

Adjournment

Motion #111217 by Perreault seconded by Anderson adjourning the Regular Board meeting at 6:51 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.