

River Valley School District
Thursday, October 8, 2020
Regular Meeting
Middle School Library
7:00 pm

- The public was able to view this meeting live on our River Valley YouTube Channel.

- Anyone who attended the meeting in person was required to wear a mask and follow social distancing.

- Public comments were to be shared without attending this meeting in person by contacting Kathy Jennings, Board President, prior to the meeting at 608-588-4737 or at jennings.rvsb@rvschools.org.

Present: Strozinsky, Nelson, Jennings, Young, Maier, Iausly, McGuire, Bettinger, Kelsey Olson (Student Representative)

Absent: Cates

Admin: Glasbrenner, Krey, Radtke, Blakley, Peterson

Others: Shawn Duren, Paula Wedige (Administrative Assistant)

President Jennings opened the meeting. She noted that the meeting had been properly posted and notice had been provided to the appropriate media and each School Board Member. Iausly moved to proceed with the legal meeting. Strozinsky seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Approval of Agenda

Maier moved to approve the agenda. Bettinger seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comments

Glasbrenner read the Governor's proclamation for Wisconsin School Board Week and thanked the Board for their work.

Student Council Report

Kelsey Olson introduced herself as a senior who is involved in mock trial, art club, and band. She plans to attend college for interior design/graphic design/photography. She reported that the high school business class is involved in a virtual joint business venture with a classroom in Qatar. The high school physical education department is implementing virtual workouts using a link to our YouTube page for an online training program for personal fitness students. Auditions for the high school musical, "Urinetown," were held on October 5 with performances scheduled for December 18-20. Also, the middle school and high school choirs are recording for a virtual October performance in lieu of a live performance.

Review of Homecoming and School Fair Activities

Blakley reported that this year's alternative events of a virtual pep rally and games for Thursday during homecoming week did not happen since the high school was closed on October 1, due to a COVID-19 investigation. However, this year's homecoming week activities did include decorating the boulevard, dress up days, the football game, the selection of a king and queen, and

a reverse parade for seniors where the community drove by in cars and waved as senior co-curricular participants stood along the high school sidewalk.

Krey reported that there were 40 animals on site for the school fair judging, with one pen assigned to each family. RVTV covered the event live with Mia Hillebrand commentating, and they also recorded the horse show. WRCO was also on site. Shari Graffunder, Tim Johnson, FFA officers, and Krey helped coordinate the school fair. School fair gym entries were minimal this year since that was a virtual event. Glasbrenner noted that the homecoming pride did shine through with proud kids and the district's support.

WASB Business Honor Roll Awards Presented to Area Businesses

The District nominated five businesses this year and all were selected by WASB for recognition of local businesses that support their schools. They are Cardinal IG, Spring Printing, Spring Green Police Department, Dashir Management Services, and Ringbrothers.

Enrollment Information

Krey provided a summary of Third Friday Pupil Count and open enrollment information. Our Third Friday Pupil Count is 1,211 (down from 1,262 last year) and open enrollment numbers are 46 IN (down from 54 last year) and 139 OUT (up from 125 last year). In the past, we have learned from families that many choose to go OUT for convenience. Glasbrenner will be calling all the new OUT families to make a connection and find out why they chose to go OUT this year.

Update on School District Operations from Administration

We are following a procedure to use contact tracing with positive COVID cases so we can quarantine smaller groups and not full schools or the entire district. CDC notes travel within the United States is OK, but we are asking students and staff to quarantine for 14 days after travel outside of the United States or on a cruise. CDC guidelines do not address flying. We encourage students and staff to avoid large gatherings, to follow guidelines, and to report to us if they are sick or are a close contact to a positive individual.

Sauk County tracing of positive cases shows that schools are still safe because of protocols enforced in schools, although some bring the virus to school if they are not following guidelines outside of school. The community needs to help us limit spread off campus so kids can stay in school.

Glasbrenner added that the Sauk County Health Department Director is resigning next week and area superintendents are anxious about this change. Sauk County guidelines for school capacity changed recently with the state having new metrics. If data shows Sauk County as a whole isn't doing well, it will affect all in the entire County. Glasbrenner still has regular conversation with other district administrators in Sauk County and the better data they feed the County, the better the County can defend that schools are a safe place.

Since Sauk County is too busy to help as much as they did before, our district is helping to assess any close contacts so we can quarantine that smaller group, and not the entire school or district. We are discussing the hiring of third party help for contact tracing and to make follow up calls to people identified.

Radtke shared that he is proud of teachers, support staff, and nurses who have been doing an outstanding job working hard for students and families. He holds weekly staff meetings and they continue to improve technology, scheduling, and lunch period rotations, where they are working to have more time outside and for cleaning between lunches. Block scheduling is working but a few things need to improve. Teachers say teaching both in person and virtual at the same time is difficult. Attendance is hard since students are moving back and forth between in person and virtual if they are sick, absent or online at home. He noted the students are happy to be here and some virtual students have returned to in person. The students are doing an excellent job of following rules.

McGuire asked if we might consider continuing block scheduling. Radtke and Blakley noted that we continue to evaluate if we want to keep that type of schedule. There are many students and staff that prefer block scheduling and it limits movement within the buildings.

Peterson noted that 4K and 5K kids love being at school. Except for masks, much is happening like a regular classroom and masks are not getting in the way of learning. Kids and staff in the early learning and elementary grades are amazing. A parent organized donors to rent a tent for outside learning at the elementary school. Kids are excited and the teachers are creative, such as offering a biking unit in physical education class for 4th graders. She reiterated that elementary teachers are not doing simultaneous in person and virtual learning. There are separate teachers that do only virtual learning.

