

River Valley School District
Thursday, February 8, 2024
Regular Meeting
Middle School Library
7:00 p.m.

Present: Young, Jennings, Carstensen, Cates, Iausly, Gauger, Minich, Leah Drachenberg
(Student Representative)

Absent: Bettinger, Maier

Admin: Glasbrenner, Knoll, Peterson

Others: Tim Johnson, Sam Hughes (Reliable Floor Care), 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

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

Community Spotlight

This is a new monthly agenda item to recognize an individual, group, or business in our community for supporting River Valley schools. Tim Johnson was recognized. He is a River Valley graduate, highly involved with FFA Alumni, and is a co-chair of the River Valley School Fair. The FFA Alumni team is currently raising funds to expand the school fair building on the district's campus, to be ready for the school fair this fall.

Public Comments

None.

Student Council Report

Leah Drachenberg was present. They are doing a clothing order for student council members and there is a current penny war fundraiser going on at the high school. Glasbrenner will be speaking to high school students regarding the upcoming referendum. Drachenberg noted that a high school student concern is to repaint parking lot lines at the high school.

River Valley graduate and Channel 3000 chief meteorologist, Alex Harrington, visited the ELC and shared fun facts about weather and his "Framecast" of wearing different colored glasses for different weather. They also celebrated 100 days of school with activities and students dressed up as 100-year-olds. Elementary students took a roller skating field trip sponsored by the PTO. Kindness week just ended at the middle school and two students received a certificate for their dedication to helping others. At the high school level, the mock trial team won their 11th Regional Championship with a school record number of perfect individual scores in a regional. Also, art created by seniors is being displayed at the Spring Green Library.

Grant Awarded From Message 2 Teens Contest

A team of students from the high school placed 3rd in the "Fox 47 Message 2 Teens" contest, which required creating a public service announcement addressing one of the following driving safety topics: speeding, wearing seatbelts, distracted driving, driving under the influence, texting and driving, or cell phone use while driving. Each member won a \$300 cash scholarship and our high school will be awarded a \$1,500 grant.

Update on Referendum Communications

Community referendum information sessions will be held as follows: (Tuesday) February 27, 2024, at 5 pm River Valley High School - Cafeteria Area; (Monday) March 4, 2024, at 6 pm River Valley High School - Cafeteria Area; and (Thursday) March 21, 2024, at 5 pm River Valley Middle School - LMC. Other communications include Glasbrenner presenting at village/town Board meetings as well as a brochure for an upcoming boxholder mailing, “informational boards” displayed at businesses, and a “Frequently Asked Questions” document, all of which are on our district website. Glasbrenner will be interviewed on WRCO on Monday, February 12.

Update from WASB Convention

Convention attendees provided a brief overview. Jennings represented the Board at the delegate assembly meeting and also attended a session on Board development. Young went to a session on community spotlight which shared ideas on thanking people and keeping morale up. Carstensen attended a session on student led programs which gives them more control in their education. Gauger shared notes with the Board and noted she is proud of our district after listening to people from other districts. Glasbrenner went to sessions on legislation, communication, and referendum planning.

End of Semester Review of Achievement Gap Reduction (AGR) Program

Peterson reviewed the end of semester reports and provided information on assessment tools used to measure progress and for reporting.

Update on School District Operations from Administration

There will be no school on Friday, February 16, due to an all staff professional development/in-service day. High school registration day is February 29 and we will recognize donors for the VideoBoard on February 22 at the boys basketball game. Knoll noted that we reposted the School Psychologist position. Although using virtual psych services has been a positive experience, we hope to have a person hired for the next school year.

Update on Board Development

An outcome of the Board’s January 29 special meeting was two goals for Board focus: staff input by engaging staff regarding culture and issues and onboarding for new Board members.

Board Reminders, Announcements, and Training Opportunities

Board members were invited to several upcoming events in the schools: visit 6th grade English/language arts to view research projects – February 7; guest lunch servers for Wisconsin Chili Lunch Day – February 22; and guest readers for ELC/Elementary Family Literacy Night – February 29.

Legislative Update

Glasbrenner noted there is a lot being discussed this time of year and is listening and waiting to see what hits the governor’s desk.

Consent Agenda: Checks, Invoices, Receipts – January 2024; Open Session Meeting Minutes – January 11, 2024, Regular Meeting; January 29, 2024, Special Meeting

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

Consideration & Action on Resignations, if any

Iausly moved to approve the resignation of Kira Lynch, High School Math Teacher. Young seconded. Polled vote was 7-0 in the affirmative with 2 absent. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Hirings, if any

None.

Consideration & Action on Buildings and Grounds Committee Recommendations

As recommended by the Committee, Cates moved to approve service contracts with J&J Total Lawn Care for both lawn mowing and snow removal for July 2024-June 2027. Young seconded. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Committee, Cates moved to approve an Agricultural Land Lease with Dennis Gilbertson for January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024. Gauger seconded. Motion carried.

As part of 2023-2024 projects update, Sam Hughes from Reliable Floor Care was present to talk about a proposal for floor stripping and waxing services. Depending on services chosen, there were different levels of pricing in the bid. With the pending referendum vote, some areas will be put on hold until the outcome of the vote. The Committee will discuss this item at their next meeting.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Gifts, if any

Iausly moved to adopt the Resolutions Accepting Gifts as follows: 1/3 cost (up to \$2,000) from Athletic Boosters for new board and nameplates for honoring wrestlers; and \$375 from Spring Green Area Chamber of Commerce to Fund 21 for Operation Hygiene. Cates seconded. Polled vote was 7-0 in the affirmative with 2 absent. Motion carried.

Minich moved to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

Submitted by Paula Wedige for:

_____ Sara Carstensen, School District Clerk