

River Valley School District
Thursday, September 12, 2019
Regular Meeting
Middle School Library
7:00 p.m.

Present: Nelson, Jennings, Young, Bettinger, McGuire, Maier, Iausly, Rachel Erb (Student Representative)
Absent: Cates, Strozinsky
Admin: Andres, Krey, Peterson, Kjos, Radtke, Blakley, Hegland
Others: Kasey Maxwell, Patrick Hagen, 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. Young seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comments

None.

Student Council Report

Rachel Erb reported that the high school has been using vegetables from the school garden for lunches, auditions are upcoming for the musical "*The Addams Family*," and the FFA participated in cleaning up the Iowa Country fairgrounds in preparation for the fair. There are 33 new students at the middle school this year which is up 23 from last year. At the Early Learning Center, PreK students will visit a farm on October 15 to see animals and to get wagon rides and pumpkins.

Summary of August/September Community Meetings

Andres noted that he took a back stage tour of APT with Board member Sara Young and will be inviting Michael Broh, APT Production Manager, to be a speaker at our Education 2020 Forum in November to pursue further connections between our students and APT.

Andres and respective Board members have been attending village board and community meetings to solicit feedback and make connections with people from all of our communities. Meetings have been held in Lone Rock, Arena, and Plain and there is an upcoming meeting with the Spring Green Village Board. Future meetings will include the Plain Lions Club and more time with the Arena Village Board.

Board Member WASB Member Recognition Program

Sara Young reached Level 1 of the program which recognizes Board members for participating in WASB professional development activities.

Board Reminders, Announcements, and Training Opportunities

Please let Paula Wedige know if you are planning to attend the January WASB convention. Krey, Jennings, Nelson and Young plan to attend.

Reminder to notify Jennings and Wedige if you cannot attend a Board or committee meeting to avoid not having a quorum at a meeting.

Krey noted that this year's recipients of the WASB Business Honor Roll Awards are Ederer's Do It Best Hardware Store, Tri County Building Supply, J & J Total Lawn Care, Greenway Manor, and Pamela's Fine Jewelry. They will be recognized at the homecoming football game on October 4.

Andres asked Board members to confirm attendance for the November 5 Education 2020 Forum. So far, Bettinger, Young, and Strozinsky cannot attend. There will be 50 to 60 people invited to the forum with the goal of discussing workforce needs in the future and how that impacts our students' education.

Legislative Update

It was noted that the Policy Committee will need to engage in discussion about possession of CBD products on school premises. State law addressing medication does not apply to CBD products, unless they are on a medically approved list. Lamers Bus Service needs to follow required drug/alcohol testing for those with a commercial driver's license. Immigration laws may impact the eligibility of free/reduced meals for students without a visa. It was noted that Senator Marklein was instrumental in working on bills for sparsity aid. However, River Valley does not qualify for this aid due to our enrollment.

Consent Agenda: - Checks, Invoices, Receipts – August 2019; Open Session Meeting Minutes – August 8, 2019

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

Consideration & Action on Baseball Team Trip to Florida

Hegland has been approached by a parent group requesting that the baseball team take 16 players and travel to Florida to play games during Spring Break. No school would be missed and there would be no cost to the district. It was noted that the softball team has done this in the past.

Young moved to approve a baseball team trip to Florida at no cost to the district. McGuire seconded. With the varsity baseball coach position currently vacant, Young asked about school representatives as chaperones since the team would be representing River Valley and would be under our policies and code. Hegland hopes to hire a new coach within the next month and noted other River Valley baseball coaching staff would be going.

Young moved to amend the motion to approve a baseball team trip to Florida at no cost to the district, contingent on the approval of the new baseball coach when hired. McGuire seconded the amended motion. Motion carried with Jennings opposed.

Consideration & Action on 2019-20 Madison Area Technical College Dual Credit Contract

Bettinger moved to approve the 2019-20 Madison Area Technical College Dual Credit Contract. Maier seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Staff Transfer(s) for 2019-20, if any

None.

