

ROCKTON SCHOOL DISTRICT 140
ROCKTON, ILLINOIS 61072

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 29, 2009 REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Minutes of a regular public meeting of the Board of Education of Rockton School District 140, Winnebago County, Illinois, held at the Rockton Grade School Library, 1050 East Union Street, Rockton, Illinois, in said School District at 6:00 o'clock P.M., on the 29th day of April, 2009.

The meeting was called to order by the President, and upon the roll being called, Brenda Warren, the President, and the following members were physically present at said location: James Meason, James LaForge, William Midgett, Laura Neece, Sarah Praneis, and Larry Schubert.

Others present: Superintendent Jean Harezlak, Principals Barb Browning, Scott Rollinson, Kindyl Etnyre, Assistant Principals Jim Taphorn, Glenn Terry, Business Manager Julia Saunders, RTA Representatives/Teachers Gail Johnson, Rich Mayer, and Chanice Michowski - elected to Board of Education April 7, 2009.

The following members were allowed by a majority of the members of the Board of Education in accordance with and to the extent allowed by rules adopted by the Board of Education to attend the meeting by video or audio conference: None.

No member was not permitted to attend the meeting by video or audio conference.

The following members were absent and did not participate in the meeting in any manner or to any extent whatsoever: None.

Review Election Results

BOE members reviewed the results of the canvass of votes from the April 7, 2009 election as provided by the Winnebago County Clerk.

Congratulations to elected Board members – Laura Neece, Sarah Praneis, Chanice Michowski, and James Meason. All were elected to four-year terms of office.

Administer Oath – New BOE Members

Mrs. Warren administered the oath of office to the elected Board members, James Meason, Chanice Michowski, Laura Neece, and Sarah Praneis.

BOE Adjourns – sine die

Mr. Schubert moved to adjourn *sine die*, seconded by Mrs. Neece, carried unanimously.

Mr. Schubert moved to appoint Mrs. Warren to serve as President *pro tem*, seconded by Mrs. Neece.

Roll call vote: Aye: Midgett, Michowski, Meason, Schubert, Warren, Neece, Praneis.
Nay: None. Carried.

Mrs. Warren conducted the election of the Board President for a two-year term, until April 2011.

Mr. Schubert nominated Brenda Warren as President, seconded by Mr. Midgett.
Roll call vote: Aye: Praneis, Midgett, Michowski, Schubert, Meason, Warren, Neece.
Nay: None. Carried.

Mrs. Warren was seated as President and continued the nominations for officers.

Mrs. Neece nominated Sarah Praneis as Vice President, seconded by Mr. Midgett.
Roll call vote: Aye: Midgett, Michowski, Schubert, Meason, Warren, Neece, Praneis.
Nay: None. Carried.

Mrs. Neece nominated Larry Schubert as Secretary, seconded by Mr. Midgett.
Roll call vote: Aye: Neece, Midgett, Michowski, Meason, Warren, Praneis. Abstain:
Schubert. Nay: None. Carried.

Newly elected officers were seated.

Mrs. Warren moved to approve the regular Board of Education meeting dates for the 2009-10 school year, seconded by Mr. Schubert, carried unanimously.

After organizing the new school board, Mrs. Warren called the meeting to order.
Roll call vote: Aye: Schubert, Midgett, Michowski, Neece, Warren, Meason, Praneis.
Nay: None. Carried.

BOE Recognition

Appreciation gifts to retiring BOE member, Jim LaForge, for his service to the school community was presented.

Public Hearing

At 6:00 o'clock P.M., the President announced that the next agenda item for the Board of Education was a public hearing (the "*Hearing*") to receive public comments on the proposal to sell \$850,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds (the "*Bonds*") for the purpose of increasing the working cash fund of the District and explained that all persons desiring to be heard would have an opportunity to present written or oral testimony with respect thereto.

The President opened the discussion and explained that the reasons for the proposed issuance of the Bonds were as follows: Land purchase, SMMS recreation area, RGS/WPES drywells and additional parking, SMMS evacuation path, additional technology tools, and SMMS storage building.

Whereupon the President asked for additional comments from the members of the Board of Education. Additional comments were made by the following: None.

Written testimony concerning the proposed issuance of the Bonds was read into the record by the Secretary and is attached hereto as *Exhibit I*. None.

Whereupon the President asked for oral testimony or any public comments concerning the proposed issuance of the Bonds. Statements were made by the following: None.

The President then announced that all persons desiring to be heard had been given an opportunity to present oral and written testimony with respect to the proposed issuance of the Bonds.

Member Schubert moved and Member Praneis seconded the motion that the Hearing be finally adjourned.

After a full discussion thereof, the President directed that the roll be called for a vote upon the motion.

Upon the roll being called, the following members vote AYE: Michowski, Meason, Praneis, Schubert, Neece, Warren, Midgett.

The following members vote NAY: None.

Whereupon the President declared the motion carried and the Hearing was finally adjourned.

Other business not pertinent to the conduct of the Hearing was duly transacted at said meeting.

Closed Session

Mrs. Neece moved to enter closed session at 6:35 p.m. to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). Lawfully closed meeting minutes (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21). Student discipline (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9). Sale, lease or purchase of real property (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6), seconded by Mr. Midgett.

Mr. Midgett moved to return to open session at 7:05 p.m., seconded by Mr. Schubert. Roll call vote: Aye: Schubert, Midgett, Michowski, Neece, Warren, Meason, Praneis. Nay: None. Carried.

Forensics Presentations

RGS and WPES students Caitlin Fordell, Rebecca Bybee, Nathan McElmeel, Victoria Eggers, and Taylor Luthe presented their award winning speeches.

Capital Projects Proposals

Mr. Schubert moved to approve capital building and technology projects as presented, seconded by Mrs. Praneis.

Roll call vote: Aye: Schubert, Midgett, Michowski, Neece, Warren, Meason, Praneis. Nay: None. Carried.

Correspondence

- Thank you card was received from Lance and Gina Tuula for baby book received for the birth of their son.
- Thank you card from Geri LaRosa expressing appreciation for the salary increase next school year.
- Thank you notes from Lisa Rehfeldt and Karen Binger for the flower arrangement received for Administrative Assistant's Day.
- Six letters of school suspension, twelve letters of in-school detention, and two letters of bus suspension.

Mr. Schubert moved to suspend the regular order of business and open the meeting for audience input, seconded by Mrs. Neece. No one wished to address the Board, regular session resumed.

Consent Agenda

Mrs. Warren moved to remove memorandum of agreements from the consent agenda, seconded by Mrs. Neece, carried unanimously.

Mr. Midgett moved to approve consent agenda as presented, seconded by Mrs. Neece. Roll call vote: Aye: Midgett, Schubert, Praneis, Meason, Michowski, Neece, Warren. Nay: None. Carried.

Items included:

1. March 17, 2009 Regular meeting minutes, March 17, 2009 Policy Committee meeting minutes, and April 26, 2009 Board Retreat meeting minutes
2. April bills, May payroll, March treasurer's report
3. Winnebago County Special Education Cooperative executive action
4. Request – surplus 1985 John Deere tractor
5. IESA Renewal

Summer Maintenance Assistance

Mr. Schubert moved to approve four full-time and one part-time additional maintenance staff for summer 2009, seconded by Mrs. Neece.

Roll call vote: Aye: Schubert, Midgett, Neece, Meason, Praneis, Michowski, Warren. Nay: None. Carried.

Personnel

A motion was made by Mrs. Warren, seconded by Mr. Schubert, to approve the following personnel report.

- a. Employment – 2009–2010 school year
 - Certified
 - Cindy Beaudry SMMS Library Information Specialist
 - Drew Ibendahl WPES Fifth Grade Teacher
 - Paige Young WPES Fourth Grade Teacher
 - Bradley Breakfield WPES Fourth Grade Teacher
 - Valerie Adams SMMS Health Teacher
 - Dan Adler 6th/7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach
- b. Transfer – 2009-10 school year
 - Certified
 - Laura Zimmerman WPES Instructional Coach
- c. Non-certified part-time staff released effective end of 2008-09 school year
 - Non-Certified
 - Jennifer DeWar RGS Special Teacher Assistant
 - Kim Williams RGS Special Teacher Assistant
 - Ellen McKelvey WPES Teacher Assistant
 - Laura Forbes SMMS Teacher Assistant
- d. Non-certified part-time staff reduction in force for the 2009-10 school year
 - Non-Certified
 - Mary Gillis RGS Teacher Assistant

- e. Resignation – end of 2008-09 school year
 - Certified
 - Abby Rinker RGS Kindergarten Teacher
 - Jeanna McAfee SMMS National Junior Honor Society Advisor
 - Non-Certified
 - Kathy Hull RGS Teacher Assistant

Roll call vote: Aye: Schubert, Midgett, Neece, Praneis, Michowski, Meason, Warren.
 Nay: None. Carried.

Closed Session Minutes

Mrs. Warren moved to approve the March 17, 2009 regular closed session minutes and that they are to remain closed, seconded by Mr. Schubert, carried unanimously.

Quarterly Investment Review

The quarterly investment report of the district's investment portfolio was provided. As per BOE policy, board members are requested to review the investment performance by appropriate and creditable standards for the investment type.

Property Tax Appeal

Superintendent Harezlak presented the results of the March 31, 2009 tax appeal hearing with the Winnebago County Board of Review for the Woodward Governor property. Assessment amount per square foot were established for three years.

Policy Committee Report

- At the March 17, 2009 Policy Committee meeting, the following policy changes were reviewed and recommended for BOE action at the May meeting. Recommendations for each of the policies listed below are noted in the Policy Committee minutes.
 - 4:55 – Use of Credit and Procurement Cards
 - 4:120 – Food Services
 - 4:130 – Free and Reduced Price Food Services
 - 4:170 – Safety
 - 5:35 – Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act
 - 5:120 – Ethics
 - 5:130 – Child Custody/Marriage Dissolutions Disputes
 - 5:310 – Compensatory Time-Off
 - 7:50 – School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools
 - 7:60 – Residence
 - 7:170 – Vandalism

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

ISBE Certificate of Recognition

Each of our school buildings as well as the district received a “Fully Recognized” certificate from the Illinois State Board of Education. This annual recognition certifies our fulfillment of the standards established for Illinois public schools.

ISBE Academic Excellence Award

Congratulations to WPES and SMMS for achieving the 2008 Illinois Honor Roll. To earn this award, Illinois schools have 90% of the students meet or exceed state standards in reading and math for three or more consecutive years. Although RGS students are not eligible for this award because they do not participate in the ISAT testing, the preparation and learning that occurs during these primary years provides the foundation for the ongoing academic excellence in the upper grades.

PTO Grant Awards

The district's generous and hard working PTO has once again provided grant awards totaling \$8,059 to staff in order to enrich our educational programs. Our school community is fortunate to have such a successful parent volunteer organization.

April SIP Day Evaluations

Summary evaluations for the April 9th SIP day were provided.

PreK Grant Initiative

The district has submitted a grant request to the state to expand the pre-K program to fund another half day program enabling the district to serve 20 more pre-school at-risk students.

Other

- Reported the district received a certificate from ISBE noting Financial Recognition.
- Julia Saunders noted that the district will be receiving additional Title I money as a result of the stimulus plan.
- Commented the SMMS play, Honk Jr. was incredible. The students, Ms. Araoz, and Ms. Rathe did an outstanding job.
- Noted that each board member received the RGS ABC book created by 2nd grade students.
- Teacher Appreciation week is the first week in May.
- Shared notes from two students who were "Principals of the Day" at SMMS.
- Letter regarding swine flu will be sent home with students April 30th. The letter will also be posted on the district website.
- Board members are invited to the Rockton Chamber of Commerce annual dinner on May 15th.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mrs. Browning reported:

- The RGS Art Show is great and thanked Mr. Enderle and Ms. Kannard.
- The kindergarten music concert is May 12th.
- RGS McTeacher Night is May 6th from 5-8 pm.
- An Ecolab grant was awarded to Michelle Bottensek.
- A letter to the editor was published in the RRS from the Kiltz family thanking the staff of Rockton School District.

Mr. Terry:

- RGS students will be attending the Peter Pan play at HHS.
- Congratulations to new parents at WPES, Gina and Lance Tuula and Amy and Jay Bigwood.
- WPES students will be participating in a race arranged by Mr. Donaldson on May 13th.

- The third quarter reward talent show will be at RGS.

Mr. Rollinson reported:

- An Ecolab grant was awarded to Laura Benkovich.
- The fifth grade Timberlee trip was great.
- PTO allocated over \$8,000 for mini-grants. Two \$500 scholarships will be awarded to two HHS students who graduated from SMMS.

Mrs. Etnyre reported:

- The SMMS play Honk Jr. was wonderful.
- Awards night is May 11th.
- Upham Woods was an amazing experience.
- Two Chinese teachers visited SMMS last week.
- An Ecolab grant was awarded to Linh Phommachanh.

Mr. Taphorn reported:

- A full building evacuation was performed last week.
- Eighth grade students went on a field trip to Springfield.
- The last SMMS dance was last Friday.

Mr. Schubert moved to suspend the regular order of business and open the meeting for audience input, seconded by Mrs. Neece. No one wished to address the Board. Regular session resumed.

MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Mrs. Warren

- Commented that she enjoyed the SMMS play.
- She shared a letter from the Chinese teachers who visited Rockton last week.
- Stated that she attended the National School Board conference in San Diego.

Closed Session

Mr. Schubert moved to enter closed session at 8:25 p.m. to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). Lawfully closed meeting minutes (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21). Student discipline (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9). Sale, lease or purchase of real property (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6), seconded by Mrs. Praneis.

Mr. Midgett moved to return to open session at 9:26 p.m., seconded by Mr. Schubert. Roll call vote: Aye: Schubert, Midgett, Michowski, Neece, Warren, Meason, Praneis. Nay: None. Carried.

Mr. Schubert moved to issue notice to remedy for employee # 2F as discussed in closed session, seconded by Mrs. Praneis.

Roll call vote: Aye: Michowski, Schubert, Midgett, Neece, Praneis, Meason, Warren. Nay: None. Carried.

Mr. Midgett moved to approve two memorandums of agreement, seconded by Mr. Schubert.

Roll call vote: Aye: Neece, Michowski, Schubert, Midgett, Praneis, Meason, Warren.
Nay: None. Carried.

NEXT BOE MEETING

The next regular Board of Education meeting will be held at Rockton Grade School library on Wednesday, May 27, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Neece moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m., seconded by Mr. Meason, carried unanimously.

Approved date: May 27, 2009

President: _____

Secretary: _____