

River Valley School District
Thursday, August 13, 2020
Regular Meeting
Middle School Library
7:00 pm

- The public was able to view this meeting live on our River Valley YouTube Channel.

- Anyone who attended the meeting in person was required to wear a mask and follow social distancing.

- Public comments were to be shared without attending this meeting in person by contacting Kathy Jennings, Board President, prior to the meeting at 608-588-4737 or at jennings.rvsb@rvschools.org.

Present: Strozinsky, Nelson, Jennings, Young, Cates, Maier, Iausly
Absent: McGuire, Bettinger
Admin: Glasbrenner, Krey, Radtke, Blakley, Peterson, Kjos, Hegland
Others: Shawn Duren, Janelle Sivam, Judy Ettenhoff (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. Maier seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Approval of Agenda

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

Public Comments

Per Jennings, no one from the public contacted her prior to the meeting with public comments. There were no public comments during the meeting.

CESA #3 Annual Meeting Report

Nelson and Glasbrenner attended via Zoom. The speaker mostly talked about CESA programs and elections for a few CESA 3 Board of Control vacancies. It was a short meeting compared to other years.

Update on School District Operations from Administration

Glasbrenner noted that a weekly “Frequently Asked Questions and Answers” document regarding reopening has been sent to families and posted on our website. He continues to work with Sauk County and area district administrators in planning for school and safety guidelines.

Peterson noted that at the elementary level, they held summer camp and were able to test out the new safety guidelines with those students in attendance. It went very well. She noted that districtwide, 80% of families are choosing to attend in person, and 20% as virtual. At the elementary level, virtual teaching will be done by three teachers and will not be live streamed like the middle and high schools. On Monday, they will be assigning in person class lists per homeroom. Each student/parent will attend an individual “meet and greet” with their respective teacher. A follow-up with summer camp teachers requested clarification of the exceptions that

allow times when masks can be off. In response to a Board member desire to see classes held outside, Peterson noted there were a number of summer camp lessons outside. Weather and technology are issues for outside learning.

Radtke stated that the middle school will be following block scheduling to minimize movement in hallways, with four longer class periods each day instead of 8, and with cleaning between classes. A survey of middle school staff showed they are in favor of block scheduling during COVID-19. It does require more work for the staff to prep for block scheduling, and we normally would spend a year preparing to move to block scheduling. He has been meeting with staff and reviewing safety measures and guidelines. There will be an open house on August 20 with 5th graders only, meeting as homeroom groups. There has been testing of virtual classroom set up at the last few staff meetings. There will be technical support for staff, as normal, in addition to high user staff helping others.

Blakley noted they will be following block scheduling at the high school with only four longer class periods each day and each class meeting twice a week. All students will attend virtually on Wednesdays, with all staff working in the building. Students will be assigned every other locker. Inservice training has been provided to high school staff. Classes will be recorded allowing students to go back to the recording, if needed, but this will only be available to kids in that class, not to the public.

We are encouraging students to stay with their choice of virtual or in-person learning for the first quarter before they consider making a change. Registration will drive class sizes. If we feel too many are in a classroom, we may move some of those students from a classroom into another area of the building and have them join virtually.

Hegland noted that the WIAA Board of Control will meet on August 14 to provide an update on fall sports guidelines. Right now, the start of contact sports is delayed until September 7. Other sports can start on August 17. Our conference is following these start dates right now. We are strict with our guidelines and are masking during contact sports with an added eye shield for football. There has been discussion about moving fall sports to spring. Hegland is not in favor of that model, while realizing extracurricular activities are not mandatory, but they are critical. Club sports might step up and may not have as many safety guidelines. In addition, this could move spring sports to the summer and coaches and players may not be available.

It was encouraged to safely find ways to get relief from masks for short periods of time.

Board Reminders, Announcements, and Training Opportunities

Deb Nelson shared that Duane Bark, past Middle School Principal, is in a coma, suffering from COVID-19. Thoughts are with the family.

Legislative Update

We are currently reviewing the COVID-19 District Flexibility Application, which offers approximately 65 DPI waivers of school board or school district requirements available to districts for the 2020-21 school year.

