

RIVER RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
PRESS RELEASE
Tuesday, September 13, 2016

The River Ridge Board of Education held a regular school board meeting Tuesday, September 13, 2016. The meeting was held in the ES/MS/HS Multi-purpose Room located at 11165 County Highway P, Patch Grove, WI. The following items were addressed:

- I. Call to Order – School Board President Ken Nies called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- II. Roll Call – Board members present: Jason Cathman, Cory Moravits, Emilie Mumm, Ken Nies, Cory Raisbeck, and Kerri Schier. Absent: Dave Breuer. Others Present: Superintendent Dr. Jeff Athey, Business Manager Kevin Kocer, 5-12 Principal Clay Koenig, Special Education Director Trudy DeSimons, Maintenance Director Troy Marshall, and members of the public.
- III. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- IV. Statement of Public Notice – Clerk Cory Moravits reported that the notice of meeting was given at 3:00 p.m. on September 9, 2016. A motion was made by Cathman to accept that the meeting was properly posted. The motion was seconded by Schier and carried by voice vote.
- V. Appearances – No one had signed up to address the Board at this time.
- VI. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes for August 11, 2016 – Raisbeck moved to approve. Cathman seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.
- VII. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes for August 18, 2016 – Schier moved to approve. Moravits seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.
- VIII. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes for August 25, 2016 – Cathman moved to approve. Schier seconded. Motion carried by voice vote.
- IX. Reports
 - A. Finance Report – Business Manager Kevin Kocer presented a report of the financial statements, receipts and expenditures for the month. Motion by Schier and second by Cathman to accept the report as presented. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 6 to 0. Board members said they appreciated the summary/highlights sheet prepared by the Business Manager. Raisbeck urged moving to electronic copies of board materials. Business Manager Kocer indicated that the financial report is available on the district’s website under “School Board News”. Hard copies of the report can also be reviewed at the district office, or members of the public can receive a hard copy for the cost of photocopies.
 - B. Buildings and Grounds Committee Report – Committee chair K. Nies reported on the Committee’s Sept. 13 meeting which consisted of project updates from the District’s Maintenance Director (see minutes of Buildings and Grounds meeting). E. Mumm

asked whether the sound system at the football field will be in working order for homecoming. T. Marshall replied in the affirmative.

- C. Staff and Employee Relations Committee Report – Committee chair J. Cathman reported on the Committee’s Wednesday, Sept. 7 meeting. He said the Committee discussed options and costs related to posting board meeting videos on the school’s website. The Committee recommends that the RRSD Policy Committee bring a videotaping policy to the Board before taping additional board meetings. (A policy reviewed by the Staff and Employee Relations Committee will be referred to the Policy Committee.) The Committee recommends Administration ask website vendor, EduVision, whether it will allow RRSD to have an extended trial to determine whether the board videos are being viewed at a rate which warrants continued on-line placement of board meeting videos. Dr. Athey noted that equipment purchased for videotaping of board meetings is and will be used for functions other than board meetings. Schier moved to table action on videotaping of board meetings until a policy on videotaping is considered by the Board. Moravits seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote.

- D. Policy and Curriculum Committee Report – Committee chair K. Schier reported that the Committee met on Wed., September 7. She brought the following items to the Board for action:
 - i. 720 Safety Program – first reading of revised policy. The recommended revision to this policy notes that Administration will provide a general notice to board members whenever emergency service personnel (law enforcement, fire, or EMS) have been on school grounds. Motion by Moravits to approve the first reading. Second by Raisbeck. Motion carried by voice vote.

 - ii. 445.3 (renumbered 447.3) Student Suspensions/Expulsions – first reading of revised policy to change the number of days Administration can suspend from three days to five. And, to include language that “all student expulsions, including those involving students with disabilities, shall follow all statutory procedures and requirements”. Motion by Cathman to approve. Second by Schier. The motion carried by voice vote.

 - iii. 441.1 (renumbered 446) Search Policy – The Board approved a second reading of a revision to this policy, adding a paragraph to comply with a new Wisconsin statute. Motion by Schier. Second by Moravits. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

 - iv. Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on Board Compensation – Dr. Athey reported that the Ad Hoc Committee met on August 31, 2016 to discuss the committee’s charge, review the state statute on board compensation, and review current RRSD board compensation against comparables in the Six Rivers Conference. A recommendation from the ad hoc committee will be brought to the Annual District meeting in October.

