

River Valley School District
Thursday, July 8, 2021
Regular Meeting
Middle School Library
7:00 p.m.

Present: Nelson, Jennings, Young, Minich, Maier, Cates, Bettinger, Carstensen, Iausly (arrived 7:01 p.m.)

Absent: N/A

Admin: Glasbrenner, Krey, Radtke, Peterson

Others: Dan Machovec, Michelle Orcutt, Julie Kuhse (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. Maier moved to proceed with the legal meeting. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Approval of Agenda

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

Public Comments

None.

2021-22 Annual District Goals

Glasbrenner presented the 3-5 year district strategic plan structure and the annual district goal setting of mission, academics, climate, and administrative team. Glasbrenner will be attending a data retreat at CESA 3 to review local and state academic data after COVID.

Update on School District Operations from Administration

Glasbrenner reported for Blakley that 38 students successfully completed summer school for credit recovery.

Radtke reported that 35-37 students attended summer school on a consistent basis. The middle school student schedules for 2021-22 in are progress and plans are being finalized for the Middle School Open House in August for parents and students. The middle school window replacement project started this week.

Peterson reported that nearly 100 students attended summer school. The elementary window replacement project is in progress. Peterson noted there are staff changes so interviews are being conducted. They are working on a new multi-level RTI system and that information will be coming in the future.

Board Reminders, Announcements, and Training Opportunities

Jennings recognized the heartbreak and tragedy with the drowning of Parker Kruse, a 2018 graduate. Jennings extended thoughts and prayers on behalf of the Board to family and friends of Parker.

Legislative Update

Krey reported on the state budget that was passed today. Our revenue limit is not increasing, resulting in no additional dollars per pupil from last year. The revenue limit is made up of state aid and property taxes. The budget puts additional education money in state aid, while not giving us any more money, and lessens the burden on taxpayers and lowers the mill rate. Additional money is coming in the state aid formula, not in additional revenue. Krey will have estimates by the August Board meeting.

Consent Agenda: - Checks, Invoices, Receipts – June 2021; Open Session Meeting Minutes – June 10, 2021, Regular Meeting

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

Consideration & Action on Academic Standards Notice

Young moved to approve the annual required notice for Academic Standards Notice as follows: “The River Valley School District follows the Wisconsin Academic Standards as adopted by the State of Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction as an outline of base expectations. The related accountability and testing is conformed to as appropriate to be in compliance with all state and federal laws. Where appropriate, classroom materials have been aligned to research and standards. These academic standards serve as an outline of base expectations, which are exceeded in almost all areas of school offerings.” Cates seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Academic and Career Planning (ACP) Document Approval

Maier moved to approve the Academic and Career Planning Document. Minich seconded. Motion carried. This document is approved on an annual basis.

Consideration & Action on Annual Meeting Date – Monday, October 25, 2021 – 7:00 pm

Cates moved to approve the annual meeting date of October 25, 2021. Maier seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Special Meeting Date – Monday, October 25, 2021– immediately following annual meeting

Iausly moved to approve a special meeting on October 25, 2021, following the annual meeting. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Resignations

Young moved to adopt the Resolution Accepting Resignation of Cynthia Eby, Food Service Director. Iausly seconded. Polled vote was 9-0 in the affirmative. Motion carried.

Iausly moved to adopt the Resolution Accepting Resignation of Sam Slezewski, Elementary Art Teacher. Cates seconded. Polled vote was 9-0 in the affirmative. Motion carried.

Young moved to adopt the Resolution Accepting Resignation of Heather Obsershaw, Grade 1 Teacher. Maier seconded. Polled vote was 9-0 in the affirmative. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Hirings, if any

Carstensen moved to approve the hiring of Jaime Hisel as Food Service Director, Kari Evenson as Elementary Special Education Teacher, and Kaitlin Bril as Middle School Art Teacher. Young seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on 2021-22 Handbooks

Bettinger moved to approve the following 2021-22 handbooks: Elementary Student, Middle School Student, High School Student, Special Education, At Risk, Athletic Code, Activities Code, Coaches, Crisis Plan, and Before and After School Program. Minich seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on 2020-21 Restraint and Seclusion Report

Cates moved to approved the 2020-21 Restraint and Seclusion Report. Maier seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Curriculum and Instruction Committee Recommendations

Young reported on the first meeting of the Curriculum and Instruction Committee as the newly elected Committee chairperson. They discussed the curriculum audit report, professional development, educational equity, and an update on technology. No action or recommendation from this meeting.

Consideration & Action on Budget/ERC Committee Recommendations

Bettinger reported as the elected Budget/ERC Committee Chairperson. The Committee discussed the state budget with a financial forecast update for the next meeting. The Committee discussed ESSER Funds with no action updates. The athletic complex (draining issues, track resurfacing, football field, soccer field) was discussed at length and the Committee recommended moving forward with fundraising with the district committing to \$750,000 of matching funds to the stadium project. Bettinger recommended reaching out to the River Valley Athletic Boosters for support.

Krey notes the cost to just replace the current facilities would be approximately \$900,000. Increasing to \$1.5 million would provide a surface that is dependable and better utilized by several organizations. A fundraising brochure with frequently asked questions is in rough draft. District contribution portion is part of the operating budget and not taken from other areas. The goal is to work with CESA 10 on the bid process by December 2021 or January 2022 with late spring construction. Maier will be the contact with businesses and organizations and report any offers of financial assistance.

Jennings moved to approve fundraising to begin for the athletic complex with matching funds from the district of \$750,000. Young seconded. Motion carried.

Iausly reported on the Committee's discussion of district support of broadband grants available to communities. Reedsburg Utility will be providing Internet fiber access to the majority of the River Valley District in the next 5-6 years. This will include areas in Sauk County, Buena Vista, and Town of Wyoming. Portions of Arena, Clyde, and Avoca will not be covered. RV Commons group is assisting communities with the grant process. Grant funding score improves with in-kind funding from private donations, businesses, and the school district. The pledge would be a modest amount of a few thousand dollars. Discussion was held on possible district or Endowment contributions in the process and the number of students affected. Additional information will be presented at the August meeting. No action taken.

Bettinger reported no action to be taken regarding late buses due to low interest.

Bettinger reported no changes to the 2021-2022 Food Service Prices for Milk, Breakfast, and Lunch programs.

The Committee recommends changes to the 2021-22 Employee Handbook regarding teaching load language, to allow for six assignments over two days to address block scheduling. Wording was also changed for hourly coverage for teachers to address block scheduling. Young moved to approve the Employee Handbook changes as presented. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

The Committee recommends the payment of \$818 for each of two prom advisors. Due to the COVID cancellation of the 2020 Junior Prom, there will be two proms in 2021-22—one for juniors and one for seniors. Cates moved to approve the payment of two prom advisors for the 2021-22 school year. Minich seconded. Motion carried.

The committee recommends 2021-22 School Calendar revisions for parent/teacher conferences. Currently the school calendar includes two full days (16 hours) for parent/teacher conferences. With more frequent communication with parents through Seesaw and Skyward, administration would like to use 8 of the 16 hours for after school teacher professional development. Maier moved to approve the 2021-22 School Calendar revisions with regard to parent/teacher conferences and professional learning. Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

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

Iausly moved to adjourn at 7:57 p.m. Maier seconded. Motion carried.

Submitted by Julie Kuhse for:

_____ Deborah Nelson, School District Clerk