

River Valley School District
Thursday, May 12, 2022
Regular Meeting
Middle School Library
7:00 p.m.

Present: Nelson, Jennings, Iausly, Bettinger, Young, Carstensen, Kate Hanson (student rep)
Absent: Cates, Maier, Minich
Admin: Glasbrenner, Krey, Blakley, Radtke
Others: Michelle Orcutt, Zoe Whaley, Jennifer Moore-Kerr, Kasey Maxwell, 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. Young moved to proceed with the legal meeting. Carstensen seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Approval of Agenda

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

Public Comments

None.

Student Council Report

Kate Hanson gave an update on student happenings. There was an elementary music concert and the middle school Shakespeare Group, assisted by David Daniel from APT, is preparing to perform “Hamlet” at the Gard Theater. At the high school, 85 business students participated in the “Get Real” event at Richland Center. Grace McDuggal won Best of Show at a regional art show and will display her work at the state competition. The student council raised \$2,000 for a district 4th grader with PAN disease. The high school musical “Newsies” won several Jerry Awards: Outstanding Lead Performer-Nicholas Daniel; Outstanding Lead Performer-Isaac Daniel; Outstanding Youth Performer-Dave Van Hallgren; Spirit Award-Nicholas Daniel; and Outstanding Overall Production. They will perform a portion of the show at the awards ceremony.

River Valley School District Endowment Fund Grants Awarded

The Endowment Board awarded grants to the following teachers: Climate Team - Choose Kind Initiative \$2,000 RVMS - Dan Machovec; LMC Outdoor Design: Pergola and Landscaping \$3,000 RVHS - Dede Holverson and TJ Wunnicke; New Age Fitness for All \$807 RVMS - Laura Stanton and Jeff Johnson; Welcoming Schools Class Library \$593 RV Elem - Andrea Sullivan, Whitney Bindl, and Matt Kazimier; Elementary School Compost Tumbler \$200 RV Elem - Jennifer Moore-Kerr and Tera Hollfelder; Saving Nemo \$300 RV ELC - Michelle Weiss; and Newspaper Exploration and Writing \$750 RVMS - Lauren Walker.

2022-23 Event Dates

- Homecoming/School Fair – Friday, September 30, 2022
- Prom – Saturday, April 15, 2023 (*3rd Saturday in April*)
- Scholarship Awards Night – Wednesday, May 17, 2023
- Baccalaureate – Sunday, May 21, 2023 (*tentative–based on request by parents*)

- Seniors Last Day – Thursday, May 25, 2023
- Graduation – Saturday, May 27, 2023

Update on School District Operations from Administration

Krey noted that the stadium project is on schedule to be done for the fall sports season and there are many other summer projects. Blakley shared that the high school is preparing for graduation and scholarship night and student schedules are prepped for next year. Radtke noted the Forward Exam is finalized and 4th graders are coming to the middle school at the end of the month for transition time. At the elementary level, Mr. Ehlinger was thanked for the success of the music concert. It was noted that this was the first year for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade students to be involved in person at a music concert. Field trips are being planned.

Board Reminders, Announcements, and Training Opportunities

Jennings, Iausly, Young, Maier, and Carstensen have offered to hand out diplomas at graduation on Saturday, May 28, 2022.

President Jennings asked Board members to contact her if they have Board Committee preferences as they will be assigned at the June Board meeting.

Legislative Update

Glasbrenner gave an update on Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) federal funding and how it gets used in Wisconsin.

Consent Agenda: - Checks, Invoices, Receipts – April 2022; Open Session Meeting Minutes – April 14, 2022, Regular Meeting

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

Board Organizational Meeting

President – Carstensen nominated Jennings. Young moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Jennings as President. Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

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

Clerk – Young nominated Nelson. Carstensen moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Nelson as Clerk. Young seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer – Carstensen nominated Iausly. Young moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Iausly as Treasurer. Jennings seconded. Motion carried.

Iausly moved to set the regular Board meeting date, time, and place as the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Middle School Library. Carstensen seconded. Motion carried.

Young moved to appoint Eileen Brownlee, Boardman and Clark, as legal counsel. Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

Iausly moved to appoint Peoples Community Bank as depository of funds. Carstensen seconded. Motion carried.

Iausly moved to appoint Home News as news media. Carstensen seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Nomination of Candidate to Fill Vacancy on WASB Board of Directors - Region 10

Young nominated Jennings as a candidate to fill the WASB Board of Directors Region 10 vacancy until the fall regular election for this position. Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Revisions to Before and After School Program Handbook

Jennifer Moore-Kerr has revisions to the Before and After School Program Handbook. She gave a brief overview of the program, noting that she and her staff serve 45 different families with 55 children ages 4 to 10, although they are not all there together on the same days and at the same times. Her volunteers consist of 9 adults, 11 high school students, and 4 middle school students. The program is housed in the STEM room at the elementary, which is a shared space. Much of the time is spent outside on the playground, exploring, drawing, reading, and doing science activities. Snacks are prepared by students and served on real plates at a table with a centerpiece. Snack time is used as gathering time and kids are moved around to sit next to someone different each time. Manners and a cooperative effort are taught followed by clean up by all. Jennifer noted it is a home away from home, as some students are there before and after school. They are involved in reading to each other, free play, drawing, manipulatives, science, sensory activities, puzzles and games. The Board thanked Jennifer for her work.

Young moved to approve the changes to the Before and After School Program Handbook with an additional language change to state “*with the goal of* a 10 to 1 student teacher ratio.” Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on 2022-23 CESA #3 Contract

This item was postponed until next month.

Consideration & Action on 2021-22 Southwest Wisconsin Technical College Transcribed Credit Contract

This is an annual contract for the exchange of services. No payment is due. Bettinger moved to approve the 2021-22 contract. Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

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

This document must be approved by the Board, every six months until September 2023, and filed with the DPI in order to receive ESSER funds. Young moved to approve revisions to the November 2021 Plan, to match revisions that were made to our Instruction Model in March 2022. Bettinger seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Ratification of 2022-23 RVEST Agreement

Bettinger moved to approve the agreement for 2022-23 RVEST Agreement. Young seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Ratification of 2022-23 RVEA Agreement

Young moved to approve the agreement for 2022-23 RVEA Agreement. Carstensen seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Resignations, if any
None.

Consideration & Action on Retirements

Bettinger moved to approve the retirements of the following staff members: Phil Manske, High School Math Teacher; Kathy Rossing, 2nd Grade Teacher; Michele Radlinger, 2nd Grade Teacher; Kathy Harris, Math Interventionist; and Barb Ferguson, 3rd Grade Teacher. Carstensen seconded. Krey noted that they represent 153 years at River Valley. The Board and building principals wished them the best. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Hirings, if any

Young moved to approve the hiring of Jack Scully as a High School Science Teacher. Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resolution Authorizing 2022-23 Teacher Contract Renewals

Bettinger moved to adopt the Resolution Authorizing 2022-23 Teacher Contract Renewals. Young seconded. Polled vote was 6-0 in the affirmative with 3 absent. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Policy Committee Recommendations

There were no recommended changes to Policy 728 Wearing Masks and Face Coverings.

As recommended by the Committee, Iausly moved to approve the second reading of the following policies: 661 Depository of Funds; 661.1 Authorized Signatures; 663 Cash in School Buildings; 664 Petty Cash Fund; 666 Safety Deposit Box; 671.2 ~~Tax Annuities~~ Payroll Deductions; 673 Payment Procedures; 681 Financial Reports and Statements; 682 Audits; 443 Rule 2 ~~Staff Use of Physical Force/Corporal Punishment, Seclusion, and Restraint~~ Appropriate Use of Seclusion and Physical Restraint; 151.3 Administration in Policy Absence; 171.2 Agenda Preparation and Dissemination; 173 ~~Executive~~ Closed Sessions; 183 Board Member Attendance and Voting Method; Temporary Policy for Board Member Attendance and Voting Method During the Emergency Order; 187 Public Participation at Board Meetings; and 190 Recognitions for Accomplishment. Carstensen seconded. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Committee, Iausly moved to approve the first reading of the following policies: 343 Instructional Arrangements; 344 Adult Education; 221 Recruitment and Appointment of District Administrator; 223.1 Administrator Evaluation; 225 District Administrator Evaluation; 332 Parent Rights and the Curriculum; 341.1 Reading Instruction; 342.3 Programs for Children-at-Risk; 343.1 ~~Lesson~~ Curricular Plans; 345.1 Grading Systems; 351 Summer School Programs; 362.1 Interlibrary Loan of Materials; and 363 Guidance and Counseling Programs. Young seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Curriculum and Instruction Committee Recommendations

As recommended by the Committee, Iausly moved to approve the 2022-23 school calendar changes. Bettinger seconded. The changes reflect increased professional collaborative time for staff while keeping a 190-day teacher contract and meeting state statutes for instructional minutes requirements. Motion carried.

