

## RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Regular Meeting

Middle School Library

7:00 p.m.

Board: Cates, Paula Caraway, Nelson, Taylor, Pronold, Cummings, Ferguson, Crowley, Dylan Shaffer (Student Council Representative)

Absent: Peach

Administration: Benson, Palm-Leis, Briehl, Hoffman, Radtke, Hegland, Hayek, Kaukl

Others: Sue Sadler, 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

Taylor provided an update noting that 23 of 45 school referendums were approved on the April 7 ballot. Caraway shared a fact sheet from the School Finance Network outlining five areas of common concern—decreased enrollment; increased cost for fuel, energy, and transportation; increase of property taxes; failed referendums; and insufficient aid for high needs children.

### Board Training Opportunities

Nelson noted that there is a President's Conference this summer and then conferences cease until the fall.

### Student Council Report

Shaffer thanked the Board for his inclusion on the Board this year.

### Receipt of Grants

The Board recognized the following grants received:

- \$8,000 from the Kern Family Foundation to the Project Lead the Way program for professional development and laptop computers.
- \$2,475 from the Wisconsin DPI to the Project Lead the Way program for the purchase of a new laser engraver.
- \$2,100 from the Spring Green Area Arts Coalition to the High School Art Department.
- \$2,000 from the Spring Green Area Arts Coalition to fund the "Creativity in the River Valley: Past and Present" Student Project.

### District Strategic Planning and Community Input Sessions

Benson outlined a process for developing a strategic plan for the district to include a community survey and a committee review of the survey results and the old strategic plan. The deadline for completion is September 1, 2009.

### H1-N1 Influenza

There were two communications sent home to parents regarding education on the H1-N1 virus and prevention measures. Information is also available on our district website. The district will use the guideline of not closing school unless we have 15% of students out for any illness.

### Adult Education Proposal

Kaukl outlined a proposal for two options, both self funded, for adults to earn a diploma in our district. He will bring suggested changes for Policy #344-Adult Education to the next Policy Committee meeting.

### WKCE Standardized Student Test Results

Benson shared information from 2008-09 WKCE testing, noting that 12 of 13 tests taken in our district in grades 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> were at or above state average and 16 of 23 total tests taken were at or above state average. Benson remarked that these tests are just one snapshot to assess student progress.

### Public Comments/Open Forum

Taylor thanked everyone for the cards, food, and flowers during her recent surgery.

Benson announced that a tree will be planted at the Arena Elementary on May 21 in memory of Tor Caraway.

It was noted that the high school is offering the opportunity for community members to rent a garden plot at the high school for a small fee. In addition, students at Lone Rock and Spring Green will be involved in planting a “lasagna garden” at these sites.

Hegland noted that the “Safe Routes to School” initiative is coming to the end of the planning phase and the group is looking into a bike path from Kennedy Road to Wood Street.

Administration pointed out that summer school this year will involve enrichment classes as well as remedial classes, and our goal is for the program to be self funded.

### Consent Agenda: Checks, Invoices, Receipts – April 2009; Open Session Meeting Minutes – April 2 and April 23, 2009

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

### Board Organizational Meeting

President – Cates nominated Taylor. Pronold seconded. Ferguson moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Taylor. Cummings second. Motion carried with Taylor as President.

Vice President – Pronold nominated Cates. Caraway seconded. Crowley moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Cates. Caraway seconded. Motion carried with Cates as Vice President.

Clerk – Caraway nominated Nelson. Pronold seconded. Cates moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Nelson. Cummings seconded. Motion carried with Nelson as Clerk.

Treasurer – Ferguson nominated Pronold. Crowley seconded. Caraway moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Pronold. Crowley seconded. Motion carried with Pronold as Treasurer.

Meeting Date, Time, and Place – Crowley moved to hold regular Board meetings at 7:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month in the Middle School Library. Pronold seconded. Cates asked that we make an effort to end meetings by 10:00 p.m. Motion carried.

### Consideration & Action on Second Reading of New and Revised Board Policies

Cates moved to approve the second reading of Policy #763-Wellness Policy on Nutrition and Physical Activity, #763-Exhibit 1 – Classroom Celebrations, and #763-Exhibit 2 – Healthy Snacks to rewrite the policy and add the new exhibits based on input from our health and nutrition committee. Cummings seconded. Motion carried.

