

River Valley School District  
Thursday, June 8, 2023  
Regular Meeting  
Middle School Library  
7:00 p.m.

Present: Gauger, Minich, Iausly, Young, Carstensen, Cates, Jennings

Absent: Bettinger, Maier

Admin: Glasbrenner, Krey, Radtke, Blakley, Peterson

Others: Julie Case, Eric Cates, Mark Roffers, Kevin Eipperle, Kyle Kraemer, Brittiney Belche, Shawn Duren, Judy Ettenhoffer (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.

Minich moved to proceed with the legal meeting. Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

#### Consideration & Action on Approval of Agenda

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

#### Public Comments

None.

#### 2022-23 School Health Services Annual Report

Brittiney Belche, School Nurse, summarized the annual report. We have 2 nurses and 1 full time assistant and Dr. Furukawa is our medical advisor. There was an increase in office visits over the last couple of years. The nurses also educate staff on health conditions and interventions and train secretaries to help with medication administration. They assist on day field trips and overnight field trips. Referrals are made out as needed and they coordinated with Bridging Brighter Smiles to assist students to get dental care. Jennifer Smith will be replacing School Nurse Jordyn Wendhausen who is resigning to teach at Southwest Tech.

#### Update on Facilities Study

Kevin Eipperle, FEH Design, and Kyle Kraemer, Kraemer Company, presented the results of the recent community survey regarding facilities. There were nearly 500 responses with 74% support for closing the Early Learning Center in Plain and 59% support for a referendum of \$15 million or more with 24% that do not support a tax increase of any kind. We will need to decide the scope of initial steps and long-term goals with the Facilities Core Committee meeting again in July.

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

Peterson reviewed the end of semester reports. We focused on grade level goals, but will look at a growth goal in the future to assess students that we want to catch up. Learning was interrupted by COVID and that is evident in results showing delays for those kids who were just starting reading at that time.

#### Summary of 2022-23 Annual District Goals Attainment

Glasbrenner noted that goals were set for climate (every student should be able to name a trusted adult) and academic progress (there was a focus on teacher training). He noted that the biggest disparity at River Valley is poverty. There are academic and climate teams at each building.

At the elementary level, Peterson noted a focus on small group instruction. To reach the climate goal, we identified students who didn't feel a connection to a trusted adult and programs were set up to do check-ins and more. By the end of the year, there was an increase in kids who felt connection. "Families" were built with one student each from 1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> grade, with one adult as their family leader with monthly family activities.

At the middle school, there was a focus on small group instruction and staff were teamed up with students that didn't feel connection with a focus on kindness, assemblies, team-building and games with staff and kids. There is time on Fridays during Blackhawk period for social emotional learning with kids, including video clips and discussions on topics such as bullying.

At the high school, there was a focus on small group instruction and posting objectives in the classroom and the use of block scheduling. Blackhawk period is used as study hall. There was some work with freshman to get off to a good start with test habits and study skills. There was a focus on students who didn't feel connected and fun events were planned at school, such as games, movies, puzzles, and activities to increase social emotional learning. Mentorship with new staff will move from a one-on-one approach to a team approach. Results of a staff survey will be shared at the July Board meeting. When staff was asked if their daily work contributed to district goals, most responded that it did.

#### Summary of 2023-24 Open Enrollment Applications

There are applications for 13 new students IN and 17 new students OUT. The trend has been that numbers OUT have decreased.

#### 2023-24 Event Dates

Homecoming/School Fair – Friday, October 6, 2023; Prom – Saturday, April 20, 2024 (*3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in April*); Scholarship Awards Night – Wednesday, May 15, 2024; Last Day for ALL STUDENTS – Thursday, May 23, 2024; and Graduation – Saturday, May 25, 2024

#### Update on School District Operations from Administration

The high school is offering summer school credit recovery. Numbers have decreased so that is a positive.

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

Jennings noted that this is the last Board meeting before Krey resigns from his position of Business Manager and moves to another district. Jennings recalled her first impression of Krey when he came to his interview with a brochure, complete with a Table of Contents and summary. He went the extra mile during his interview and has made a great impression every day at work. Krey was thanked for his service, with all wishing him well and noting it was a pleasure working with him. Krey noted it has been a privilege to be hired at River Valley a second time and noted he worked with a fantastic team of administrators and district office staff.

Young noted that our high school *Momma Mia!* cast will be performing at the Jerry Awards on Sunday at the Overture Center.

#### Legislative Update

Governor Evers and GOP leaders have come to a budget decision with a \$325 per pupil increase in the revenue limit. Some language is concerning pertaining to testing, retention, and literacy with legislators, and not educators, making decisions.

