

ROCKTON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 140  
ROCKTON, ILLINOIS 61072

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 28, 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 February 28, 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 6:05 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	ABS	P	P	P	P	P

Others present: Superintendent Jean Harezlak, Principals Jay Larson, Georgiann McKenna, Assistant Principal Jim Taphorn, Curriculum Coordinator Kindyl Etnyre, Teachers Glenn Terry, Gail Johnson and NIU administrator intern Linda Radke.

Mrs. Percy moved to enter closed session at 6:06 p.m. to discuss the 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). Negotiations - 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(2). Student discipline - 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(9). Potential litigation involving a construction dispute - 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(11). 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: Percy, Schubert, LaForge, Neece, Warren, Praneis. Nay: None. Carried.

Mrs. Percy moved to return to open session at 7:10 p.m., seconded by Mr. Schubert. Roll call vote: Aye: Schubert, Percy, LaForge, Neece, Warren, Praneis. Nay: None. Carried.

### **Annual Report of Gifted Programs**

Kindyl Etnyre presented a summary review of the programs and services offered by the district for high ability students.

### **Correspondence**

- Two letters of resignations and two letters of retirement.

Mrs. Percy moved to suspend the regular order of business and open the meeting for audience input, seconded by Mr. Schubert. Mrs. Johnson invited the BOE members to an IEA program dinner. Regular session resumed.

### **Consent Agenda**

Mr. LaForge moved to approve items on the consent agenda, seconded by Mr. Schubert. Roll call vote: Aye: Neece, Schubert, LaForge, Percy, Warren, Praneis. Nay: None. Carried.

Items included:

1. January 24, 2007 Regular meeting minutes and February 19, 2007 Negotiations Committee meeting minutes
2. February bills, March payroll, January treasurer's report
3. Winnebago County Special Education Cooperative executive action
4. Donation
  - RGS Library donations
5. Policy Committee
  - 3:40 – Superintendent
  - 3:60 – Administrative Responsibility of Building Principal
  - 4:10 – Fiscal and Business Management

- 4:40 – Incurring Debt
- 4:170 – Safety
- 5:30 – General Personnel – Hiring Process and Criteria
- 5:90 – General Personnel – Abused and Neglected Child Reporting
- 5:250 – Professional Personnel – Leaves of Absence
- 6:60 – Curriculum Content
- 6:250 – Community Resource Persons and Volunteers
- 6:340 – Student Testing and Assessment Program
- 8:60 – Exclusive Bargaining Representative Agent

### **Personnel Report**

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

#### 1. Employments

##### Certified

- Sally Southworth – SMMS Seventh Grade Special Education teacher – increase one period per day

##### Non-Certified

- Jennifer Genore – RGS Special Education Aide – part-time
- Charlene Peters – RGS Early Childhood Special Education Aide – part-time
- Lisa Orlando-Dick – WPES Food Service – part-time
- Jennifer Black – SMMS Track Coach (shared position)
- Kris Saey – SMMS Track Coach (shared position)
- Nancy VanSickle – District Bookkeeper
- Jenny Middleton – Substitute Calling – For remainder of 2006-2007 school year

#### 2. Transfer

- Lori Farris – From WPES Food Service to WPES Special Education Aide – Part-time

#### 3. FMLA Request

- Jennifer Petz – SMMS Food Service Aide – part-time

#### 4. Release

- Nancy Damon – RGS Special Education Aide – part-time

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

Mrs. Warren moved to approve with regrets the resignation of Jaclynn Coomer – RGS First Grade Teacher and Traci Hill – RGS First Grade Teacher effective the end of the 2006-2007 school year, seconded by Mr. Schubert.

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

Mrs. Warren moved to approve the resignation of Ann Hart – SMMS Girls Volleyball Coach and Lisa Dodd – WPES Special Education Aide, seconded by Mr. Schubert.

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

Mrs. Warren moved to accept with regrets the irrevocable letter of retirement in June 2009 from Mary Ann Stewart and as per the negotiated contract, Mrs. Stewart is eligible for two years of sick leave and a salary bonus of \$480 per year for the 22 years she has been employed as a teacher by the Rockton School District, seconded by Mrs. Percy.

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

Mrs. Warren moved to accept with regrets the irrevocable letter of retirement in June 2009 from Carol Fruth and as per the negotiated contract, Mrs. Fruth is eligible for two years of sick leave and a salary bonus of \$480 per year for the 15 years she has been employed by the Rockton School District, seconded by Mrs. Percy

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

### **Closed Session Minutes**

Mrs. Warren moved to approve the January 24, 2007 regular closed session minutes, February 19, 2007 Negotiations Committee closed session minutes and that they are to remain closed, seconded by Mr. Schubert, carried unanimously.

### **School Calendars**

Two options for the 2007-08 calendar was provided. The Board tentatively approved a draft of the 2007-08 calendar in March 2006. District staff was given the opportunity to provide feedback regarding these draft calendars. Also, the proposed calendars were coordinated with the area school districts. There are two options for the 2007-08 school year: Option A designates the end of the semester in January and Option B plans for the end of the first semester in December. Adoption of the 2007-08 calendar and tentative approval of the 2008-09 calendar is scheduled for the March BOE meeting.

### **Building Maintenance and Construction Update**

Information was shared regarding building repair issues and the progress on the district construction project.

Mr. Schubert moved to approve life/safety expenditure of \$3,000 to repair cracks in the hallways at WPES, seconded by Mrs. Neece.

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

Mrs. Percy moved to approve the expenditure of \$12,840 for fire alarm system equipment, seconded by Mr. LaForge.

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

### **Lease Renewal**

Northwest Academy/Streamwood has requested renewal of their lease at the district's Chapel Street facility. In addition, the tenant is requesting to add the use of the conference room as part of the lease agreement. After discussing benefits and concerns regarding the lease renewal, the Board directed the superintendent to advertise the building for sealed bids. After the bid process is completed, Superintendent Harezlak and the BOE will address the request for lease renewal.

Mrs. Warren moved to authorize Superintendent Harezlak to advertise the Chapel Street building for sale by sealed bids for a minimum price of \$450,000, seconded by Mrs. Percy.

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

### **Tax Appeal Update**

Information from Attorney Jack Cook regarding the results from six of the district's tax appeals filed jointly with Hononegah district was shared at the meeting. Two of the six tax appeals that were filed were approved. Information was shared regarding Highview Nursing Facility and Woodward Governor tax appeals.

### **Special Purpose BOE Meeting**

A special purpose BOE meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2007 at 6 pm to review preliminary FY08 budget plans.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Mrs. Harezlak**

Mrs. Harezlak presented and discussed the following:

### **Strategic Planning Update**

Plans are underway for the task force to reconvene in May to begin the development of the next long range plan proposal for our district. The facilitation of Thursday evening and all day Friday planning sessions will be conducted by Randy Jurasek, who worked with the district on the first strategic plan.

### **Positive Reviews**

During the month of February, the district was reviewed by state agencies to insure compliance with state laws and maintenance of performance standards. First, an ISBE representative reviewed our PreK At-risk program. The teacher, Teresa Halom, along with the RGS staff received numerous compliments on the program operation and effectiveness for young children. Next, the Regional Office of Education conducted the tri-annual "Technical Assistance" visit as part of our school accreditation process. The team of reviewers were very complimentary of our district's overall performance and general operating procedures.

### **Institute Day Evaluations**

Summary results of the staff evaluations from each building and the aide in-service were provided.

Bulletins and newsletters were provided.

### **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

Mrs. Browning

- In Mrs. Browning's absence, Superintendent Harezlak shared a humorous story from Mrs. Browning about two RGS students.

Dr. McKenna

- Described the students enjoyment of the wax museum project.
- Reported that the After School Reading class ended with incredible results.
- Shared that the Young Authors program was a success.

Mr. Larson

- Noted that the Science Olympiad competition is March 10<sup>th</sup> from 8 am – 4 pm.
- Discussed a proposal called 'Team Outdoor Learning' for 7<sup>th</sup> grade students.

Mr. Taphorn

- Reported that tonight the Lady Warrior's 7<sup>th</sup> grade team won and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade team lost.
- Noted the Parent Discipline Meeting is March 20<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm.
- Mentioned the numerous clubs and practices that are being held at SMMS.

Mrs. Etnyre

- Reported that the ISAT test materials have arrived.
- Shared that the Quantum Learning class has ended and was well received.
- Reported that she accompanied nine teachers on a tour of math programs in the DeKalb schools.

Mrs. Percy moved to suspend the regular order of business and open the meeting for audience input, seconded by Mr. Schubert. Ms. Radke, administrator intern thanked the BOE for letting her observe the Board meeting. Regular session resumed.

### **NEXT BOE MEETING**

The next regular Board of Education meeting will be held at Rockton Grade School Library on Wednesday, March 21, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Schubert moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Percy, carried unanimously.

Approved Date: March 21, 2007

President: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_