

RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Thursday, September 10, 2009

Regular Meeting

Middle School Library

7:00 p.m.

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

Absent: Crowley, Taylor

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

Others: Todd Miller, Herman Kaldenberg, Paula Wedige (Administrative Assistant)

The vote was unanimous to accept the proofs of notice and to proceed with the legal meeting.

Legislative Update

Cates gave an update in Taylor's absence which included that draft grant guidelines have been released for \$3.5 billion in stimulus funding that will be used nationwide over the next three years to turn around worst performing, low income schools. Wisconsin expects to receive \$42 million.

Board Training Opportunities

Nelson noted there is a September 15 deadline for school boards to submit resolutions for consideration at the Milwaukee convention in January. Nelson stated that there is an Employment Law seminar in Madison on September 11 and the fall regional meeting in Baraboo on September 22.

Student Council Report

L'Herault and Hogan noted that the student council sponsored the freshman orientation and they established a new program to make new students feel welcome. They will be attending a leadership conference for officers. Also, the theme for homecoming is "TV Land."

Discussion of October and November Board Meeting Dates

The October and November Board meeting dates will be changed to ensure necessary budget information is received from the State prior to setting the tax levy by the November 1 deadline. October's meeting will be held on Monday, October 26, at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle School Library with a Budget Meeting held prior at 6:00 p.m. The November meeting will then be held on Thursday, November 19, at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle School Library.

Review District Strategic Plan Process

There have been 78 community surveys completed on-line with a September 11 deadline. A committee comprised of Board members, administrators, business leaders, PTO reps, and community members will review the survey results which will be used as a resource to develop graduate learner outcomes. The tentative schedule is to hold a meeting on Monday, November 2. Taylor, Cates, and Caraway expressed interest as Board representatives.

Public Comments/Open Forum

Miller asked for confirmation of the Board's regular monthly meeting date on the second Thursday of the month. Miller also asked about the closed session agenda item regarding administrator contracts. Benson noted that there would be discussion about salary.

Kaldenberg mentioned the decreased enrollment at River Valley and asked if there are plans to expand or hold current enrollment. Benson noted the decrease in birth rates in Sauk County and smaller kindergarten classes entering the district while large classes are graduating. Benson welcomed ideas on

how to “market” the district, specifically to home school families. Ferguson noted an increase in the enrollment at Arena due to its proximity to Madison and employment opportunities.

Consent Agenda

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

Consideration & Action on Graduation Date for 2010

The district provided an on-line survey with options for a graduation date other than a Friday evening. Ferguson moved to approve graduation for 2010 on Saturday, May 29, at 1:00 p.m. as recommended by the survey results and to set future dates at the beginning of each year. Peach seconded. It was confirmed that a student who has graduated can still participate in end of year WIAA events. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resolution to Appoint Human Growth & Development Advisory Committee

Pronold moved to adopt the Resolution to Appoint Human Growth & Development Advisory Committee for a two year term as presented. Caraway seconded. Motion carried. Polled vote was 7-0 in the affirmative with 2 absent. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Teacher Hiring

Caraway moved to hire Robanne Galindo as the Lone Rock 1st Grade Teacher. Ferguson seconded. Galindo replaces Bowen who transferred to Lone Rock 3rd Grade Teacher to replace Waldsmith who resigned. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resolution to Partially Lay Off “Special Needs Assistant” for 2009-10

Cummings moved to adopt a Resolution to Partially Lay Off “Special Needs Assistant” Jennifer Brown from 5 hours to 2 hours. 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 2009-2011 RVEA and RVEST Collective Bargaining Updates and Discussion of Administrator Contracts

Ferguson moved to adjourn to closed session at 7:55 p.m. pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(c) for 2009-2011 RVEA and RVEST Collective Bargaining Updates and Discussion of Administrator Contracts. Pronold seconded. Polled vote was 7-0 in the affirmative with 2 absent. Motion carried.

Submitted by Paula Wedige For:

_____ Deborah Nelson, School District Clerk