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

Consideration & Action on Budget/ERC Committee Recommendations

The Committee elected Bettinger as chairperson. It was noted that the 2018-19 budget ended up almost right on budget with a net gain of \$118,702 instead of the projected net loss of \$226,000. The 2019-20 budget has not been officially set yet but we will see some additional revenue. Without the passage of the referendum, the budget deficit would have been \$700,000 for 2019-20 and \$1.8 million for 2020-21. With referendum dollars, the projected surplus is \$176,659 and \$645,379.

After discussing a recommendation from the School Forest/Buildings and Ground Committee to fund a portion of lighting for the soccer field, the Budget/ERC Committee did not take action and will hold this item for further evaluation and discussion.

There are 31 kids registered for the Before and After School Program, either in the morning, after school, or both. The parent handbook was revised to allow online payment and to allow staff members to utilize the program for their children, even if they aren't enrolled in our schools. As recommended by the Budget/ERC Committee, Young moved to approve the handbook revisions. Maier seconded. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Budget/ERC Committee, Young moved to approve a new 1.0 FTE special education assistant and a .4 FTE nurse. Maier seconded. Motion carried.

Andres outlined a plan and timeline for the district administrator search process. The plan does not include hiring an outside firm, but includes posting the vacancy for the month of October on WECAN and with WASB and WASDA. The process involves several people involved on the screening and interview committees with final interviews by the full Board. The timeline ends with a contract offer in January. Andres wants the person hired to have a heart for kids and integrity, along with the necessary skills. As recommended by the Budget/ERC Committee, Iausly moved to approve the process to hire a new district administrator as presented by Andres. Bettinger seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Hirings, if any

Bettinger moved to approve the hiring of Laura Anderson as the .4 FTE School Nurse. Maier seconded. Anderson was a recent substitute nurse in the district. Motion carried.

Maier moved to approve the hiring of Steve Stettler as the Alternative Education Teacher. Bettinger seconded. Stettler has been a substitute teacher in the district, has coached various teams in the past, and currently coaches cross country in our district. Motion carried.

Young moved to approve the hiring of Muriel Kloth as a High School Special Education Teacher. Maier seconded. Kloth used to work in the district as the Deaf/Hard of Hearing Specialist. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Gifts

Maier moved to adopt the Resolution Accepting Gifts as follows: \$200 to Fund 21 for school supplies for families in need from Renee Kreterfield and Robert McKinley; \$100 to Fund 21 for

school supplies for families in need from Jennifer Kraemer; 4 sets of cross country ski packages valued at \$400 total to the high school phy. ed. department from Mick and Julie Showen; \$500 to the high school volleyball team from David and Jody Miller; from the Booster Club, \$450 for Hudl for wrestling, \$1,599 for Hudl for football, \$1,099 for Hudl for volleyball, and \$750 for half the cost of the Spring Green municipal pool rent for swimming; and \$750 from James and Christopher Kardatzke to A.P. Stats. Bettinger seconded. Polled vote was 7-0 in the affirmative with 2 absent. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Technology Committee Recommendations

There was no quorum at the last meeting so no action was taken. The Committee discussed Chromebook damage from last year and status for new school year, network and hardware upgrades, and new cell phone policy at the high school.

Consideration & Action on Policy Committee Recommendations

As recommended by the Policy Committee, Jennings moved to approve the second reading of 524.4 Staff Contact/Relationships with Students, 525 Staff Sales and Solicitations, 526 Personnel Records, 531 Professional Staff Positions, and 532 Professional Staff Contracts. Iausly seconded. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Policy Committee, Jennings moved to approve the first reading of 130.1 Student Representation to the Board. Young seconded. Motion carried.

Iausly moved to adjourn at 8:02 pm. Maier seconded. Motion carried.

Submitted by Paula Wedige for:

_____ Deborah Nelson, School District Clerk