

RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Monday, October 26, 2009

Regular Meeting

Middle School Library

6:45 p.m.

Present: Caraway, Nelson, Pronold, Ferguson, Peach, Cates, Crowley, Taylor, Kim L'Herault and Brooke Hogan (Student Representatives)

Absent: Cummings

Admin: Benson, Kaukl, Palm-Leis, Hegland, Hayek, Briehl, Radtke

Others: Baxter Radel, Terri Pardee, Michelle Orcutt, Al Kraemer, Roger Bussan, Melvin Licht, Katy Connors, Todd Miller, Karla Amble, Keri Conway, Brenda DeVita, Andrea Kinney, Shelly Johnson, Mark Johnson, Elaine Reese, Lee Weiand, Dave Wade, Sue Sadler, Derek Miller, Deb Miller, Irene Rapp, Barb Baxter, Kay Balink, Shelly Anders, Deb Pape, John Christensen, Mary Kay Hunter, Donna Radel, Police Chief Kevin Wilkins, David Giffey (Home News), Eileen Brownlee (General Counsel), Paula Wedige (Administrative Assistant)

President Taylor opened the meeting. She noted that there was an amended agenda and that the meeting had been properly noticed and notice had been provided to the appropriate media and each School Board Member. Ferguson moved to proceed with the legal meeting. Peach seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action to Adjourn to Closed Session Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(c) for Discussion on the Performance of District Employees and Discussion and Deliberating upon the Resignation of Employee

Crowley moved to adjourn to closed session at 6:48 p.m. pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(c) for Discussion on the Performance of District Employees and Discussion and Deliberating upon the Resignation of Employee. Cates seconded. Polled vote was 8-1 in the affirmative with 1 absent. Motion carried.

The Board reconvened in open session at 7:34 p.m.

Consideration & Action to Approve the Resignation Agreement of Employee

Crowley moved to accept the resignation agreement between Roger Hoffman, Middle School Principal, and the River Valley School District. Cates seconded. Polled vote was 8-0 in the affirmative with 1 absent. Motion carried.

President Taylor read a mutual statement to the public from the Board and Roger Hoffman.

Legislative Update

Taylor provided a legislative update and a handout from Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools stating that they continue to work for a comprehensive change in funding and are a partner in the School Finance Network working to reform school financing. Taylor provided website addresses for both organizations.

Board Training Opportunities

Nelson noted that there is a legislative advocacy conference in Stevens Point on November 7.

Student Council Report

The student council continues to provide “toilet talk,” which involves announcements and fun facts posted in high school restrooms. They are trying to get permission to play music over the PA system on Fridays while students are passing between classes. There are changes being discussed for the winter formal dance and activities being planned for Red Ribbon Week to advocate being drug free.

Review RV2022 Committee Process

The first meeting of this committee will be held on Monday, November 16. The committee’s name refers to the year 2022, which is when the current kindergarten class will graduate. The ultimate goal of the committee is to create graduate learner outcomes.

Safe Routes to School Initiative

Chief Wilkins noted that this initiative was started two years ago in a joint effort by schools, the village, and parents. We have been awarded a \$25,000 grant to pay for an engineering firm to assess what should be done to ensure safe biking and walking routes and to encourage biking and walking to school with some changes. Some aspects of the changes include a “Walk to School Day,” bike safety in phy. ed. in elementary schools, improvement of village sidewalks, signs at busy intersections, bike/pedestrian paths in Kennedy Road area, increase of bike racks at schools, and more painted crosswalks.

Recognition of Grants Awarded to District

The Spring Green Arts and Crafts Fair awarded 8 grants to the district totaling \$5,811 as follows: \$1,200 to Arena Elementary for performer to teach how to write songs; \$500 to High School English Dept. for “Poetry Out Loud” coaching and APT workshops; \$500 to Middle School Music Dept. for guitars; \$600 to High School Music Dept. for rental of Gard Theater for musical; \$538 to Middle School film group for camcorder and accessories; \$793 to Spring Green Elementary for tickets for “Lilly’s Purple Plastic Purse” performance; \$210 to High School Art Dept. for 2 extra batteries for camcorders and a wall charger; and \$1,470 to Elementary Music Dept. for “Opera for the Young” for 2 elementaries.

Public Comments/Open Forum

Taylor asked that anyone wishing to speak please limit their comments to three minutes, avoid duplication of any prior speakers, and refrain from discussion of personnel matters.

Todd Miller confirmed that the next policy meeting date is November 19 at 6:00 p.m. He stated that he hopes e-mail use by Board members will be reviewed. He added a final statement that sexual harassment will not be tolerated in the district.

Consent Agenda: Checks, Invoices, Receipts – September 2009; Open Session Meeting Minutes-August 27, September 10, and October 5, 2009

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

Consideration & Action on the Resolution Providing for the Tax Levy and Budget Change for the Year 2009

Hayek proposed a budget change from the annual meeting to include a revised mill rate from the annual meeting to be \$10.00 instead of \$9.94. Caraway moved to adopt the Resolution Providing for the Tax Levy and Budget Change for the Year 2009. Ferguson seconded. Polled vote was 8-0 in the affirmative with 1 absent. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Education for Employment (E4E) Plan

Kaukl provided a revised plan to the Board which states that labor market information and student needs will be assessed, and data will be collected and analyzed so that education and training programs will be designed and/or updated to enhance students' employability in the labor market. Cates moved to approve the revised plan. Pronold seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Gifts

Ferguson moved to adopt the Resolution Accepting Gifts of \$60 to the school fair fund from Daniel and Stacey Ambort. Crowley seconded. Polled vote was 8-0 in the affirmative with 1 absent. Motion carried.

Crowley moved to adopt the Resolution Accepting Gifts of \$65.35 from the Wisconsin Knights of Columbus to the Special Education Department. Pronold seconded. Polled vote was 8-0 in the affirmative with 1 absent. Motion carried.

Ferguson moved to adopt the Resolution Accepting Gifts to Fund 21 for needy students and their families as follows: \$2,500 from Eric and Irene Rapp; \$200 from Jacqueline and Nicholas Luther; \$249 from Christ Lutheran Church; \$20 from Delores and Howard Orcutt; \$40 from Joan Kilian-Ikeler and Alan Ikeler; \$25 from Elizabeth Irwin; \$10 from Kathleen and Robert Ragan; \$20 from Kenneth and Jamie Haas; and \$200 from Delta Kappa Gamma Alpha Chapter. Caraway seconded. Polled vote was 8-0 in the affirmative with 1 absent. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Budget Committee Recommendations

Ferguson moved to approve a new activity account at the high school for the Gay/Straight Alliance. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

Caraway moved to purchase a used 2002 Pontiac Montana from Shawn Duren for \$3,500 to replace the 1996 district van which is no longer safe or cost effective. Crowley seconded. Hayek noted that a portion of this cost will be covered with \$1,500 we received for the sale of a mower deck. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on First Reading of New Policy

No action.

Consideration & Action to Adjourn to Closed Session Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(f) for the purpose of holding an expulsion hearing and 19.85(1)(a) and 19.85(1)(f) for the purpose of deliberating and acting thereon; and 19.85(1)(c) for 2009–11 RVEA Collective Bargaining Update and 2009–11 RVEST Collective Bargaining Update

Crowley moved to adjourn to closed session at 8:30 p.m. pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(f) for the purpose of holding an expulsion hearing and 19.85(1)(a) and 19.85(1)(f) for the purpose of deliberating and acting thereon; and 19.85(1)(c) for 2009–11 RVEA Collective Bargaining Update and 2009–11 RVEST Collective Bargaining Update. Cates seconded. Polled vote was 8-0 in the affirmative with 1 absent. Motion carried.

Submitted by Paula Wedige For:

Deborah Nelson, School District Clerk