

River Valley School District
Thursday, May 11, 2017
Regular Meeting
Middle School Library
7:00 p.m.

Present: Bettinger, Strozinsky, Nelson, Jennings, Young, Iausly, Cates, McGuire, Baylee Shifflet (student representative)

Absent: N/A

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

Others: Deb Miller, Jessica Knoble, Cathleen Withington, Linda Kettner, Cyndie Rasmussen, Bridget Roberts, Pat Christianson, Jean Alt, Lisa Horne, Sue Quale, Matt Snow, Doris Green (Home News), 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

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

Public Comments

Sue Quale and students involved in the middle school production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" invited Board members to the play and performed lines from the play. Quale, David Daniels, Holly Lochner, Tony Cavagnetto, and Lauren Walker were thanked for their work preparing for the play.

Quale shared a picture of the sculpture that was funded last year by a grant from the River Valley School District Endowment Fund and will be displayed at the middle school.

Wermuth recognized National Teacher Appreciation Week and noted that our district has exceptional and dedicated staff.

Lisa Horne asked about having all Board documents and handouts posted on the website with the agenda prior to the meeting and handouts for committee meetings.

Cathleen Withington expressed dissatisfaction with the amount of money the district spends on outside consultants for various studies.

Linda Kettner expressed concern with recent ads in the paper by the P.A.L.S. group.

Student Council Report

Darby Blakley was attending the Skills USA Banquet being held this same evening. Baylee Shifflet reported that Linda Kettner and Andrea Sullivan attended the awards ceremony for Lone Rock's Title I School of Recognition award. There are several end of year field trips planned. Student projects will be on display at Arena Community Elementary School, they will host a

Memorial Day service, and June 24 is the Taste of Arena fundraising event. Two high school students received awards for their artwork, the last high school band and choir concert for the year will be on May 15, FFA members competed at the state level, and financial literacy students scored in the top 100 in the nation. Baylee will be graduating and the Board thanked her for her service as the Board's student representative.

Update on Middle School Building Envelope Study

A representative from Affiliated Engineers was present to talk about the Middle School HVAC Study. The current system is 27 years old and the average life is 15 years. They are currently recording temperatures continuously. Preliminary findings show no real envelope issues, so problems seem to be with equipment and installation. The goal is to have the study done in June.

River Valley School District Endowment Fund Grants Awarded to Teachers

There were 4 teacher groups that received grants: \$800 to Erik Johnson and Shari Graffunder for a Conversation Field Trip; \$734 to Mike McDermott for RV Broadcast Studio; \$1,000 to Cindi Manske, Barb Ferguson, Lori Baryenbruch, Tera Hollfelder, Linda Kettner, and Michelle Weiss for RV Elementary STEM Camp; and \$1,000 to Jeff Johnson and Laura Stanton for Heart Zone Technology. The Endowment Fund also raised \$50,000 over the last year during a matching grant challenge period and an anonymous donor matched the donation with an additional \$50,000.

2017-18 Event Dates

Homecoming/School Fair – Friday, September 29, 2017; Prom – Saturday, April 21, 2018; Scholarship Awards Night – Wednesday, May 16, 2018; Baccalaureate – Sunday, May 20, 2018 (tentative–based on request by parents); Seniors Last Day – Thursday, May 24, 2018; and Graduation – Saturday, May 26, 2018.

Update on 2017-18 District Configuration Transition

Hegland noted that he met with staff of the Early Learning Center and will be meeting with elementary staff next week to establish building schedules and specials rotations. A picnic will be held on June 5 at the North Park for all elementary students. Hegland stated there is an individual classroom for each teacher and existing spaces were reorganized to meet the needs of specials. It was noted that K-5 enrollment is 115 less students than in 2006.

Board Reminders and Announcements

There is a Special Board Meeting on May 18. Several Board Members will hand out diplomas at graduation on May 27. The Board Member Recognition Dinner is on June 14. Nelson shared that UW River Falls Outstanding Senior Agriculture Student is Christopher Nelson. The Cates family is planning a RVSD Endowment fundraiser in memory of their son, Peter, which includes a 200 mile bike ride from Ashland to River Valley. The goal is \$10,000 with a 50% match by an anonymous donor.

Legislative Update

Significant changes to the federal budget make net cuts to education over \$1 billion. USDA announced postponing further sodium reduction in school lunches and allowing 1% flavored

milk and an exemption on replacing grain with whole grain. The DPI will be releasing a draft of the Every Student Succeeds Act.

Board Training Opportunities

There is a WASB webinar on June 14 featuring the division of powers between the annual meeting and other school board meetings and the WASB Summer Leadership Conference on July 14-15 in Green Bay.

Consent Agenda: Checks, Invoices, Receipts – April 2017; Open Session Meeting Minutes – April 20, 2017

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

Board Organizational Meeting

President - Young nominated Jennings. Iausly moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Jennings. Strozinsky seconded. Motion carried.

