

River Valley School District
Thursday, September 14, 2023
Regular Meeting
Middle School Library
7:00 p.m.

Present: Gauger, Minich, Young, Jennings, Iausly, Carstensen, Cates, Leah Drachenberg (Student Representative)

Absent: Bettinger, Maier

Admin: Glasbrenner, Peterson, Radtke, Moore, Knoll

Others: Jaime Hisel, Jess Hisel, Shawn Duren, Linda Schwanke (Home News), Paula Wedige (Administrative Assistant)

President Jennings opened the meeting. Jennings 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. Gauger seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Approval of Agenda

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

Public Comments

Jaime Hisel, Food Service Director, and Jess Hisel were present. Jaime had a prior discussion with Glasbrenner about families with insufficient funds for food service payments. She doesn't want to tell a child that they can't eat school meals due to no money in their account. Jess suggested a fundraising effort. Jennings noted that the district is trying to figure out a solution instead of not feeding a child due to insufficient funds. This discussion will be a part of the October 2 Policy Committee meeting. Jess asked if some of the questions he sent could be answered and Glasbrenner noted he will take them to the Policy Committee.

Student Council Report

Leah Drachenberg, Student Council President, was present and thanked the Board for allowing a student representative on the Board. She noted that Caleb Drachenberg is Vice President and will also be a Board student representative. The student council will have a fundraising booth at the school fair and will sell friendship bracelets and cotton candy and offer a "ping pong fishbowl" game.

At the elementary school, the Before and After School Program is nearly full. Drachenberg noted she volunteers in this program along with some retired teachers. It was noted that 2nd graders will be taking three walking field trips in September. An October trip is planned to see a play at Richland Center High School. At the middle school, students in 8th grade English class will be going to see Merry Wives of Windsor at APT and the week of September 18 will feature daily events regarding kindness.

At the high school, auditions for the high school musical were held and rehearsal will start on September 18. High school art students will be participating in an upcoming art show in Madison and Delaney Johnson was voted as Editor in Chief for the high school yearbook. Preparations are ongoing for homecoming week. Drachenberg noted that high school students have a complaint regarding Chromebooks taking too long to reboot when they are shut down. Glasbrenner will talk to Leah and our Network Administrator.

Update on Facilities Study and CORE Planning Committee

FEH Design was present at both the September 11 Budget/ERC Committee and Facilities meetings. Upon review of the possibility of closing the school at Plain and bringing those students to the Spring Green campus, the amount of necessary structural changes and reconstruction in our buildings could be less by utilizing the following class placements in our schools: PreK-1st at the elementary, 2nd-6th at the middle school, and 7th-12th at the high school. There could be separate entrances or wings if we move 7th and 8th grade students to the high school. All specialty classrooms for middle and high school students would be at the high school building so the tech ed wing at the middle school could be made into classrooms. There would be a need for another gym if we move out of the ELC in Plain.

Update on School District Operations from Administration

Claire Knoll is our new Pupil Services Director. Knoll noted there are unique situations already this fall for supporting our special needs students. She is meeting with staff in each building, including school counselors, and working on the integration of nursing services. We are working with a new provider from Waunakee for counseling referrals. She and Scott Moore recently attended Title IX training with Glasbrenner. She noted that we will be utilizing outside resources for school psych services starting next week and training is being planned for instructional assistants on how to work with special needs kids and legalities.

Scott Moore is our new Business Manager. He has been working on and submitting required state reports and will get equalization aid information on October 13. He will attend an upcoming conference for new Business Managers and has been assigned a mentor through the Wisconsin Association of School Business Officials (WASBO). He has been taking advantage of getting to buildings for opportunities to interact with students.

The high school has been administering new diagnostic testing and has been planning for homecoming week. The middle school has been involved with their open house, assemblies, staff training, and academic and climate teams. I-Ready assessments are being done and they are analyzing exam scores by department and comparing to state averages.

At the elementary, I-Ready exams are being administered for the second year and the Before and After School Program is running well. Students are encouraged to follow three recess rules—be kind, be safe, have fun. Ms. Berry and Mr. Mani were thanked for the recent phy ed biking unit for 4th grade students. Planning is taking place for the Blackhawk Bolt fundraiser which raises money to fund elementary field trip costs. Glasbrenner noted that the early August school start date seemed to flow easily.

Board Reminders, Announcements, and Training Opportunities

Jennings welcomed Scott Moore as our new Business Manager and Claire Knoll as our new Pupil Services Director.

Legislative Update

Glasbrenner noted that there is a State Superintendent's Reading Advisory Council, a diverse group of Wisconsin community members committed to strengthening literacy learning in Wisconsin's schools and supporting and implementing 2023 Wisconsin Act 20.

