

River Valley School District
Thursday, October 8, 2015
Regular Meeting
Middle School Library
7:00 p.m.

Present: Nelson, Bettinger, Jennings, Cates, Cummings, Iausly, Young, Strozinsky, Melody Reich (Student Representative)

Absent: McCauley

Admin: Wermuth, Novak, Radtke, Hegland, Blakley, Kjos, Krey

Others: Lori Baryenbruch, Deb Miller, Sam Van Hallgren, Ashley Johnson, Jeannie McCarville (Home News), Paula Wedige (Administrative Assistant)

President Cates opened the meeting. He noted that the meeting had been properly noticed and notice had been provided to the appropriate media and each School Board Member. Cummings moved to proceed with the legal meeting. Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Approval of Agenda

Young moved to approve the agenda. Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comments

We now have a River Valley School District Facebook page.

This week was School Board Appreciation Week and a thank you was extended to Board members, along with an article in the Home News in the District Administrator's Corner column.

Board Reminders and Announcements

Both the school fair and the River Valley cross county invite were recognized as recent successful events that occurred in the district. Also, Deb Nelson is now one of three nominees for election to the WASB Region 10 board member seat.

Student Council Report

Melody Reich reported that rehearsals for the high school musical start this week and that there is an upcoming choir concert on October 26. There will be a River Valley "haunted trail" event at the end of the month as well as a "Wisconsin Go to College" event to get kids to apply to at least one college. Casey Pappas received a best of show award for her watercolor at regional competition. October 8 is senior night for volleyball, October 9 for football, and October 13 for boys' soccer. The 6th Grade Girls Club has started their meetings for this school year and the middle school "trick or treat" concert is scheduled for October 27. Middle School parent/teacher conferences will be held on November 10 and 12. Eye exams are being done this month by school nurses. Plain Elementary made a recent visit to the fire station.

Third Friday Pupil Count Report

The pupil count was 30 less than the projection. Open enrollment counts are 105 River Valley students attending other districts and 38 students attending River Valley from other districts.

Progress Update on Enrollment Projections and Facilities Feasibility Study

Administration is suggesting that the November 12 Board Meeting start at 6:00 p.m. to allow for a one hour presentation by SDS Architects. There would be information items on the December and January meeting agendas as well to report on the progress of the study.

What's Happening at RVSD? - Highlighted Academic Events

The events surrounding homecoming and the school fair were well received. There has been positive feedback from staff and community members about the added interactive items and moving the fair to be centered on the middle school grounds. The committee wants to expand on vendors and agriculture displays next year. The Endowment Fund event between the parade and the football game was a success as well.

Clarification was given noting that Educator Effectiveness and Teachscape are used interchangeably, but they are actually not the same. Educator Effectiveness is the evaluation process developed around Charlotte Danielson's framework of teaching. Teachscape is the tool/software program that the state purchased through a vendor to organize the areas of the evaluation process and record data.

Krey noted DPI is no longer requiring districts to use Teachscape since they are disappointed in the product's limitations and quality. However, districts are still required by DPI to upload end of year final scores on Teachscape. Krey met with other CESA school districts and the consensus is to find an alternative to Teachscape.

Legislative Update

Cates reported that a bill to allow Board members to serve as volunteer coaches passed the senate as well as allowing a Board President to appoint to fill a School Board vacancy if not filled in 60 days by the full Board. Starting in 2016-17, students will be required to take a civics test and regular open enrollment applications cannot be denied by a resident district due to special education financial burden costs. Having the State Superintendent be appointed by the Governor is being considered. Current State Superintendent Evers believes that this should be an elected position.

Board Training Opportunities

There is a WASB Employment and School Law Seminar on Oct 15 and 16. Nelson and Jennings will be attending the fall meeting for WASB region 10 on October 27 in Baraboo. On November 7, there is a Legislative Advocacy Conference in Stevens Point. Registration for the January convention in Milwaukee will open on November 1.

Consent Agenda: - Checks, Invoices, Receipts – September 2015; Open Session Meeting Minutes – September 10, 2015

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

Consideration & Action on Hodan Contract for Special Education Transition Services

Strozinsky moved to approve a contract with Hodan Community Services for one special education student for transition services for 5 hours per week. Young seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Gifts

Iausly moved to adopt the Resolutions Accepting Gifts as follows: \$100 From Spring Green Vision Center to the FFA; \$400 from Plain Fire Department to the gymnastics team for their work at the 3-Day Celebration; and 350 board feet of lumber from Jeff Haylock to the high school building trades program. Bettinger seconded. Polled vote was 8-0 in the affirmative with 1 absent. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Resignations, if any

None.

Consideration & Action on Hirings, if any

Young moved to approve the hiring of Angela Gasner as a special education teacher at the middle school, replacing Tracy Frosch. Bettinger seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Budget Committee Recommendations

Dashir Management Services provided an update on October custodial and maintenance progress. They will provide a written report on a monthly basis.

Novak noted that our fund balance is at 32.4%, and we want to be between 25-30%. We will look at capital objects to spend down to our goal. Our mill rate is projected at 10.83 for next year. The October 22 annual meeting will provide more accurate numbers than the budget that was published with the meeting notice.

Repair work has been done on cement slabs on the Spring Green campus sidewalks. Strozinsky moved to approve roof repairs at Lone Rock Elementary at an approximate cost of \$50,000. Cummings seconded. The work will be done in October, weather permitting, using the same contractor that did the high school repairs. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Policy Committee Recommendations

Bettinger moved to change the reference to "RVEA Contract" in all policies to "River Valley All Staff Employee Handbook." Young seconded. Motion carried.

Bettinger moved to approve the second reading of the following policies: Policy 370 Extracurricular Activity Program; Policy 375 Interscholastic Athletics; Policy 741 Maintenance and Control of Instructional Materials; and Policy 373 Student Fund-Raising Activities. Strozinsky seconded. Motion carried.

Bettinger moved to approve the first reading of the following policies, with more discussion by the Policy Committee to occur for 533 and 534: Policy 533 Professional Staff Recruiting/Hiring; Policy 534 Resignation of Professional Staff Members; Policy 535 Professional Staff Development Opportunities; Policy 536 Professional Staff Evaluation. Young seconded. Motion carried.

Cummings moved to delete Policy 537.1 Non-Duplication of Insurance Benefits. Bettinger. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Creation of Class of 2019 Activity Account

Jennings moved to create an activity account for the Class of 2019. Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

Bettinger moved to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

Submitted by Paula Wedige for:

_____ Deborah Nelson, School District Clerk