Consent Agenda: - Checks, Invoices, Receipts – May 2023; Open Session Meeting Minutes – May 11, 2023, Regular Meeting and May 15, 2023, Special Meeting

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

Consideration & Action on 2023-28 Strategic Plan

Mark Roffers of MDRoffers Consulting was present and noted the full plan and the summary page are ready for consideration and adoption. There were a few minor edits suggested and the Board complimented Roffers on his work in the process. Cates moved to approve the 2023-28 Strategic Plan. Minich seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Appointment of Medical Advisor for 2023-24

As recommended by the school nurses, Iausly moved to appoint Dr. Furukawa as our medical advisor for 2023-24. Young seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on 2023-24 Board Committee Assignments

President Jennings recommended that Gauger replace Nelson on Policy, Gauger replace Minich on Budget/ERC, and Minich replace Nelson on Curriculum and Instruction with Jennings replacing Minich as alternate. Buildings and Grounds will remain the same. Jennings noted that if an alternate attends a meeting, he/she can be paid to attend. Young moved to accept the committee assignments for 2023-24. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Evaluation of Bi-Annual Safety Drills at Each School Building

Young moved to approve the bi-annual safety drills at all 4 buildings. Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on 2023-24 Staffing Changes, if any

Young moved to approve increasing Nicole Bailey from 80% to 100% Occupational Therapist. Minich seconded. Upland Hills no longer provides us with OT services starting next year, so the increase in hours for Nicole will be paid with the decrease in expenses paid to Upland Hills. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Retirements, if any

None.

Consideration & Action on Resignations, if any

Iausly moved to approve the resignations of Brian Krey, Business Manager, and Emily Miller, Elementary Special Education Teacher. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Timeline/Process and Select Screening Committee for Business Manager Vacancy

Young moved to approve the timeline and hiring process for the Business Manager vacancy. Gauger seconded. Two panels—one of Board members and other of staff—will be part of the screening and interviewing of candidates. To date, 4 candidates have applied and 2 more have expressed interest. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Hirings, if any

Young moved to approve the hiring of Jennifer Smith as a School Nurse. Minich seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on 2023-24 Before and After School Program Handbook

Minich moved to approve the 2023-24 Before and After School Program Handbook. Young seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on 2023-24 All Staff Employee Handbook

Young moved to approve the 2023-24 All Staff Employee Handbook. Gauger seconded. Each revision has already been approved separately at prior meetings but this action approves the finalized handbook, which will be sent to all staff. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Policy Committee Recommendations

As recommended by the Policy Committee, Iausly moved to approve the second reading of the following policies: (NEW) 834.1 Certified Therapy Animals; 751.4 Use of ~~Cameras or Recording Devices~~ **Video Surveillance or Electronic Monitoring** on School Buses or other Authorized Vehicles; (NEW) 734 Video Surveillance and Electronic Monitoring; and 751.3 Rule Bus Rules and Regulations Discipline Procedures. Young seconded. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Policy Committee, Cates moved to approve the first reading of the following policies: 431 Student Attendance; 431 Rule Student Attendance **and Truancy** Guidelines; 443.2 Student Conduct on School Buses; 422.1 Foreign Exchange Students; 763 Healthy Kids ~~Initiative~~ Policy (Wellness Policy); 851 Advertising, ~~in the Schools~~ **Sponsorships, and Commercial Activities** (Including RVTV); 851 Exhibit RVTV Advertising Contract; 330 Curriculum Development; 332 Parent Rights and the Curriculum; 333 Curriculum Evaluation; 361 Selection of Instructional Materials; 361 Rule Selection Guidelines; 362 Library Media Centers; 871 Handling Complaints About Instructional Materials; 871 Rule Procedures for the Reconsideration of Instructional Materials; 871 Exhibit Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials; 872 Administrative Procedures for the Investigation of Complaints Against School Personnel; 872 Exhibit Complaint Concerning School Personnel or School; and the deletion of 656 Sponsorships and 656 Rule Sponsorships. Minich seconded. Motion carried.

Cates moved to approve the (NEW) Library Services Plan. Gauger seconded. As referenced in Policy 362 Library Media Centers, this plan will be reviewed every 5 years. Motion carried.

Iausly moved to approve the (NEW) Bus Handbook. Young seconded. All students will be asked to sign the plan during registration in case they might ride the bus during the year. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Gifts, if any

Iausly moved to adopt the Resolutions Accepting Gifts as follows: \$636.27 donation from Sauk County Forage Council to FFA; \$42.90 donation from Jessica Knoble's remaining school lunch balance to Fund 21 for families in need; and a 2012 Chevrolet Cruze valued at \$5,000 from Kevin Nachreiner to the High School Auto Program. Young seconded. Roll call vote was 7-0 in the affirmative with 2 absent. Motion carried.

Iausly moved to approve \$5,000 each from the following for a new VideoBoard at the High School: Kraemer Brothers, LLC; The Peoples Community Bank; J&J Total Lawn Care, LLC; Cardinal Glass Industries, Inc.; O'Reilly Auto Parts; and The Royal Bank. Minich seconded. The business names will be displayed for 5 years on the bottom, top, and sides of the Videoboard. Roll call vote was 7-0 in the affirmative with 2 absent. Motion carried.

Iausly moved to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. Minich seconded. Motion carried.

Submitted by Paula Wedige for:

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