Consent Agenda: - Checks, Invoices, Receipts – August 2023; Open Session Meeting Minutes – August 10, 2023, Regular Meeting and August 15, 2023, Special Meeting

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

Consideration & Action on Hiring of Pupil Services Director

Young moved to approve the hiring of Claire Knoll as Pupil Services Director. Gauger seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on 2023-24 Teacher Transfers

Iausly moved to approve the transfer of Marissa Anderson 1st Grade Teacher to 2nd Grade Teacher based on class size/enrollment. Minich seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resignations, if any

None.

Consideration & Action on Hirings, if any

None.

Consideration & Action on 2023-24 Crisis Plan

Iausly moved to approve the 2023-24 Crisis Plan. Gauger seconded. Hegland may bring changes after upcoming training is complete. Motion carried.

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

Cates moved to approve the updated “Safe Return to In-School Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan.” Iausly seconded. September 2023 is the last time we are required to file this plan, which was tied to ESSER III funds. Glasbrenner asked for public feedback from the audience, but there was none. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Adoption of 10 Records Retention Schedules, as Indicated by the Wisconsin Public Records Board

Cates moved to adopt 10 records retention schedules that were separated from the Wisconsin School District Records Schedule, which is now a new version unique to school districts. Minich seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Policy Committee Recommendations

As recommended by the Policy Committee, Young moved to approve the second reading of the following policies: 836 Exhibit Animals in the School Request; 722.3 School Closings; 454.2 ~~Snowmobile~~ **Recreational** Vehicle Use by Students; 454.1 Student Automobile Use; 833 Use of Recreational Vehicles on School Property; and the following related to removing specific contact names in Nondiscrimination and Title IX statement: 363 Guidance and Counseling Program; 411 Nondiscrimination/Equal Education Opportunities; 411 Rule Student Nondiscrimination Complaint Procedures; 411.1 Bullying/Harassment; 411.2 Student Harassment; 411.3 Title IX: Sexual Harassment Policy for Students and Other Applicable Individuals; 420 School Admissions; 443 Student Discipline; 443.1 Student Dress Code; 460 Student Scholarships; 511 Equal Opportunity Employment; 511 Rule Employee Nondiscrimination Complaint Procedures; 511.2 Title IX: Sexual Harassment Policy for Employees; 524.3 Harassment; 524.3 Rule Procedure for Handling Harassment Complaints; 743

Acceptable Use of Networked Computers, Electronic Mail, and Internet Safety Policy; and 760 Food Service Management. Gauger seconded. Motion carried.

As recommended by the Policy Committee, Iausly moved to approve the first reading of the following policies: 420 Rule Procedures for Entry/Reentry Into the Public School System From Other Public Schools, Private Schools and Home-Based Private Educational Program; (NEW) 524.5 Staff Social Media Use; 830 Rule Facilities Use Regulations; 831 Public Conduct on School Property; and 832 Tobacco and Electronic Smoking Devices Possession and/or Use on School Premises. Young seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Curriculum and Instruction Committee Recommendations

The Committee met and reviewed the 2023-24 assignments outlined in the curriculum and instruction renewal process, the gifted and talented handbook, and district goals, but there were no recommendations for Board action.

Consideration & Action on 2023-24 Annual District Goals

Minich moved to approve the annual district goals. Gauger seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Budget/ERC Committee Recommendations

The Committee held two meetings since the last Board meeting. There was much discussion about a potential referendum and facilities design options, ADA requirements, and the possible closure of the school building in Plain and relocating those students to the Spring Green campus. Other discussion included looking at employee salary comparables and 2024-25 calendar options to start prior to September 1, if approved by the DPI.

As recommended by the Committee, Cates moved to contract with DotCom Therapy for virtual therapy services for the 2023-24 school year in the absence of a replacement for our School Psychologist vacancy. Young seconded. Motion carried.

As recommend by the Committee, Young moved to approve an addition to the Activities Salary Schedule to include a new Social Media Coordinator to be paid at 4% of the activities schedule base amount. Gauger seconded. Trisha Larson has acquired this role. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Gifts, if any

Iausly moved to adopt the Resolutions Accepting Gifts of \$100 from Gary and Barb Voss for student supplies and \$200 from Martine Banda-Wolk and Stephen Wolk for school supplies. Minich seconded. Polled vote was 7-0 in the affirmative with 2 absent. Motion carried.

Iausly moved to approve \$5,000 from Doerre Hardware, Inc. for a new VideoBoard at the High School. Minich seconded. We now have 10 donors and will need to view the VideoBoard when it arrives to see if we can have more than 10 logos displayed. The business names will be displayed for 5 years on the bottom, top, and sides of the VideoBoard. Polled vote was 7-0 in the affirmative with 2 absent. Motion carried.

Minich moved to adjourn at 8:02 pm. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

Submitted by Paula Wedige for:

_____ Sara Carstensen, School District Clerk