

River Ridge School Board Meeting Summary  
March 8, 2017

The River Ridge School Board held a regular school board meeting on Wednesday, March 8, 2017 in the Multi-purpose Room of the ES/MS/HS located at 11165 County Hwy P, Patch Grove, WI. The following business was conducted:

- I. Call to Order – Board President Kenny Nies called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.
- II. Roll Call – The following board members were in attendance: Jason Cathman, Adam Guthrie, Cory Moravits, and Kenny Nies. Absent: Dave Breuer, Cory Raisbeck and Kerri Schier. Also in attendance: Superintendent/Elem. Principal Dr. Jeff Athey, Business Manager Kevin Kocer, 5-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Principal Clay Koenig, Maintenance Director Troy Marshall, Special Education Director Trudy DeSimons, and Attorney Eileen Brownlee.
- III. Pledge of Allegiance was said.
- IV. Proof of Giving Public Notice – Moravits stated that notice of the meeting had been properly posted on March 3, 2017.
- V. Appearances – There were none.
- VI. Approval of Minutes – The following board minutes were approved as printed:
  - A. February 8, 2017 Special Board Meeting
  - B. February 8, 2017 Regular Board Meeting
  - C. February 22, 2017 Special Board Meeting
- VII. Reports
  - A. Finance – The Board approved the March financial report as presented by Business Manager Kocer.
  - B. Buildings and Grounds Committee Report – Committee Chair Kenny Nies reported on the March 8 Committee meeting. Topics included: relocation of 2-4<sup>th</sup> grade playground, preparation for asbestos removal project at HS, timing of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade move to Patch Grove.
  - C. Policy/Curriculum Committee Report – Committee Chair Jason Cathman reported on the March 1 Committee meeting.
    - i. The Board approved a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the following policies:
      - 760.1 Free and Reduced Price Meals [revised]
      - 421 Entrance Age (for 5K –Grade 1) [revised]
      - 421-Rule Guidelines for Early Admission (for 5K – Grade 1) [revised]
      - 662.3 Fund Balance Policy [revised]
    - ii. The Board approved a 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the following policies:
      - 188 Telephone Participation in Board/Committee Meetings [new]
      - 723.3 Emergency School Closings [revised]
      - 345.6 High School Graduation Requirements [revised to correspond with student handbook]
      - 424 Public School Open Enrollment [revised to remove outdated reference]

#### D. Superintendent's Report

- Samsung Solve for Tomorrow Contest – Principal Koenig reported that David Nies and Sam Reuter were selected as Wisconsin's winning entry in the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow Contest. The two submitted an idea of modifying corn roots with bamboo to prevent soil erosion. River Ridge will receive \$25,000 in Samsung technology products in recognition of our school's winning entry. A 7-12<sup>th</sup> grade assembly is planned for Monday, March 13 at 12:30 pm to recognize Nies and Reuter. Local news representatives have been invited to attend the assembly.
- Dr. Athey reported on the March 7 Technology Committee meeting. Key points:
  - Our technology support vendor, Dependable Solutions, is recommending a 2017/18 technology budget of \$225,000 (the same as for 2016/17).
  - RRSD is considering a website update for 2017/18 through our current website vendor.
- Accounting Careers Awareness Grant – Dr. Athey noted that our Accounting instructor, Tina Dilley, teamed up with a teacher from the Lancaster district to write a career awareness grant. A grant, in the amount of \$1,912 was approved by the Wisconsin Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The money will be used for 9-12 grade FBLA members to attend a Milwaukee Bucks game where students will meet with members of the Bucks' business department and learn about related business careers.

#### VIII. Old Business

2017/18 Calendar; When to Move Grades 5 and 6 to Patch Grove – Kraemer Brothers has indicated that the construction project will be completed by November 10. The Buildings and Grounds Committee recommended that grades 5 and 6 move to the new middle school wing in November, 2017. The Committee cited the following reasons for a November move:

- Weather should be better in November.
- Concern over whether the old boiler at the UE will hold up with continued use.
- The district can save up to \$18,000 by moving in November vs. December.
- Community members will expect the district to use the new classrooms and gym when they are ready for occupancy.

The Board adopted the Committee's recommendation by unanimous voice vote.

#### IX. New Business

- A. 2016-17 Pupil Non-discrimination Report – The Board reviewed and approved the report as submitted. This report is completed by districts every five years to help identify trends, patterns and opportunities regarding equitable treatment of students.
- B. CESA 3 2017/18 Contract for Educational Support Services – The Board approved the 2017/18 contract in the amount of \$74,615.40.
- C. CESA 10 Environmental Project Consulting Service Agreement – The Board approved the contract in the amount of \$8,111 to manage an asbestos abatement project for the district.

- D. Youth Options Applications for Approval – The Board approved requests from two different students to take Introduction to Psychology next year through SWTC.
- E. Resignation of Special Education Director – The Board approved the resignation of Special Education Director Trudy DeSimons, effective June 30, 2017. President Nies thanked DeSimons for her two years of service to the district.
- F. Recognition of Students Participating in Clubs/Organizations – Superintendent Athey explained that the Wisconsin Athletic Association (WIAA) does not recognize clubs and organizations which are not school sanctioned. This includes organizations such as High School Rodeo, Trapshooting Club, Club Volleyball, 4-H, Scouts, etc. RRSD Administration recommends that students be encouraged to participate in and be recognized by non-school sanctioned organizations. However, athletic letters are not awarded for achievements in non-school organizations.
- X.** Convene into Closed Session – The Board convened in closed session to address two topics: employee performance and administrative contracts.
- XI.** Reconvene in Open Session – The Board reconvened in open session at 8:25 pm.
- XII.** There was no action taken in open session.
- XIII.** Information
  - A. Upcoming Meeting Schedule
    - i. Building & Grounds Committee – March 13 at 9:00 AM
    - ii. Technology Committee – April 4 at 7:15 AM
    - iii. Policy & Curriculum Committee Meeting – April 5 at 5:00 PM
    - iv. Staff & Employee Relations Committee –April 5 at 6:00 PM
    - v. Special Board Meeting – April 11 at 1:30 PM in Plain, WI
    - vi. Building & Grounds Committee – April 12 at 5:00 PM
    - vii. Regular Board Meeting – April 12 at 6:00 PM
  - B. Board of Education Member Suggestions and Recommendations for Future Items
- XIV.** Adjourn – the Board adjourned at 8:34 pm.