Consent Agenda: - Checks, Invoices, Receipts – July 2020; Open Session Meeting Minutes – July 9 Regular Meeting and July 22 Special Meeting

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

Consideration & Action on 2020-21 PSLO (Police School Liaison Officer) Services

Young moved to approve the 2020-21 PSLO Services Contract. Iausly seconded. The rate is the same as last year at \$18 per hour, when it was increased from \$16.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Resignations, if any

None.

Consideration & Action on Hirings, if any

Iausly moved to approve the hiring of Anne Howe as the Middle School Library Media Specialist. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Gifts, if any

Maier moved to adopt the Resolutions Accepting Gifts of the following: \$25 from Duane Meixelsperger, \$500 anonymous donation, and \$100 from Barbara Jenkin, all to Fund 21 for families in need; \$100 from Ralph and Joanne Patterman, \$30 from Henry and Judith Ferstl, \$100 from Jacqueline and Nicholas Luther, \$40 from Mary and James Captain, \$30 from Judith Symon Hanson, \$50 from Viola Richardson, \$150 from Robert and Janelle Elmer, \$25 from Kristin Stellberg-Deville, \$50 from John and Wendy Dunagan, \$250 from Renee Kreterfield and Robert McKinley, \$100 from Paul Zillgitt and Patrice Peltier, \$60 from Alan and Joan Ikeler, and \$100 from Barbara Baxter, all for school supplies; 130 face shields valued at \$130 from Cardinal IG to the district; 180 cloth masks valued at \$600 from Mask Warrior Group of Sauk County to the district; and school supplies valued at \$201 from Richland Area Retired Educators Association to the district. Strozinsky seconded. Polled vote was 7-0 in the affirmative with 2 absent. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Policy Committee Recommendations

As recommended by the Committee, Strozinsky moved to waive the first reading and approve the second reading of the new Policy 728 Wearing Masks and Face Coverings. Maier seconded. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Committee, Young moved to waive the first reading and approve the second reading of the Temporary Policy for Board Member Attendance and Voting Method During the Emergency Order. Cates seconded. Language was added that Board members must be in person for closed session and can't attend virtually. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Committee, Iausly moved to approve second reading of 161 Board Member Authority and 163 Board Member Development Opportunities. Strozinsky seconded. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Committee, Cates moved to waive the first reading and approve the second reading of 523 Communicable Diseases, 523 Rule Guidelines and Procedures Regarding Communicable Diseases, and 523 Exhibit Periods of Exclusion from School with Infectious Conditions. Strozinsky seconded. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Committee, Cates moved to waive the first reading and approve the second reading of the new Policy 411.3 Title IX Sexual Harassment Policy for Students and

Other Applicable Individuals and 511.2 Title IX Sexual Harassment Policy for Employees. Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Buildings & Grounds/School Forest Committee Recommendations

The Committee discussed Stormwater Drainage Plan for District, Update on Safety Initiatives in the District, DASHIR Management Services Report, and School Forest Sub-Committee Report, but no action was recommended by the Committee. We continue to prepare facilities for the start of school. Mike Nelson of DASHIR noted that River Valley facilities are the most prepared of districts he has observed.

Consideration & Action on Budget/ERC Committee Recommendations

As recommended by the Budget/ERC Committee, Iausly moved to temporarily exceed the fund balance percentage of 30% as stated in Policy 665 General Fund Balance during the 2020-21 school year. Cates seconded. The general fund budget anticipated a surplus of \$153,031. The actual surplus was \$715,314. The reason for the higher than anticipated surplus is due to a combination of less expenditures than budgeted and increased revenues than anticipated with school closures due to COVID-19. The largest decrease in expenditures was a savings in transportation expenses. Also, federal aid was provided for breakfast and lunch delivered to family households, which resulted in a surplus in the food service fund. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Budget/ERC Committee, Young moved to approve a budget of \$8,000 for 2020-21 for communication and marketing projects. Maier seconded. This motion varies from a prior recommendation from the Technology Committee to the Budget/ERC Committee to approve a contract position. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Budget/ERC Committee, Iausly moved to approve changes to the All Staff Employee Handbook to cap staff absence at 10% of staff per building on the same day, unless medical concerns warrant or if pre-approved through administration. Maier seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on 2020-21 All Staff Employee Handbook

Maier moved to approve the 2020-21 All Staff Employee Handbook. Strozinsky seconded. Motion carried.

Strozinsky moved to adjourn at 8:36 p.m. Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

Submitted by Paula Wedige for:

_____ Deborah Nelson, School District Clerk