

River Valley School District  
Thursday, November 14, 2024  
Regular Meeting  
Middle School Library  
7:00 p.m.

Present: Jennings, Minich, Gauger, Cates, Iausly, Carstensen, Bettinger, Caleb Drachenberg (Student Representative)  
Absent: Young, Maier  
Admin: Glasbrenner, Krey, Blakley  
Others: Michelle Mack, Cheryl Wittmann, Kyle Beach, Shawn Duren, Paula Wedige (Administrative Assistant)

President Jennings opened the meeting. Jennings 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. Minich seconded. Motion carried.

#### Consideration & Action on Approval of Agenda

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

#### Community Spotlight

This is a monthly agenda item to recognize an individual, group, or business in our community for supporting River Valley schools. The music boosters were recognized and Michelle Mack and Cheryl Wittmann were present. They noted in the last 14 years, over \$150,000 has been raised for music trips, scholarships, music camps, state honors band and choir, medals, clinicians, uniforms, instruments, etc.

#### Public Comments

None.

#### Student Council Report

Caleb Drachenberg, student council president, was present. He noted that they sold boba at Halloween as a fundraiser, sponsored student dress up days, and are making plans for a turkey bowling event. ELC students honored veterans with a program, treats, and signs and cards for the VA hospital. They also celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> day of school. The elementary school has a new outdoor learning center and sand pit and parents are visiting classrooms to talk about careers. They held a monster mash party and enjoyed apple slices from the PTO. At the middle school, 7<sup>th</sup> grade students are looking at cells under a microscope and 20 students took a youth cooking class.

At the high school, the musical is “Mean Girls” on December 13-15 at Touchstone Theater. There is a choir concert and music booster spaghetti dinner coming up. Officer Andy visited history classes to talk about the bill of rights. FFA members attended the national convention where Ms. Graffunder was honored. They hosted several events recently including pumpkin carving and a coloring contest for young kids and Veterans Day gift boxes, which included many business donations and letters written by high school students. They are using the school field for education regarding field management and winter fundraising sales have started.

#### Discuss Process for District Administrator Annual Evaluation and Evaluation of Other Administrators

Each Board member will complete the evaluation form for Glasbrenner and send it to Paula Wedge by December 2 for compilation before Glasbrenner's evaluation at the December Board meeting. Other staff will also be asked to provide feedback. The evaluation of other administrators by Glasbrenner will be done in May.

#### Update on School District Operations from Administration

Krey noted that parent and staff surveys will be done by a third party and sent out the week after Thanksgiving.

#### Board Reminders, Announcements, and Training Opportunities

Information was shared about an upcoming AI Conference.

#### Legislative Update

Glasbrenner noted that there are two candidates for state superintendent—the incumbent, Jill Underly, and Jeff Wright, current district administrator at Sauk Prairie School District.

#### Consent Agenda: Checks, Invoices, Receipts – October 2024; Open Session Meeting Minutes – October 10, 2024, Regular Meeting and October 21, 2024, Special Meeting

Minich moved to approve the consent agenda items as submitted. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

#### Consideration & Action on Resignations/Retirements, if any

None.

#### Consideration & Action on Hirings, if any

None.

#### Consideration & Action on Policy Committee Recommendations

As recommended by the Committee, Cates moved to approve the second reading of the following policies: 375 Interscholastic Athletics, 370 ~~Co-Curricular Activity Program~~ **Activities Programming**, 371 Student Organizations, 372 Student Social Events, and 722.6 Planned Responses for Emergencies for Use in River Valley School District. Minich seconded. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Committee, Cates moved to approve the first reading of the following policies: 345.3 Promotion and Retention, 452.2 Student Immunization, 341.3 ~~RVeSchool Policy~~ **Rural Virtual Academy (RVA) Online Courses**, 341.3 Exhibit ~~RVeSchool~~ **Online Learning Contract**, 345.5 Graduation Requirements, 345.52 Graduation Exercises, 345.5 Rule Alternative Diploma Requirements, 345.52(a) Academic Excellence Higher Education Scholarship Program, and 164 Board Member Compensation and Expenses. Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

Several policies were reviewed with no changes: 223.1 Administrator Evaluation, 225 District Administrator Evaluation, 225 Rule District Administrator Evaluation Procedure, 423 Public School Open Enrollment, and 423 Rule Public School Open Enrollment.

#### Consideration & Action on Curriculum and Instruction Committee Recommendations

There will now be a Civics course required for graduation and there was discussion of literacy curriculum. The Committee supports the 2025-26 calendar to include early release dates. Action on the calendar will be taken later during this meeting.

Consideration & Action on Budget/ERC Committee Recommendations

The Committee discussed the April 2025 operational referendum and may have specific numbers at the December meeting. The referendum resolution must be approved at least 70 days before the election, so planning to take action at the January Board meeting to cover three or four years. Projections and assumptions regarding benefits, salaries, building configurations, and staffing were discussed. The January Budget/ERC meeting was moved to January 6, so they meet prior to the January Board meeting. The Committee supports the 2025-26 calendar to include early release dates. Action on the calendar will be taken later during this meeting.

Consideration & Action on 2025-26 School Calendar

The calendar was discussed by both the Budget/ERC and Curriculum and Instruction Committees and includes early release for students on Wednesdays to allow for staff professional development. The use of early release time next year will be evaluated when discussing the 2026-27 calendar. Cates moved to approve the 2025-26 school calendar. Gauger seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Gifts, if any

Iausly moved to adopt the Resolution Accepting Gifts as follows: \$1,000 from Gwen and Ken Mertens to High School Musical; french horn valued at \$200 from Mike and Sarah Mani to the middle school music department; and limestone rock and sand valued at \$2,000 from J&J Total Lawn Care LLC for elementary school. Minich seconded. Polled vote was 7-0 in the affirmative. Motion carried.

Cates moved to adjourn at 7:39 pm. Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

Submitted by Paula Wedige for:

\_\_\_\_\_ Sara Carstensen, School District Clerk