Vice President – Iausly nominated Bettinger. Strozinsky moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Bettinger. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

Clerk - Young nominated Nelson. Cates moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Nelson. Bettinger seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer - Nelson nominated Iausly. Strozinsky moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Iausly. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting Date, Time, and Place – Iausly moved to set the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle School Library for Regular Board meetings. Bettinger seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Roles and Responsibilities – There was discussion about redundancy since budgetary items are often discussed by multiple Board committees before coming to the full Board for an update by each committee and action by the full Board. There was a suggestion to combine the Employee Relations Committee with the Budget Committee and the desire to limit committee updates at the Board meeting level, unless action is needed. Administration will look at other districts and the structure and roles of their committees.

Consideration & Action on Annual Appointment of Legal Counsel

Bettinger moved to appoint Eileen Brownlee as Legal Counsel. Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Gifts

Strozinsky moved to adopt the Resolutions Accepting Gifts as follows, which are all for a new baseball scoreboard and safety covering for outfield fencing: Athletic Boosters - \$10,900; Plain Lions Club - \$1,150; Spring Green Lions Club - \$1,150; The Kraemer Company - \$1,000; Marty and Linda Kraemer - \$1,000; Kevin and Diane Kraemer - \$500; Tom and Soni Kraemer - \$500;

Kraemer Brothers - \$500; Bankers Life Trust, Jim Neider - \$500; Powell Petroleum, Rite-Way Plaza - \$250; Glenn and Pat Jewell - \$200; Gary and Jackie Nachreiner - \$100; Zwettler & Hutter, Jefferson Plaza - \$100; I-Diehl Tap - \$100; Country Crossroads Floral - \$100; River Valley Veterinary Clinic - \$50; and Bob and Joann Nachreiner - \$50.

Cates seconded. Roll call vote:

For the motion: Cates, Iausly, Jennings, McGuire, Nelson, Strozinsky, Young

Against the motion: N/A

Abstain: Bettinger

Absent: N/A

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

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Resignations, if any

None.

Consideration & Action on Hirings, if any

None.

Consideration & Action on 2017-18 Teacher Transfer

Cates moved to approve the transfer of Allison Testolin from High School English Teacher to High School Spanish Teacher. Young seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Policy Committee Recommendations

Cates moved to approve the second reading of the following policies: 341.2 Education for Employment (DELETE); 830-Exhibit – Facilities Use Request Form; 871 Handling Complaints About Instructional Materials; 871 Rule Procedures for the Reconsideration of Instructional Materials; 871 Exhibit Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials; 120 School District Legal Status; and 130 School Board Legal Status. Young seconded. Motion carried.

Strozinsky moved to approve the first reading of the following policies: 345.6 Repeating a Failed Course (Grades 6-8) (DELETE); 345.3 Promotion & Retention; 210 Administration Goals; and 222 Recruitment & Appointment of Administrators. Young seconded. Motion carried.

It was noted that language on the bottom of committee meeting notices has been revised to clarify that Board members who are not on the committee can attend and be part of the discussion but cannot vote.

Consideration & Action on Employee Relations Committee Recommendations

Young moved to approve the Employee Relations Committee recommendation to approve contracts for administrators as presented. Strozinsky seconded. Krey's job title will be changed to Director of Academic Services & Activities Director. Kjos's contract will increase from 210 days to 12 months. Motion carried.

Young moved to approve the Employee Relations Committee recommendation to continue health insurance with the current carrier for 2017-18 with a 2% renewal increase. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

Iausly moved to approve the Employee Relations Committee recommendation on language changes in the All Staff Employee Handbook. Young seconded. The full handbook for 2017-18 will be approved at the June Board meeting. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Budget Committee Recommendations

Nelson moved to approve the Budget Committee recommendation to proceed with a telephone system upgrade. Iausly seconded. Payment for the upgrade would come from TEACH grant monies of \$50,000 and \$25,000 from fund balance. Motion carried.

Bettinger moved to approve the Budget Committee recommendation to increase the 2017-18 per lunch cost by \$.05 at all levels. Young seconded. Motion carried.

Strozinsky moved to approve the Budget Committee recommendation to approve the Business Manager transition plan for 2017-18 and related compensation. Bettinger seconded. The positions of 1.0 FTE Assistant Business Manager/HR Director, 0.5 FTE Payroll/District Data Coordinator, 0.5 FTE 1-Year Limited Term Secretary, and 0.6 FTE Business Manager net an addition of .10 FTE staff, but the total salary to cover these positions will be less than the current total. Motion carried.

Cates moved to approve the Budget Committee recommendation to approve the scope change for the Energy Efficiency Exemption projects. Strozinsky seconded. The bids for the projects came in 40% higher than anticipated so we will change the scope to save costs. Bettinger would like to see the chiller project completed. Novak thinks the chiller could be bid out separately. Motion carried.

Iausly moved to give direction to administration to pursue chiller project options outside the Energy Efficiency Exemption program. Strozinsky seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action to Adjourn to Closed Session Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(f) for the purpose of considering a request for admission to the district by a student expelled elsewhere and to consider establishing conditions for any such admission

Iausly moved to adjourn to closed session at 9:25 p.m. pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(f) for the purpose of considering a request for admission to the district by a student expelled elsewhere and to consider establishing conditions for any such admission. Cates seconded. Polled vote was 8-0 in the affirmative. Motion carried.

Submitted by Paula Wedige for:



Deborah Nelson, School District Clerk