It was noted that required testing and the curriculum audit both showed a need for more time in middle school math and language arts. A modified block schedule is being recommended which will allow us to meet those needs and allow time for students to ask teachers any homework

questions while still at school. A modified block schedule is being recommended so students will have each class each day, versus a full block schedule where they attend each class every other day.

One of two science teacher vacancies at the high school will not be filled to allow the addition of a math teacher at the middle school without increasing district staff. Also, current staff will be reassigned some middle school language arts duties. The change to a modified block schedule will limit some exploratory classes at the middle school but there will still be plenty of options available to students. As recommended by the Committee, Iausly moved to approve a modified block schedule at the middle school starting in 2022-23. Young seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Budget/ERC Committee Recommendations

As recommended by the Committee, Young moved to approve the “Grow Your Own Contract” request from Michelle Kraemer. Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Committee, Young moved to approve a wage increase of 4.7% for 2022-23 for administrators. Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Committee, Iausly moved to approve the substitute pay schedule rate increases for 2022-23. Young seconded. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Committee, Iausly moved to approve the 2022-23 WI School Nutrition Purchasing Cooperative Agreement. Young seconded. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Committee, Iausly moved to approve the meal price rates increases for 2022-23. Young seconded. Motion carried.

Bettinger noted that the February 2022 Enrollment Projections Report completed by the UW-Madison Applied Population Laboratory shows a loss of about 100 students over the next 4 years, for a total projected enrollment of about 1,000. The River Valley area is aging in place, with the 50-and-older age population moving to our area.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Gifts, if any

Bettinger moved to adopt the Resolutions Accepting Gifts as follows: \$1,500 Petro-Oil, Inc. (\$500 towards high school math and science; \$500 towards middle school math and science; \$500 towards elementary school math and science); \$300 Plain Fire and EMS Celebration Fund to River Valley Skills USA; telescope valued at \$1,100 from Jim Geishirt to High School Science Department; and \$3,000 from the Athletic Booster Club for Trace Video System for Boys and Girls Soccer. Cartensten seconded. Polled vote was 6-0 in the affirmative with 3 absent. Motion carried.

Iausly moved to adopt the Resolution Accepting Gifts for the Stadium Upgrade Project as follows: \$100 Dustin, Kristen, Maizey, and Myles Strobush; \$500 Jim and Karen Krey; \$1,364 (for materials for the press box) Jeff, Jennifer, Josh and Jayla Maier; \$400 Feiner Enterprises; \$250 Bassett Mechanical; \$50 Flint Enerson; and \$100 Dave, Katie, Jared and Rachel Erb. Carstensen seconded. Polled vote was 6-0 in the affirmative with 3 absent. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action to Adjourn to Closed Session Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(f) for Discussion of Request for Use of Reimbursable Leave Sharing Program

Iausly moved to adjourn to closed session at 8:18 pm pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(f) for Discussion of Request for Use of Reimbursable Leave Sharing Program. Carstensen seconded. Polled vote was 5-1 in the affirmative with Bettinger against the motion and 3 absent. Motion carried.

The Board reconvened in open session at 8:33 p.m.

Consideration & Action on Request for Use of Reimbursable Leave Sharing Program

Iausly moved to approve 40 hours of leave from the reimbursable leave sharing program for Emily Liegel. Young seconded. Roll call vote:

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

Polled vote was 3-3 in the affirmative with 3 absent. Motion failed.

Iausly moved to approve 10 days of leave from the reimbursable leave sharing program for Alisha Johnson. Young seconded. Roll call vote:

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

Polled vote was 1-5 in the affirmative with 3 absent. Motion failed.

Iausly moved to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Young seconded. Motion carried.

Submitted by Paula Wedige for:

_____ Deborah Nelson, School District Clerk