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

The Policy Committee met and discussed revisions to the extra-curricular handbook as a result of separating it from the athletic handbook through several meetings with various advisors. There will be further discussion by the Policy Committee. No action.

### Consideration & Action on Budget Committee Recommendations

Cummings moved to approve the Budget Committee's recommendation to provide a \$25,000 line of credit to the Booster Club for concession stand construction to be paid back in two years. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

Cummings moved to approve the Budget Committee's recommendation to offer a five year copier lease and service contract to Ikon. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

Crowley moved to approve the Budget Committee's recommendation to offer a contract to Scott Construction to replace pavement on Daley Street from Westmor to Spring Green Elementary at a cost of \$34,622. Pronold seconded. Motion carried.

Caraway moved to approve the Budget Committee's recommendation to offer a contract to Matteson Concrete to complete the Middle School basement drain tile project at a cost of \$15,900. Pronold seconded. Motion carried.

Crowley moved to approve the Budget Committee's recommendation to use \$5,000 from federal ARRA stimulus monies for a one time salary contribution for the Creative Learning Facilitator for 2009-10. Ferguson seconded. Motion carried.

### Consideration & Action on Revision to Calendar for End of 2008-09 School Year to Waive June 8 for Students

Crowley moved to revise the 2008-09 end of year calendar to waive June 8 attendance for students. Pronold seconded. Motion carried.

### Consideration & Action on Resolution Accepting Teacher Resignation

Crowley moved to adopt the Resolution Accepting Teacher Resignation of Amanda Schanz as Speech/Language Pathologist. Cummings seconded. Polled vote was 8-0 in the affirmative with 1 absent. Motion carried.

### Consideration & Action on Teacher Transfer

Caraway moved to approve the transfer of Brett Maxwell from 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> multiage teacher to 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Spring Green Elementary, replacing Jaime Hegland. Pronold seconded. Motion carried.

### Consideration & Action on Teacher Hirings

Pronold moved to approve the hiring of Nicole Rockwell as the 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> grade multiage teacher at Spring Green Elementary, replacing Brett Maxwell. Crowley seconded. Motion carried.

Cates moved to approve the hiring of Darby Blakley as the High School Special Education Teacher, replacing Paul Cummings. Cummings seconded. Motion carried.

Caraway moved to approve the hiring of Misty Fredrick as the High School Library Media Specialist, replacing Rose Ellen Schneider. Cummings seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Gifts

Pronold moved to adopt the Resolutions Accepting Gifts of donations to Fund 21 for students and families in need from Arena Ladies Auxiliary for \$500; and to the Art Department from Kathleen McDonald (\$50), John Frautschi (\$200), and Donald and Joanna Thompson (\$35) in memory of Peg Miller. Ferguson seconded. Polled vote was 8-0 in the affirmative with 1 absent. Motion carried.

Crowley moved to adopt the Resolutions Accepting Gifts to the Tech. Ed. Department of \$700 to purchase tools or equipment from Ron Christianson, Sharon Weitzel, and Marsha Grant, in memory of their father, Oscar Christianson and a welding helmet valued at \$300 from Madison-Beloit AWS Chapter and Badger Fabrication from Sauk City in honor of Francesco Lama's trip to Skills USA Nationals. Caraway seconded. Polled vote was 8-0 in the affirmative with 1 absent. Motion carried.

Cummings moved to adopt the Resolutions Accepting Gifts of \$50 to each of the following from Cleo Ostrander: Class of 2009; Class of 2010; Class of 2011; Class of 2012; and FFA. Cates seconded. Polled vote was 8-0 in the affirmative with 1 absent. Motion carried.

Caraway moved to adopt the Resolution Accepting Gifts of \$200 from Gerald and Margaret Dorscheid to Arena Elementary to purchase library books. Pronold seconded. Polled vote was 8-0 in the affirmative with 1 absent. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action to Adjourn to Closed Session Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(c) for Discussion of Administrator Contracts

Cummings moved to adjourn to closed session at 9:10 p.m. pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(c) for Discussion of Administrator Contracts. Crowley seconded. Polled vote was 8-0 in the affirmative with 1 absent. Motion carried.

Submitted by Paula Wedige For:

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