

River Ridge School District Board Meeting Summary
Press Release
Thursday, August 11, 2016

The River Ridge Board of Education conducted a regular school board meeting on Thursday, August 11, 2016. The meeting was held in the ES/MS/HS Multi-Purpose Room located at 11165 County Hwy P, P.O. Box 78, Patch Grove, WI. The following business was conducted:

I. Call to Order

Board President Ken Nies called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

II. Roll Call

The following board members were in attendance at this meeting: Dave Breuer, Jason Cathman, Cory Moravits, Cory Raisbeck, and Kerri Schier. (Emilie Mumm was absent.) Also present were: Superintendent Dr. Jeff Athey, Business Manager Kevin Kocer, Principal Clay Koenig, Maintenance Director Troy Marshall, and members of the public.

III. The Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

IV. Statement of Public Notice

Cory Moravits said a notice of tonight's meeting had been done at 3:00 pm on August 8, 2016. Jason Cathman made the motion to recognize that the meeting notice for this board meeting was properly posted in a timely manner. Kerri Schier seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote.

V. Appearances

Nelda Krogman had signed up to address the school board at this time. She asked questions/expressed her opinions on these subjects:

- When was the meeting notice changed from Wednesday, August 10th to Thursday, August 11th?
- Why is there a need to go to referendum after the district just finished spending \$1.5 million to get both school buildings up to code?
- Since there are already four gymnasiums in the district, why is there a need for one more?
- What is the mill rate for our school district? (We are already high.)
- Why do we count "driving" to/from Bloomington as an "expenditure"?
- Why can't the 7th and 8th graders be brought back down to Bloomington?
- How will taxpayers be able to afford paying for putting all the students into one site?
- How much does it cost to do a referendum?

Board President Ken Nies said there will be listening sessions this fall when answers to these questions can be given.

VI. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from July 21, 2016

It was pointed out that there were a couple of typos in the July 21, 2016 regular board meeting minutes. Dave Breuer moved to accept the minutes of the regular board meeting from July 21, 2016 with the typos corrected. Jason Cathman seconded. The motion carried on a voice vote.

VII. Reports

A. Finance – Kevin Kocer

i. Kevin Kocer reviewed the financial statements, receipts, and expenditures from the past month. Kerri Schier moved to accept the financial report as presented. Cory Moravits seconded. The motion carried 6 - 0.

ii. Declare Surplus Computers

Kevin Kocer said our technology support vendor, Dependable Solutions, provided us with a list of computers that are 5 or more years old and of no further use to us that could be sold off as “surplus”. The list contains 44 desktop computers and 25 laptop computers (a total of 69 machines). Cory Raisbeck moved that the computers first be offered for sale to district residents at \$25.00 per machine and that any machines not sold to district citizens be sold to the highest bidder. Jason Cathman seconded. The motion carried on a voice vote.

B. Buildings and Grounds Committee Report – Ken Nies, Committee Chair

K. Nies summarized the Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting discussion held earlier today. He talked about the Maintenance Director’s report of what projects have been accomplished since the July Building and Grounds Committee Meeting.

K. Nies said that he, Troy Marshall, Dr. Athey, Clay Koenig, Wade Winkers, and Kevin Kocer had met with John Kneer (Rettler Corporation, Stevens Point, WI) on July 28th to discuss athletic complex needs at Patch Grove. Rettler Corporation submitted cost projections in the amount of \$2.8 million and was then asked to scale the project down to approximately \$1.2 million.

McKinstry has until August 12 to submit their dollar amounts for the academic project (4 new classrooms, 2nd gym, elevator, remodeling of two existing areas, and energy efficiencies) for the high school and elementary wings of the existing EL School. McKinstry is asking that the district enter into a Pre-Referendum contract in the amount of \$27,800 to re-coup the expense for work that McKinstry and McGowen Architects have already put into project planning.

- C. Policy/Curriculum Committee Report – Kerri Schier, Committee Chair, reported on the August 4th meeting.
- i. 445.3 Student Suspensions/Expulsions – 1st reading of revised policy
The Committee recommended giving Administration the option of suspending students for up to 5 days (v. the current maximum of 3 days). The Committee also recommended replacing the last sentence under “Expulsion” with “All student expulsions, including those involving students with disabilities, shall follow all statutory procedures and requirements.”
Cory Moravits said that as a board member, he would like to be informed any time police, fire, or ambulance is at either of the schools. He said he doesn’t need to know the details of why public safety officers were at the school but, he would like to be able to tell community members that he is aware of the occurrence and that administration is handling it. Dave Breuer moved to table the first reading of the revised policy while the committee takes a look at incorporating C. Raisbeck’s request. Cory Raisbeck seconded this motion. Motion carried on a voice vote.
 - ii. 441.1 Search Policy – 1st reading of reviewed policy
Kerri reported that the Committee recommends no substantive changes to the existing policy. Cory Raisbeck moved to approve the first reading of the reviewed policy. Cory Moravits seconded the motion. Motion carried on a voice vote.
 - iii. 347 Student Records – 1st reading of revised policy
The Committee recommended a revision to the third page of this policy due to 2015 Wisconsin Act 161 which added a new exception to confidentiality related to disclosure of student records. Cory Moravits moved to accept the revised 347 Student Records policy for a first reading. Dave Breuer seconded. Motion carried on a voice vote.

VIII. Old Business

A. Long-range Plan Discussion

- i. Approve financial advisory agreement with Wisconsin Public Finance Professionals, LLC; Carol Wirth, President.

