

RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Thursday, January 14, 2010

Regular Meeting

Middle School Library

7:00 p.m.

Present: Pronold, Cummings, Caraway, Nelson, Ferguson, Peach, Cates, Crowley, Taylor, Brooke Hogan (Student Rep), Sarah Crook (Student Rep)

Absent: N/A

Admin: Benson, Kaukl, Hegland, Hayek, Radtke, Palm-Leis, Terrill-Stotts

Others: Shelly Anders, Sue Gereau, David Giffey (Home News), Paula Wedge (Administrative Assistant)

President Taylor opened the meeting. She noted that the meeting had been properly noticed and notice had been provided to the appropriate media and each School Board Member. Crowley moved to proceed with the legal meeting. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

Legislative Update

Taylor stated that there is a labor relations reform bill being proposed by local government associations, including the WASB. She also noted that 80% of Wisconsin school districts now offer 4 year old kindergarten. Another matter is that school board members and administrators are urged to contact their legislators to oppose legislation that would grant greater authority for the state superintendent to intervene in districts throughout the state.

Board Training Opportunities

Nelson noted that the WASB Convention will be held in Milwaukee next week. There is an effective bargaining seminar coming up in March.

Student Council Report

The student council is doing a “data match” for Valentine’s Day which gives participants a list of names of compatible people based on the answers to the questions asked in the data match. The upcoming “Snowball Dance” will be a “blackout dance” with glow in the dark decorations and black lights. It was noted that a group of four River Valley high school students won a recent Fox 47 “message to teens” contest.

Recognition of Grant Awarded to District

The Spring Green Area Arts Coalition awarded a \$450 grant to the Middle School Shakespeare group.

Joint Purchase of Vision Screening Equipment

The Spring Green Vision Center and the Spring Green Lions Club donated \$500 each to cover half the cost of a new vision screening machine.

Set February Board, Budget, and Policy Committee Meetings

The February regular Board meeting has been moved to Thursday, February 18 at 7:00 p.m. There will also be a Budget meeting on February 18 at 6:00 p.m. No Policy meeting was set.

Summary Report of “Committee of the Whole” Held Prior to Board Meeting

All Board members were present at this 5:30 meeting. There were about 80 community members in attendance. Interested parties were asked to sign up to serve on a “Process Planning Team” which will hold several meetings and assist in determining the process to be used to

address long-term resource management challenges at RVSD. The Board will likely rotate attendance at future meetings of the Process Planning Team.

Review Elementary Class Sizes and Building Space

There was some discussion on this topic at the 5:30 meeting held prior to the Board meeting. For the short term, the Board asked the administrative team to bring a list of potential cuts for 2010-11 to the February regular Board meeting. It was noted that there is an April deadline for any teacher layoffs. For the long term, the Board stated that consolidation of the elementary schools needs to be one option for review by the Process Planning Committee and requested administration to bring such costing/savings information to the Board for review and discussion.

Discuss “Race to the Top” Federal Education Reform Program

River Valley has submitted a Memorandum of Understanding signed by administration and the Board, but not the RVEA, which states that our district may be interested in a \$100,000 share of a monetary award that Wisconsin might receive under this federal education reform program. After being notified in April of whether or not Wisconsin will receive these funds, the district can still opt out of receiving the funds, depending on what “strings are attached.” Because of the stipulations on use, the district will not be allowed to use the entire amount toward reducing the deficit.

Public Comments/Open Forum

Laura Heintz is concerned about ending up with two separate plans for the elementaries—a short term plan and a long term plan—that may not overlap and could cause shifting of kids from one year to the next and disruption in the classrooms.

Consent Agenda: Checks, Invoices, Receipts – December 2009; Open Session Meeting Minutes – December 10, 2009

Ferguson moved to approve the consent agenda items as submitted. Cummings seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Convention Resolutions

After having a chance to review the specific convention resolutions to be discussed at the WASB Convention, the Board did not take any action to change their earlier action in December to empower Taylor, as the Board delegate, to vote on resolutions at the January WASB convention as she sees fits.

Consideration & Action on First Reading of New and Revised Policies

Crowley moved to approve the first reading of Policy #524.2- Code of Conduct for all River Valley Employees and Elected Officials to be a new policy, contingent on general counsel’s review prior to the second reading. Pronold seconded. Motion carried.

Pronold moved to approve the first reading of Policy #524.3 – Sexual Harassment to add language to address “power differential” in the workplace. Ferguson seconded. Motion carried. Benson noted that there have been no sexual harassment claims in the district within the last 12 months.

Cates moved to approve the first reading of Policy #524.3 – Rule - Procedure for Handling Sexual Harassment Complaints with slight revisions to better address who receives an initial complaint. Peach seconded. Motion carried.

Crowley moved to approve the first reading of Policy #423 – Public School Open Enrollment to add new language to clarify that we will not allow other districts’ buses inside our district

boundaries nor will we travel inside the boundaries of other districts with our buses. Cummings seconded. Motion carried.

After review, there are no changes recommended for Policy #423 - Rule - Public School Open Enrollment.

Crowley moved to approve the first reading of Policy #527- Procedures for Private Service Provider Interactions With Students During the School Day and/or on School Premises to be a new policy. Cummings seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Graduate Learner Outcomes

Crowley moved to approve the new Graduate Learner Outcomes. Pronold seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Gifts

Pronold moved to adopt the Resolution Accepting Gifts of \$200 to the 6th Grade Girls Club from Eric and Irene Rapp. Cates seconded. Polled vote was 9-0 in the affirmative. Motion carried.

Crowley moved to adopt the Resolution Accepting Gifts of \$400 to River Valley Gymnastics from the Plain Fire Department. Cates seconded. Polled vote was 9-0 in the affirmative. Motion carried.

Pronold moved to adopt the Resolution Accepting Gifts of CPR-AED Training 4 Pack and 50 face shield lung bags and case valued at \$445 from Cardinal CG. Caraway seconded. Polled vote was 9-0 in the affirmative. Motion carried.

Caraway moved to adopt the Resolution Accepting Gifts of \$500 each for vision screening equipment from the Spring Green Vision Center and the Spring Green Lion's Club. Peach seconded. Polled vote was 9-0 in the affirmative. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action to Adjourn to Closed Session Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(c) for Annual Superintendent Evaluation and Discussion of Non-Union Support Staff Retirement Benefits

Crowley moved to adjourn to closed session at 9:07 p.m. pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(c) for Annual Superintendent Evaluation and Discussion of Non-Union Support Staff Retirement Benefits. Cummings seconded. Polled vote was 9-0 in the affirmative. Motion carried.

Submitted by Paula Wedige For:

Deborah Nelson, School District Clerk