

## RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Regular Meeting

Middle School Library

7:00 p.m.

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

Absent: Pronold, Cummings

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

Others: Sue Sadler, Lisa Scofield, Linda Donnelly, Paul Kardatzke, Julie Kardatzke, Madeline Ehlinger, David Giffey (Home News), Paula Wedige (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. Ferguson moved to proceed with the legal meeting. Crowley seconded. Motion carried.

### Legislative Update

Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools is proposing a 1 cent increase in sales tax to help save school programs. There is an on-line petition at [www.apennyforkids.org](http://www.apennyforkids.org).

### Board Training Opportunities

Nelson, Caraway, and Taylor will be attending the January WASB Convention along with Benson and Hayek.

### Student Council Report

The recent blood drive has been rescheduled. The student council decorated the high school for the holidays and they are having an "ugly holiday sweater day" on December 23. Also on December 23 will be the academic awards ceremony.

### Energy Independent Team Study Findings

Our district is working with both the Town and Village of Spring Green to strive toward a 25% energy reduction by the year 2025. Study findings were presented to show energy efficiencies that can be implemented and the use of renewable resources when replacements are necessary.

### Review RV2022 Committee Process

Benson noted that three committee meetings were held and the completion of "graduate learner outcomes" will be finalized soon.

### Discussion of Phase-Out Plan for High School French

After some discussion of whether to eliminate French over the next few years due to low enrollments, the Board decided to maintain the status quo at this time.

### Review Elementary Class Sizes and Building Space

The Board directed administration to prepare options for short term and long term plans, along with recommendations, which may include multiage classrooms, staff transfers, and/or building reconfigurations to serve like grades in the same building. These options will be part of public dialogue and engagement in a future decision-making process.

### Set January Budget and Policy Committee Meetings

Both the Budget and Policy Committees will meet at 6:00 p.m. on January 14, prior to the January regular Board meeting.

### Review WASB Publication Related to Board E-Mail Communication

Taylor provided a handout from WASB regarding appropriate use of e-mail by Board members.

### Public Comments/Open Forum

No comments.

### Consent Agenda: Checks, Invoices, Receipts – November 2009; Open Session Meeting Minutes – November 19, 2009

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

### Consideration & Action on Hiring Part Time High School Dean of Students

Ferguson moved to hire Darby Blakley as the half time High School Dean of Students. Cates seconded. Blakely will also remain a half time teacher at the high school. Motion carried.

### Consideration & Action on Energy Independent Team Recommendation Regarding Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Measures in the Spring Green Pilot 25x25 Plan

Crowley moved that the River Valley School District will utilize the energy efficiency and renewable energy measures recommended by the EIC Team in the Spring Green Pilot 25x25 Plan as a guide to reduce its energy usage and to install renewable energy sources as opportunities for funding and equipment replacement arise. Caraway seconded. It was suggested that an awareness campaign begin regarding usage and changing habits. Motion carried.

### Consideration & Action on Resolution to Lay Off Special Needs Assistants

Ferguson moved to adopt the Resolution to Lay Off Special Needs Assistants as follows: Jennifer Brown, full layoff of 4.4 hours; Audrey Blau partial layoff of 1.1 hours; and Michele Koch partial layoff of 1.5 hours. Crowley seconded. Polled vote was 7-0 in the affirmative with 2 absent. Motion carried.

### Consideration & Action on Convention Resolutions

Ferguson moved to empower Taylor, as the Board delegate, to vote on resolutions at the January WASB convention as she sees fits. Caraway seconded. Motion carried.

### Consideration & Action on First Reading of New and Revised Policies

The Policy Committee meeting scheduled for December 8 was cancelled due to weather and rescheduled to December 15.

### Consideration & Action on Budget Committee Recommendations

The Budget Committee recommended that admission charges for co-curricular music concerts be repealed. Crowley moved to repeal admission charges for co-curricular music concerts. Caraway seconded. Motion carried.

### Consideration & Action on Resolution Accepting Gifts

Cates moved to adopt the Resolution Accepting Gifts of an anonymous donation of \$150 to Fund 21 for needy students and their families. Ferguson seconded. Polled vote was 7-0 in the affirmative with 2 absent. Motion carried.

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

Ferguson moved to adjourn to closed session at 9:25 p.m. pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes  
19.85(1)(c) for Preparation for the Superintendent Evaluation in January and Discussion of Non-  
Union Support Staff Retirement Benefits. Crowley seconded. Polled vote was 7-0 in the  
affirmative with 2 absent. Motion carried.

Submitted by Paula Wedige For:

\_\_\_\_\_ Deborah Nelson, School District Clerk