In order to move forward with a proposed referendum in November, Kevin Kocer recommended that the board approve a financial advisory agreement with Wisconsin Public Finance Professionals, LLC; Carol Wirth, President for a fee of \$5,500. Kerri Schier moved to enter into the agreement. Cory Moravits seconded. The motion passed on a 5-1 roll call

vote with Cathman, Moravits, Nies, Raisbeck, and Schier voting “Yes” and Dave Breuer voting “No”. The motion carried.

ii. Approve agreement with McKinstry, Essention, LLC for Pre-Referendum Services

Sean Currie (McKinstry) was present to explain the proposed pre-referendum agreement from McKinstry and answer questions. Sean mentioned that McKinstry and McGowan Architects have put in a lot of work and time to help the RRSD get to this point in time in preparing for a November referendum. Ken Nies asked S. Currie whether RRSD would own the conceptual architectural drawings if we signed the agreement and paid the \$27,800 fee. Sean said he would need to consult with Trenton Smith.

Jason Cathman moved to table the matter until the August 18 Special Board meeting. Cory Moravits seconded. The motion carried on a voice vote.

iii. Scheduling of Special Board Meeting (s) for facilities options discussion

K. Nies requested that the Board schedule two special board meetings. One on August 18 to allow Rettler Corporation and McKinstry to present project plans and costs. And, another on August 25 to address the resolutions necessary to place referendum questions on the November, 2016 ballot. Cory Moravits moved that a special board meeting be held beginning at 6:00 pm on August 18 to address the above-mentioned business. Jason Cathman seconded. The motion carried on a 5-1 roll call vote with Breuer, Cathman, Moravits, Nies, and Schier voting “Yes” Raisbeck voting “No”.

Jason Cathman moved to hold a special board meeting on August 25th to address the above-mentioned resolutions. Cory Moravits seconded. The motion carried on a 6-0 roll call vote.

IX. New Business

A. Appointment of Board Salary Citizens Advisory Committee

Historically, the RRSD Board has asked a citizen committee of three non-board members to bring a board compensation recommendation to the district’s annual meeting. Our current policy says that a standing Board Salary Citizens Advisory Committee shall be appointed by the Board in preparation for the district’s annual meeting in October. The Superintendent recommended that the board either appoint a Board Salary Citizens Advisory Committee, or direct him to do so. Jason Cathman moved to have the Superintendent pick the Board

Salary Citizens Advisory Committee to ready a recommendation for the annual meeting. Cory Moravits seconded. The motion carried on voice vote.

B. Hiring of 7/8 Volleyball Coach, Kelly Copsey

The Board approved Administration's recommendation to hire Kelly Copsey as the new 7/8 grade volleyball coach.

Appearances

Nelda Krogman addressed the school board for the second time at this juncture of the meeting:

- What is included in the athletic complex recommendation for the Patch Grove site for around \$1.2 million?
- What is entailed in the pre-referendum agreement with McKinstry for \$27,800?
- Where are board/board committee meeting agendas posted?
- Where can I find out mill rate information for the RRSD?

Crystal Kovacks asked whether the district could send an announcement to parents over the SDS system on days when a lock-down has been held at school. She said it would be helpful if it is done prior to the end of the school day.

Nick Kovacks asked whether any consideration has been given to co-opting with other districts for athletic facilities.

X. Information

A. Upcoming Meeting Schedule

In addition to special board meeting being held at 6:00 pm on August 18th and 25th, these meetings are also scheduled:

- i. Technology Committee – Sept. 6, 2016 – 7:15 am
- ii. Policy/Curriculum Committee – Sept. 7, 2016 – 5:15 pm
- iii. Staff/Employee Relations Committee – Sept. 7, 2016 – 6:00 pm
- iv. Buildings and Grounds Committee – Sept. 13, 2016 – 5:00 pm
- v. Regular Board Meeting – Sept. 13, 2016 – 6:00 pm

B. Board of Education Member Suggestions and Recommendations for Future Items

Superintendent Athey asked if the Staff/Employee Relations Committee could meet between now and the Sept. 13 board meeting to discuss videotaping board/committee meetings as it pertains to policies and costs. (The Staff/Employee Relations Committee is the committee which was charged with reviewing Communications/Community Relations Task Force recommendations – including a recommendation to make videos of Board meetings available on

the district website.) The Staff and Employee Relations Committee agreed to meet Sept. 7, 2016 at 6:00 pm.

There were no other suggestions or recommendations for future items.

XI. Convene into Closed Session Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85 (1) (c)

- A. Employee Performance Evaluation - Cory Raisbeck moved that the Board convene into closed session for the purpose of discussing the performance evaluation of the Superintendent/Elementary Principal. Jason Cathman seconded. The motion carried on a voice vote. The Board convened in closed session in the Superintendent's office at approximately 7:17 pm.

XII. Re-convene in Open Session

At 8:05 pm, Dave Breuer moved to re-convene into open session. Cory Raisbeck seconded. The motion carried on a voice vote.

XIII. Action, if any, required to be taken in open session on closed session matters

After re-locating back to the Multi-Purpose Room, Board President Ken Nies said the closed session had to do with the performance evaluation of the Superintendent/Elementary Principal. He said the Board is planning to hold a closed session during the September meeting for board members to discuss the performance evaluation of the Superintendent/Elementary Principal. In October, the Board will meet with Dr. Athey in closed session to share their collective evaluation of the Superintendent/Elementary Principal.

XIV. Adjournment

Cory Raisbeck moved to adjourn. Jason Cathman seconded. The motion carried on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.