X. Old Business

- A. Long-range Plan Discussion – Three different contractors made presentations to the Board and answered questions about what they could provide to the River Ridge School District if the District’s November, 2016 referendum passes.
- i. McKinstry (Madison, WI) – Trenton Smith, Sean Currie, Jim Miller and Patrick McGowan presented to the Board from 6:30 to 7 pm.
 - ii. Epic Construction (Kieler, WI) - Brad Bierman presented to the Board from 7:00 to 7:30 pm.
 - iii. Kraemer Brothers (Plain, WI) - Greg Callin and Kyle Kraemer presented to the Board from 7:30 to 8:00 pm.
- B. Contractor Selection – The Board discussed the information they had heard from the three different contractors and deliberated to decide which of the three would be the best fit for the RRSB projects outlined in the November, 2016 referendum.

Raisbeck moved to retain McKinstry. The motion was seconded by Mumm. The motion failed on roll call vote of 2 yes and 4 no with Mumm and Raisbeck voting yes. Cathman, Moravits, Nies and Schier voted no.

Schier moved to retain Kraemer Brothers. The motion was seconded by Moravits. The motion passed on a roll call vote of 4 yes and 2 no with Cathman, Moravits, Nies and Schier voting yes. Mumm and Raisbeck voted no.

Public Information Session(s) – Board Chair Ken Nies asked board members for their preferences on getting word to district residents about the upcoming referendum. Examples: what information needs to be shared, how many public information sessions to hold, where, when, who should be in attendance. Following discussion the Board agreed to hold one public information session on either Oct. 12 or Oct. 19. The Board also favored a mailing to district residents highlighting information that would be shared at the public information session. Raisbeck moved to hold a public information session on the upcoming referendum on Wednesday, October 12 at 6:30 pm pending the availability of Carol Wirth and representatives of Kraemer Brothers. Cathman seconded. The motion carried on a voice vote.

The Board said they would like to schedule a special board meeting prior to an October 12 or 19 public information session for the purpose of discussing the cost impact of the referendum. Administration was directed to identify a date/time for the special board meeting.

XI. New Business

- A. Establish date/time for the district’s annual meeting and budget hearing – Business Manager Kevin Kocer recommended that the Board set the Annual District Meeting for Wednesday, October 26, 2016 at 7:00 pm. Moravits moved to accept the recommendation. Cathman seconded. The motion carried on a voice vote.

- B. Snow Removal Bid Opening – Kevin Kocer reported that two snow removal bids were received prior to the submission deadline. Bids were received from Top Notch Construction and Design (Patch Grove, WI) and from Nathan Hird (Wauzeka, WI). The bids were opened and the specifics read to the Board. Moravits moved to offer the snow removal contract to Top Notch. Schier seconded. The motion carried 5 to 0 with 1 abstention. Moravits, Mumm, Nies, Raisbeck and Schier voted yes. Cathman abstained.
 - C. Intergovernmental Agreement with Mineral Point School District for Alternative Education Services – Special Education Director Trudy DeSimons explained that Administration is asking for Board approval of an agreement between RRSD and the Mineral Point School District for Mineral Point to provide alternative education services to two RRSD students. The IEP process for these students (individualized education plan) indicates the Mineral Point program is the best alternative for these students. Following board member questions and discussion, Moravits moved to accept Administration’s recommendation. Nies seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote of 6 to 0. K. Schier asked Administration to determine whether RRSD’s 2016/17 contract with CESA #3 includes alternative education services.
- XII. Appearances – No one spoke during this segment of the meeting.
- XIII. Information
- A. Upcoming Meeting Schedule
 - i. Technology Committee – October 4, 2016 at 7:15 AM
 - ii. Policy/Curriculum Committee –October 5, 2016 at 5:15 PM
 - iii. Building & Grounds – No meeting in October
 - iv. Public Information Meeting Regarding Referendum – October 12, 2016 at 6:30 PM
 - v. Regular Board Meeting – October 26, 2016 at 6:00 PM
 - vi. Annual District Meeting – October 26, 2016 at 7:00 PM
- XIV. Board of Education Member Suggestions and Recommendations for Future Items
- A. Cory Moravits requested that Administration provide an update on the ratio of handheld computers to students. He noted that with the purchase of more Chromebooks over the summer, the district is moving closer to putting a computer in the hands of each student.
 - B. K. Nies asked whether the Board wishes to send a flyer to each household in the district with information about the November, 2016 referendum (e.g., an overview of what is being proposed, the tax impact, meeting date and time of the public information session, etc.). Board members indicated they are in favor of such a mailing. They directed Superintendent Athey, Kevin Kocer and Carol Wirth to begin putting together a communication piece.
- XV. Adjournment –Schier moved to adjourn. Moravits seconded. The motion carried on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:19 PM.