

River Valley School District
Thursday, November 11, 2021
Regular Meeting
Middle School Library
7:00 p.m.

Present: Nelson, Jennings, Young, Minich, Cates, Iausly, Bettinger, Carstensen

Absent: Maier

Admin: Glasbrenner, Krey, Peterson

Others: Nico Daniel, Ryan Klein, Avery Wilson, Dr. Furukawa, Lynn White, Michelle Orcutt, Kasey Maxwell, Jess Hisel, 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. Young seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Approval of Agenda

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

Public Comments

Three high school students in the musical (Nico Daniel, Ryan Klein, and Avery Wilson) were present and invited the Board to attend the musical “*Newsies*.” District Administrator Glasbrenner will play the part of Teddy Roosevelt.

Jess Hisel provided a handout to the Board, showing efficiency of surgical masks vs. cotton masks and asked the Board to increase the “goal posts” for when to mask and reconsider masking during sports.

Student Council Report

Kasey Maxwell reported in the absence of the Board’s student representatives. She stated that the music department received an anonymous monetary donation and used a portion to purchase bongo drums for elementary music. The middle school student council hosted an outside Halloween party with high school volunteers providing DJ services and face painting. At the high school, the first of three blood drives was held with the goal of 200 pints over the three dates. If successful, the Red Cross will donate \$2,500 for senior scholarships. The band and choir will hold a concert on December 6. The musical “*Newsies*” will be performed December 17, 18, and 19 at the Gard Theater. Maxwell also noted that 8 high school students currently have art on display at a show at UW- Platteville.

Discuss Process for District Administrator Annual Evaluation and Administrator Annual Evaluations

The Board looked at two options for the form to use for the district administrator annual evaluation and decided to try a new form this year. Glasbrenner will fill out the same form for his self-evaluation and mail to the Board by November 22. Board members will fill out and return their individual evaluations to Wedige by December 1 so she can compile and mail the final to the Board ahead of the December 9 Board meeting. The Board will meet alone in closed session on December 9, prior to Glasbrenner joining the meeting to discuss the Board’s evaluation of Glasbrenner and the evaluation of the other administrators.

Annual Report on Reimbursable Leave Sharing Program

Employees donated 60 hrs. to the reimbursable leave sharing bank, which now has a balance of 599.05 hours available. There has been no request for use in 2021-22.

Update on School District Operations from Administration

Glasbrenner noted that Veterans Day events took place at each school with songs at the elementary level, letters to veterans and clarification of how Veterans Day started at the middle school level, and a statement read to the student body and taps played at the high school. Peterson reported on the Before/After School Program at the elementary school and gave credit to Jennifer Moore-Kerr for the success of the program. There are 25-35 kids every afternoon that enjoy outside and art activities and snacks they prepare together and about 8-10 kids in the morning involved in reading and crafts. There are high school students and volunteers that help with the program.

Board Reminders, Announcements, and Training Opportunities

Condolences were offered to Darby Blakley and his family for the passing of his father.

Legislative Update

Glasbrenner noted that the Board will be asked later during this meeting to approve a “Safe Return to In-School Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan” as a requirement of ESSER funding. He also noted that children ages 5-11 can now receive the COVID vaccine and the Spring Green EMS reported that one full cycle of shots has been given with more scheduled for the future.

Consent Agenda: - Checks, Invoices, Receipts – October 2021; Open Session Meeting Minutes October 14, 2021, Regular Meeting and October 25, 2021, Special Meeting

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

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Resignations, if any

None.

Consideration & Action on Hirings, if any

None.

Consideration & Action on Policy Committee Recommendations

Jennings noted there are no recommended changes to Policy 728 Wearing Masks and Face Coverings.

As recommended by the Committee, Iausly moved to approve the 2nd reading of Policy 838 Naming District Facilities and Policy 413 Gender-Based Harassment and Discrimination with the words “and other activities” added where athletics is mentioned. Cates seconded. Motion carried with Bettinger opposed.

As recommended by the Committee, Iausly moved to approve the 1st reading of the following policies: 330 Curriculum Development, 352 Exhibit 2 – School Field Trip Checklist, 652 Revenues from Investments, and 722.1 Fire Drills, along with a review of 347 Student Records with no changes. Bettinger seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Curriculum and Instruction Committee Recommendations

Young noted that the Committee talked about the curriculum audit and how to utilize the results. They discussed professional development time that was added for teachers using prior parent/teacher conference time and will continue to look at the calendar and how to build in teacher collaboration and professional learning. Duren provided a technology update including the upcoming switch to a new district website in 2022.

Consideration & Action on “Safe Return to In-School Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan”

This document must be approved by the Board and filed with the DPI in order to receive ESSER funds. There is no new information from the Instructional Model approved earlier this year by the Board, but the information is now in a format requested by the DPI. Iausly moved to approve the Safe Return to In-School Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan. Young seconded. Motion carried. Both the Instructional Model and the Safe Return Plan are posted on our website.

Consideration & Action on Budget/Employee Relations Committee Recommendations

As recommended by the Committee, Young moved to approve the hiring of a one-on-one instructional assistant for the special education program. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Committee, Young moved to approve price increases for 2021-22 adult meals to be \$2.75 for breakfast and \$4.75 for lunch. The increases are the result of a DPI School Nutrition Team requirement. Minich seconded. Motion carried.

There are no concerns from our 2020-21 Auditor Report. Fundraising efforts for the Stadium Upgrade Project are currently at \$540,542. There is a “Go Fund Me” link on the district website.

The Committee discussed options for an April 2022 referendum. Preference seems to be for a three-year, non-recurring referendum, which Krey also recommends. The Board will need to take action on specific resolution language at the January 13 Board meeting, or call a special meeting before January 25. The Committee will discuss this topic at the December meeting and look at a list of potential reductions before recommending specific resolution language to the Board. Nelson and others agreed that we don’t want to just “get by” and wants to do what is best for kids. The Board needs to be careful when looking at potential cuts to make sure we are looking at what keeps our district in good shape and what we need to offer for a district our size. Krey noted we need to look to our community since we are not getting additional support from the state and, like we have done for two of the three years of the current referendum, if we don’t need to tax to the full amount that is passed in an April 2022 referendum, we can use what is necessary each year.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Gifts, if any

Cates moved to adopt the Resolutions Accepting Gifts as follows: \$1,675 anonymous to Art Department; \$1,675 anonymous to Music Department; \$290 from Athletic Booster Club to Girls Basketball for FastDraw service; \$290 from Athletic Booster Club to Boys Basketball for FastDraw service; \$100 from Steven and Bridget Roberts to Fund 21 for families in need; \$1,675 anonymous to Art Department; and \$1,675 anonymous to Music Department. Iausly seconded. Polled vote was 8-0 in the affirmative with 1 absent. Motion carried.

Bettinger moved to adopt the Resolution Accepting Gifts as follows for the Stadium Upgrade Project:

\$250 George's Auto Body; \$250 Pamela's Fine Jewelry-Pamela Chehade; \$500 Kathy Maxwell-Clark, Randy Manning, Terri Pardee, Rick Manning, Mary Jo Fortney; \$250 Nicole and Brian Bailey; \$3,350 anonymous; \$3,000 Howard, Michelle, Rachel, and Michael Orcutt; \$1,000 Ryan and Stephanie Osborn Family; \$500 Jim and Kathy Rossing; \$100 Michael and Whitney Bindl; \$10,000 Rick and Cindy Paulus; \$100 Dale Koehler; \$1,000 Henry and Judith Ferstl; \$1,000 Jim and Linda Thering; \$250 Gerald and Vicki Stadele; \$5,000 Baxter and Suanne Gutknecht Family; \$50 Grace Stanton; \$5,000 Jerome and Mary Lou Baryenbruch; \$500 Ronald Bauer; \$5,000 River Valley Elementary PTO; \$500 Greg and Lynn Prem; \$75,000 River Valley Soccer Association (in memory of Tami Mueller); \$1,000 Robert and Janelle Elmer; \$20,000 The Peoples Community Bank; \$1,000 Mike and Nancy Nachreiner; \$5,000 Baron Brooks Sports Bar (in memory of Mike Mahoney and Joann Nachreiner); \$100 Amanda Olson; \$1,000 Dave and Kelly Hanson; \$500 Gwen Mertens; \$10,000 Hometown Supermarket; \$10,000 Pat and Tara Mahoney; \$50 Ted Strang; \$2,000 The Furukawa Family; \$50 Erik and Hannah Johnson; \$10,000 Tri County Building Supply; \$2,500 Advanced Family Dental; \$25,000 Tom and Soni Kraemer; \$1,000 Mark and Carol Scoles; \$1,000 Jeff and Mary Lynn Johnson; \$500 Judith and Arthur Temby; \$3,350 anonymous; \$1,000 RV Lexington Fitness; \$250 Daryl and Barb Maxwell and Craig Maxwell (in loving memory of a wonderful brother and brother-in-law); \$500 River Valley Football 2021 (in memory of Terry Maxwell); \$250 Jeremiah and Nicole Zaemisch (in memory of Terry Maxwell); and various donations "In Memory of Terry Maxwell as follows:

Megan Bond \$100; Nicole, Brian, Will & Owen Bailey \$50; Shannon Hagmann \$25; Terri, Jason, Keegan, Kameran, and Kyllie Smith \$50; Jim and Kathy Rossing \$50; Jennifer Rossing \$25; Carol Merriman \$25; Bridget Roberts \$50; Kathy Kinney \$50; Brian Krey \$100; Lucy & Randall Bindl \$50; Robert & Bonnie Richardson \$50; Jean & Jeff Alt \$100; Ithaca Football Boosters \$100; Dennis & Debbie Wilson \$25; Darrell & Mary Ann Kraemer \$30; Bonnie & Mark Strozinsky \$50; Madelyn Alt \$20; Kevin & Diane Kraemer \$50; Joel & Jill Munsinger \$100; Mike & Kally Clary \$100; Greg & Mary Lou Gruber \$200; Jerry & Mary Lou Baryenbruch \$25; Mary Oswald \$25; Pat & Tara Mahoney \$100; Diane & Steve Emerson \$30; James & Donna Townsend \$50; Diane Baryenbruch \$25; Terry & Susan Maxwell (various donations) \$700; Mark & Carol Scoles \$25; Dan & Linda Kettner \$25; Chad & Katie Grant \$50; Kathleen Maxwell-Clark \$20; Wanda Anderson \$25; Matt & Vicki Beglinger \$100; Daniel & Judy Murphy \$20; Gary & Kay Roberson \$50; Eric & Irene Rapp \$200; Tom & Jodi Peck \$100; SG Vision Center \$50; Jones Chevrolet Buick \$100; Kurt Peck \$50; Barb Baxter \$100; Luanne Dischler \$20; Luke & Brittany Thatcher \$25; Dennis & Sondra Anliker \$25; Jeanne R. Alt \$50; Dan & Janet Nachreiner \$100; Karen Wilkinson \$100; Jeff & Mary Lynn Johnson \$25; John & Sandra Granger \$25; Mark & Lori Baryenbruch \$50; Dennis & Vicki Mook \$50; Jack & Kay Taylor \$50; and Bob Nachreiner \$25.

Minich seconded. Polled vote was 8-0 in the affirmative with 1 absent. Motion carried.

Bettinger moved to adopt the Resolution Accepting Gifts of \$700 from Sara Young, John Christensen, and Aaron Christensen for the Stadium Upgrade Project. Iausly seconded. Roll call vote:

For the motion: Carstensen, Iausly, Jennings, Minich, Nelson, Cates, Bettinger

Against the motion: N/A

Absent: Maier

Abstain: Young

Polled vote was 7-0 in the affirmative with 1 abstention and 1 absent. Motion carried.

Bettinger moved to adopt the Resolution Accepting Gifts and the Donation Acceptance Agreement for \$50,000 from Straka Meats Inc. for the Stadium Upgrade Project. Carstensen seconded. The Donation Acceptance Agreement notes that \$10,000 will be paid each year for 5 years. Polled vote was 8-0 in the affirmative with 1 absent. Motion carried.

Iausly moved to adjourn at 8:06 p.m. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

Submitted by Paula Wedige for:

_____ Deborah Nelson, School District Clerk