

River Ridge school District
Press Release
Thursday, March 17, 2016

The River Ridge Board of Education held its March school board meeting on Thursday, March 17, 2016. The meeting was held in the multi-purpose Room of the Patch Grove School located at 11165 County Highway P.

- I. Board President, Dave Breuer, called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.
 - II. All members of the school board were present when the roll was called.
 - III. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
 - IV. Emilie Mumm stated that the meeting notice for this meeting was properly posted in a timely manner on March 11, 2016 at Noon.
 - V. Under "Appearances," no one had signed up to speak to the Board in the public comments section.
 - VI. Minutes of the February 10, 2016 regular board meeting were approved.
 - VII. **Announcement:** Clay Koenig, High School Principal, spoke to the Board about the Title 1 School of Recognition Award that the River Ridge District received on Monday, March 14th. He and Deb Trautsch attended the gala held at the Monroe Terrace and State Capitol. River Ridge was one of 169 schools in the state to be recognized as a Title I School of Recognition for grades 7 -12. This was based on reading and math scores. River Ridge has demonstrated "High Progress." Clay presented a recognition plaque that was awarded to the district.
- VIII. **Reports**
- A. Student Activities - Austin Morrow reported that:**
 - Eight students will be attending the State FBLA competition on April 11th and 12th in LaCrosse. (Tina Dilley is the advisor).
 - "Career Day" is April 15th.
 - A mock car crash will be staged April 19th prior to Prom
 - River Ridge will participate in Reality Check on April 20th
 - Prom is April 23rd
 - March is Youth Art Month. Mrs. Mergen, her student teacher, and students have been busy with art activities in the schools (i.e., painting paw prints in the locker rooms).
 - B. Buildings & Grounds/Finance (BGF) Committee**

Trenton Smith McKinstry) presented a construction update:

 - McKinstry/Westphal Electric hope to complete the project in the next three weeks.
 - Inspection of the project will be done once the fire walls are complete.
 - Insulation will be added to the Patch Grove School attic after the Romex wire has been cleaned out HVAC upgrades are now complete. McKinstry will continue to monitor the units in Bloomington to make sure all the parts are working properly.
 - Balancing at both sites is now complete. (Troy Marshall has forwarded a 44 page report to the Board/Administration on this).
 - Three state inspectors will be in the RRSD at 10:00 am March 29 to inspect the progress made on correcting code violations since their last visit.

Buildings & Grounds/Finance (BGF) Committee (Cont.)

- The cabinet heater in the Guidance Counselor's Office at Bloomington has been replaced.
- Work is being done to the front entrance of the school in Bloomington. The drop ceiling was pulled out and Rick Traxler did electrical work. The next step is to insulate it and put in a fire barrier.
- The overall project will come in under budget.

Troy Marshall presented a maintenance update:

- A hot water heater in the UE kitchen that has not been working for 6 years will be taken out.
- Custodians are readying our outdoor equipment for mowing season.
- RRSD is getting bids for the fire alarm system to enable it to dial out to 911 should there be a fire.
- Repair work was completed on the UE boiler in December to fix a leak. PBBS (Madison) did the repair at a cost of \$10,603.

The BGF Committee presented the following recommendation:

- A mailing to district boxholders to report on progress made since August 2015 in addressing the building project violations. On a 4 to 3 vote, the Board approved a motion "that the Clerk condense information given to the Board from McKinstry/Troy Marshall to do a mailing to all box holders in the district on what has been done since work began last August. This is to done immediately."

Financials - Carol Harris presented a report to the Board on the past month's financial statements, receipts, and expenditures. The Board approved the report.

Insurance Premium Holiday - The Board approved a recommendation by Carol Harris to declare an insurance premium holiday for April, 2016. The motion passed on a roll call vote with Randy Martin abstaining.

Adjusted Roof Repair Bid - The Board approved a revised roof repair bid with Allen Roofing at a project cost of \$44,250 to begin March 21, 2016 and be completed no later than June 15, 2016.

C. Policy and Curriculum Committee:

The Board approved a 2nd reading of the following policies:

- 112.1 Strategic Planning
- 453.5 and 453.51 Head Lice
- 411 Equal Educational Opportunity
- 133 Filling Board Vacancies

The Board approved a first reading of the following policies:

- 333 Parent Rights in Relation to District Programs/Activities and Student Privacy
- 443.4 Student Alcohol and Other Drug Use
- 522.1 Alcohol and Drug-Free Workplace

OLD BUSINESS: Development of Long Range Plan for RRSD

The Board approved a motion to refer goals and recommendations from the community input on long-range planning to the appropriate RRSD board committees, effective after the May, 2016 Board re-organization.

NEW BUSINESS

Stand-up Desk Project - Rita Trautsch (4th grade teacher) and Shawn Chatfield (3rd grade teacher) reported on efforts to raise money for stand-up desks and stools for their classrooms. They spoke about the behavioral, educational, and health benefits of stand-up desks. Each desk and stool costs about \$450. Shawn's goal is to get donations for 3 stand-up desks; Rita's goal is for 5 stand-up desks and 4 stools. Rita shared that as of yesterday, her project has been fully funded and she has the cash to get a 5th stool. The Board thanked them for their presentation.

2017 Graduation Date

The Board approved Administration's recommendation to designate Friday, May 26, 2017 as graduation day.

Approval of Youth Options Applications

The Board approved two Youth Option applications received from RRSD students for fall of 2016.

Hiring's

The Board approved the hire of Kevin Kocer as RRSD Business Manager. Mr. Kocer is currently business manager for the Scotland School District in South Dakota; a position he has held for the past five years. Mr. Kocer will begin his work at RRSD on June 1, 2016.

The Board approved Administration's recommendation to hire Troy Marshall as boys' varsity baseball coach.

INFORMATION

Upcoming Meeting Schedule...

- Staff and Employee Relations Committee Meeting – March 21 – 3:30 pm.
- Policy /Curriculum Committee Meeting – April 6, 2016 – 5:15 pm
- Buildings & Grounds/Finance Committee Meeting – March 29, 2016 9:00 am (Special Meeting); and April 13, 2016 – 5:00 p.m.
- Regular Board Meeting – April 13, 2016 – 6:00 pm

Board of Education Member Suggestions and Recommendations for Future Items: None

Adjournment – the meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm