

River Valley School District
Thursday, October 12, 2023
Regular Meeting
Middle School Library
7:00 p.m.

Present: Gauger, Minich, Young, Jennings, Iausly, Carstensen, Cates, Bettinger, Maier, Leah Drachenberg (Student Representative), Caleb Drachenberg (Student Representative)

Absent: N/A

Admin: Glasbrenner, Moore, Knoll, Radtke, Blakley

Others: Shari Graffunder, Shawn Duren, Paula Wedige (Administrative Assistant)

President Jennings opened the meeting. Jennings noted that the meeting had been properly posted and notice had been provided to the appropriate media and each School Board Member. Maier moved to proceed with the legal meeting. Young seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Approval of Agenda

Iausly moved to approve the agenda items as submitted. Gauger seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comments

None.

Student Council Report

Leah Drachenberg, Student Council President, and Caleb Drachenberg, Vice President were present. Student council raised money during homecoming activities. October 31 is a dress up day at the high school. The Winter Formal dance will no longer be hosted by student council. They are hoping to raise more money for a student council scholarship. They will be talking with the Policy Committee regarding policies pertaining to senior photos in the yearbook and dress code.

Kindergarten students visited the fire station and elementary students saw a play at Richland Center. The 5th and 6th graders went to Bethel Horizons and 8th graders went to APT and are debating the topic of mandatory voting during civics class. Glasbrenner provided an update on the Chromebook issue brought forth by student council last month, noting security purposes. Students/Staff are now using the “sleep” option instead of shut down to save log on time.

Review of Homecoming and School Fair Activities

Shari Graffunder provided a review of the 60th school fair. She thanked buildings and grounds and maintenance staff, teaching staff, FFA alumni, the community, and the clean-up crew. There was an increase in the number of exhibitors and also in entries in the livestock and small animal area. She also thanked donors and noted \$2,700 in scholarships was awarded and \$74,000 went to winning exhibitors in the auction. She welcomes feedback on how to improve. The school fair is scheduled next year for Friday, September 27. Glasbrenner thanked Graffunder, area businesses, and families, with special thanks to the DuCharme family for their help decorating the boulevard. Blakley added that homecoming activities were successful with a lot of help from the staff, with special thanks to Brent Johnson for organizing the parade.

Update on Facilities Study and CORE Planning Committee

The next meeting is October 18. Kraemer Brothers is working on providing estimated costs for potential facilities updates. Potential referendum questions will be drafted soon. There has been preliminary bond consultation with PMA to present options.

Enrollment Information:

Moore noted that we have 1,093 students attending our schools. Then a formula is used for reduction of nonresidents IN and addition of residents OUT to get a final enrollment count. Our 3 year average for September enrollment is 1,161. Glasbrenner contacted new open enrollment OUT families about their decision and many noted it was due to siblings attending another district or geography.

Update on School District Operations from Administration

Middle school staff is looking at test results and teachers are meeting about the math pilot materials. Special ed teachers and interventionists are involved in literacy training and parent/teacher conferences are being held. Elementary staff is also meeting about the math pilot. Knoll met with counseling staff about special ed referrals and outside services. School psych video services are going well. At the high school, Dale Krusan was thanked for his donation of homecoming fireworks. Pre-ACT testing is being planned for freshmen and sophomores and they are reviewing data to prep for the ACT.

Board Reminders, Announcements, and Training Opportunities

Monday, October 23, is the annual meeting and a special meeting. Loren read a proclamation for celebrating Wisconsin School Board Week (October 1-7) and thanked the Board for their service and leadership.

Legislative Update

None.

Consent Agenda: - Checks, Invoices, Receipts – September 2023; Open Session Meeting Minutes – September 14, 2023, Regular Meeting

Young moved to approve the consent agenda items as submitted. Minich seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Gifted and Talented Process and Procedures Handbook

Glasbrenner noted that we have provided these services in the past more as after school programming but are looking at implementing services in academics. Young moved to approve the new handbook. Maier seconded. It was noted that Curriculum and Instruction Committee reviewed the handbook in detail. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resignations, if any

None.

Consideration & Action on Hirings, if any

None.

Consideration & Action on Policy Committee Recommendations

As recommended by the Policy Committee, Cates moved to approve the second reading of the following policies: 420 Rule Procedures for Entry/Reentry Into the Public School System From Other Public Schools, Private Schools and Home-Based Private Educational Program; (NEW) 524.5 Staff Social Media Use; 830 Rule Facilities Use Regulations; 831 Public Conduct on

School Property; and 832 Tobacco and Electronic Smoking Devices Possession and/or Use on School Premises. Minich seconded. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Policy Committee, Cates moved to approve the first reading of the following policies: 762.1 Rule Food Service Collection and Non-Payment; 251 Exhibit River Valley Organizational Chart; 352 Exhibit 2 Field Trip and Overnight School Trip Checklist; and 672 Purchasing and Contracting Services. Maier seconded. It was noted we will not deny food to a student with a negative balance and Policy 672 was looked at by the Budget/ERC Committee and there may be revisions prior to the second reading. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Buildings and Grounds Committee Recommendations

There was no action by the Committee but they discussed the ongoing projects list and the difference between the roles of our custodial staff (contracted services) and our buildings and grounds staff (employed by the district). They looked at Policy 672 and gave suggestions to the Policy Committee.

Consideration & Action on Budget/ERC Committee Recommendations

A projected mill rate of \$7.95 will be proposed at the October 23 annual meeting, but we are still waiting on the equalization amount that we will get on October 13. The Committee looked at how much of our current fund balance we might use to get to the desired percentage as stated in policy. They looked at Policy 672 and will give suggestions to the Policy Committee.

As recommended by the Committee, Young moved to pay out the balance of the discontinued Reimbursable Leave Sharing Program bank and to reimburse time this year and return all the other time that was donated. Minich seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Gifts, if any

Maier moved to approve the Resolutions Accepting Gifts as follows: Fireworks for Homecoming Pep Rally valued at \$600 from Dale Krusan of SKY INK PYRO; materials for outdoor area improvements at River Valley Elementary valued at \$1,600 from Midwest Black Locust, LLC; hardwoods donated to the Tech Ed Department valued at \$2,000 from Jeff Haylock; \$7,500 for scorer's table for the high school gymnasium from Athletic Boosters; \$5,724.58 for windscreen for baseball fence from Athletic Boosters; \$1,000 for school lunch accounts from Christ Lutheran Church Women; \$100 for school lunch accounts from Jeff Haylock; \$100 for school lunch accounts from Julie Bartlett; and \$4,250 for high school student enrichment activities from Gribble Family Foundation. Cates seconded. Polled vote was 9-0 in the affirmative. Motion carried.

Iausly moved to adjourn at 7:49 pm. Minich seconded. Motion carried.

Submitted by Paula Wedige for:



Sara Carstensen, School District Clerk