

ROCKTON SCHOOL DISTRICT 140
ROCKTON, ILLINOIS 61072

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 19, 2007 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Rockton School District No. 140, Winnebago County, Illinois was duly called and held on December 19, 2007, at the Rockton Grade School Library in Rockton, Illinois, within the boundaries of said District.

President Brenda Warren called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

	<u>LaForge</u>	<u>Meason</u>	<u>Pearcy</u>	<u>Neece</u>	<u>Praneis</u>	<u>Schubert</u>	<u>Warren</u>
Roll Call	P	P	P	P	P	P	P

Others present: Superintendent Jean Harezlak, Principals Scott Rollinson, Barb Browning, Jay Larson, Assistant Principal Jim Taphorn, Curriculum Coordinator Kindyl Etnyre, Business Manager Julia Saunders, RTA Representative/Teacher Marta Polakowski, and Reporter Rob Baxter from Rockford Register Star.

Closed Session

Mrs. Pearcy moved to enter closed session at 6:01 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). Setting of a price for sale or lease of school property - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6), seconded by Mr. Schubert.

Roll call vote: Aye: LaForge, Pearcy, Neece, Schubert, Warren, Meason, Praneis. Nay: None. Carried

Mrs. Pearcy moved to return to open session at 7:11 p.m., seconded by Mr. Schubert.

Roll call vote: Aye: Schubert, Meason, Pearcy, LaForge, Neece, Warren, Praneis. Nay: None. Carried

2007 Tax Levy Hearing

The tax levy hearing was called to order at 7:25 p.m. Mrs. Pearcy moved to open the meeting for public input, seconded by Mr. Schubert. No one wished to address the Board. Mr. Schubert moved to adopt the levy as presented, seconded by Mrs. Neece.

Roll call vote: Aye: Schubert, Meason, Pearcy, LaForge, Neece, Warren, Praneis, Meason. Nay: None. Carried

Sale of School District Property

Mrs. Warren moved to approve publishing a resolution to sell school district property by sealed bids for a minimum amount of \$180,000, seconded by Mr. Schubert.

Roll call vote: Aye: Schubert, Meason, Pearcy, LaForge, Neece, Warren, Praneis. Nay: None. Carried

Correspondence

- Thank you card received from the staff at SMMS during American Education Week thanking the Board for all their hard work and dedication.
- Three letters of school suspension.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Meason moved to approve consent agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. Schubert.

Roll call vote: Aye: Meason, Schubert, LaForge, Percy, Neece, Warren, Praneis. Nay: None. Carried.

Items included:

1. November 14, 2007 Regular meeting minutes
2. December bills, January payroll, November treasurer's report
3. Winnebago County Special Education Cooperative executive action
4. Donation – Anderson Gardens of Rockford through Mrs. Brenda Warren donated 10 portable CD players, 15 portable cassette players and 26 headsets.
5. Lifetouch School Picture Contract

Policy Committee

Mrs. Warren moved to approve the following revised policy changes, seconded by Mrs. Neece, carried unanimously.

- 5:186 – Health and Dental Insurance
- 5:200 – Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal
- 5:300 – Schedules and Employment Year
- 5:330 – Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves
- 5:332 – Insurance Benefits
- 5:336 – Full/Part-time Status

A meeting of the Policy Committee is scheduled for January 16, 2008 at 4:30 p.m. in the District Office conference room .

Personnel

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

- a. Resignation with regret
 - Non-Certified
 - Philip Goudreau Satellite Teacher Assistant – SMMS (effective January 14, 2008)

- b. FMLA Request – 2007-08 school year – 12 weeks
 - Certified
 - Andrea Leitner Fourth Grade Teacher – WPES
 - Anna Hulburt Second Grade Teacher – RGS

Closed Session Minutes

Mrs. Warren moved to approve the November 14, 2007 regular closed session minutes and that they are to remain closed, seconded by Mr. Schubert, carried unanimously.

Tax Appeals

Mr. Schubert moved to approve three resolutions to begin the tax appeal process for the three tax appeals that have been filed with the Winnebago County Board of Review, seconded by Mrs. Neece.

Roll call vote: Aye: Neece, Meason, Schubert, LaForge, Percy, Warren, Praneis. Nay: None. Carried.

Rapid Alert System

Mr. Schubert moved to approve purchase of School Messenger services for a rapid alert system for the district's students and staff, seconded by Mrs. Neece.

Roll call vote: Aye: LaForge, Meason, Schubert, Percy, Neece, Warren, Praneis. Nay: None. Carried.

School Improvement Plans

The building principals presented a summary review of their proposed 2007-08 school improvement plans for their schools.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

November Parent-Teacher Conference Surveys

Survey results from November parent conferences were provided.

Citizens Guide to BOE Meetings

A one-page information sheet was provided that will be available at all BOE meetings to inform visitors of Board meeting operations and procedures.

Strategic Planning Update

All three strategic planning teams have been meeting regularly to develop action plans for the three identified strategies. The teams consist of staff, Board members, parents and community members. The end results of the planning teams will be presented to the Board in spring 2008.

Gift of Music

Rockton students have been entertaining parents and friends with their musical performances of holiday cheer during the past two weeks. Many thanks to the students and their music teachers – Ms. Araoz, Mrs. Broaddus, Mrs. Finlen and Mr. Mayer for the enjoyable concerts.

Other

- Amy Meier and Kathy Sipe have been selected as semi-finalists for the Golden Apple Award.
- Rotary Club is sponsoring a fund raiser January 17, 2008 to raise funds for dictionaries and scholarships.
- Congratulations to Jim LaForge. He has received National Board Certification as a teacher.
- BOE members are invited to attend the January 18, 2008 teacher institute. The speaker will present the work of Dr. Ruby Payne on "Understanding Poverty."

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr. Taphorn reported:

- Strategic Planning Communication Involvement Team is busy preparing ideas that will be presented to the BOE in spring 2008.
- SMMS winter concert was wonderful.
- Class Act Day is Thursday, December 20th.
- Satellite students are attending Kids Spot in Roscoe and having a great time.

Mr. Larson reported:

- SMMS raised \$2,300 for Wimpy's Fund.
- Over 500 stuffed animals were donated for the Carrie Lynn Children's Center.
- Picture of the SMMS student council wrapping presents was in the Rockford Register Star.
- Science Olympiad is meeting every Friday and is working hard.

Mr. Rollinson reported:

- WPES is going to participate in a pilot 'Back Pack' food program in January. The Northern Illinois Food Bank is helping to identify students in need of food.
- Congratulations to Amy Meier and Kathy Sipe, Golden Apple Award semi-finalists.
- 'Post Gazette,' a WPES student newspaper is a successful student publication and distributed copies.
- Third and fifth grade concert was awesome.
- Kids Spot reward trip was fun.
- D.A.R.E. graduation is Thursday, December 20th at 7 p.m.
- Students enjoyed making gingerbread houses this week.

Mrs. Browning reported:

- Committee is arranging and setting dates for Project Fair.
- Second grade concert was great. Ms. Araoz did a wonderful job.
- RGS Christmas parties will be in the afternoon on Friday, December 21st.

Mrs. Etnyre

- Invited BOE members to the movie 'Great Debaters'.
- Reported that Teacher Switch day is January 31st.

MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Mr. Meason

- Commented that the SMMS Band Concert was amazing. Mr. Mayer did a great job.

NEXT BOE MEETING

The next regular Board of Education meeting will be held at Rockton Grade School library on Wednesday, January 23, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Percy moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m., seconded by Mr. LaForge, carried unanimously.

Approved date: January 23, 2008

President: _____

Secretary: _____