Glasbrenner stated that we are thankful to be at school, and we want to be here as long as we can. Blakley added that the decision to have all virtual classes on Wednesdays has been useful to staff, as well as having a full time substitute assigned to each building. There are some virtual students that actually attend in person on Wednesdays for shop and band and others come in for therapies on Wednesdays. Kelsey Olson added that Wednesdays are helpful to her as a student since she can get one on one time with a teacher. The middle school does require attendance on Wednesday mornings and then afternoons are used for individual or group Google meetings with students. Bettinger wants to ensure that we engage all kids on Wednesdays. Glasbrenner noted that our instructional model has been looked at by neighboring districts, and he believes that virtual Wednesdays are a long-term plan during COVID-19.

Annual Report on Reimbursable Leave Sharing Program

Krey reported on the balance of this account and stated there were no requests during the past year to use days from this account.

Board Reminders, Announcements, and Training Opportunities

Jennings reminded the Board of the annual and special meetings coming up on October 26 and noted that the December 10 meeting will include a discussion of administrator evaluations, which cannot be attended virtually since it is closed session.

Kathy thanked the Board members for all that they do and for being prepared and engaging in good discussions. She noted each has different strengths but the common goal is for the good of the district.

There was a moment of silence for Duane Bark who passed away due to complications of COVID-19. Duane was a former River Valley Middle School Principal and Athletic Director and was currently serving as the District Administrator and Athletic Director at Markesan.

Legislative Update

Glasbrenner clarified that 4K-12 schools are exempt from the Governor's emergency order that limits indoor gatherings to 25% of the indoor room's capacity.

Consent Agenda: - Checks, Invoices, Receipts – September 2020; Open Session Meeting Minutes – September 10, 2020, Special and Regular Meetings

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

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Resignations, if any

N/A

Consideration & Action on Hirings, if any

N/A

Consideration & Action on Policy Committee Recommendations

As recommended by the Committee, Bettinger moved to approve the 2nd reading of 728 Wearing Masks and Face Coverings, 751 Student Transportation Services, 431 Student Attendance, and 110 Policy Philosophy and Goals and to delete 210 Administration Goals, 310 Educational Outcome Goals and Expectations, 410 Student Policies Goals, 510 Personnel Policies Goals, 610 Fiscal Management Goals, and 710 Support Services Goals. Maier seconded. It was clarified that a regular face shield is not a face mask or face covering, but a "Badger Shield" does qualify since it completely covers the nose and mouth. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Committee, Strozinsky moved to approve the 1st reading of 345.53 Rule Criteria for Admittance into the HSED Program and 771 Printing and Duplicating Services (Copyright). McGuire seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on School Forest/Buildings & Grounds Committee Recommendations

The Committee discussed the High School Athletic Complex and Track Resurfacing and would like to see two proposals: one proposal for the complex and track and a second proposal for the complex and track to include a soccer field inside. The Committee will continue discussion of this topic at its next meeting and bring a future recommendation to the Budget/ERC Committee.

The Stormwater Drainage Plan to correct flood areas on campus and to direct water away will move forward by November 30 and be done by August 2021. Money is already allocated through the regular budget.

Strozinsky recognized Jeni Meuer and the Dashir custodial staff for their work since last spring to make buildings safe during COVID-19.

Maier moved to put Arena School Forest out for bid for no less than \$3,300 per acre minimum bid. McGuire seconded. Nelson raised a concern that the minimum amount per acre may be too

low and that some Arena constituents questioned if we should hold onto the 120 acres. It was noted that we don't collect taxes on that land unless it is developed. Roll call vote:

For the motion: Bettinger, Jennings, Maier, McGuire
Against the motion: Iausly, Nelson, Strozinsky, Young
Absent: Cates
Abstain: N/A

Polled vote was 4-4 with 1 absent. Motion failed.

Strozinsky moved to begin the process of the potential sale of the Arena School Forest. Young seconded. Motion carried with Bettinger opposed.

Consideration & Action on Budget/ERC Committee Recommendations

It was noted that the annual meeting and budget hearing for 2020-21 is scheduled for 7:00 pm on Monday, October 26, 2020, in the High School Little Theater.

It was noted that the district has spent \$70,000 of the minimum \$141,000 CARES Act monies we expect to receive.

We are still waiting for a response from Lamers on questions we posed after they gave us an initial proposal in August for 2019-20 payment during COVID-19.

As recommended by the Committee, Maier moved to designate one substitute teacher for each building at a premium daily rate of \$25 over the regular substitute pay. Young seconded. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Committee, Young moved to designate one substitute teaching assistant for each building at \$13.00 per hour. Strozinsky seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Gifts, if any

Iausly moved to adopt the Resolutions Accepting Gifts as follows: \$50 from Mark and Carol Scoles to Fund 21 for families in need; tree removal services valued at \$500 from Kraemer Brothers to RV Early Learning Center; \$2,000 from the River Valley Endowment Board toward the elementary tent rental; \$500 from anonymous donor toward the elementary tent rental; \$500 from an anonymous donor toward the elementary tent rental; \$500 from an anonymous donor toward the elementary tent rental; \$429.18 from Athletic Booster Club for uniforms for boys soccer; \$2,100 from Athletic Booster Club for long sleeve jerseys for boys and girls soccer; and \$1,599 from Athletic Booster Club for Hudl service for football. Maier seconded. Polled vote was 8-0 in affirmative, with 1 absent. Motion carried.

Iausly moved to adjourn at 8:52 p.m. McGuire seconded. Motion carried.

Submitted by Paula Wedige for:

Deborah Nelson, School District Clerk