

Minutes of Regular Meeting Held February 15, 2012

The Board of Education Rockton School District No. 140

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Rockton School District No. 140 was held on February 15, 2012, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Rockton Grade School Cafeteria, 1050 East Union Street, Rockton, IL 61072.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by President Brenda Warren at 6:00 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Larry Schubert, Chanice Michowski, Bill Midgett, Laura Neece, Brenda Warren, Sarah Praneis

Absent: Jim Meason

Others present: Superintendent Mike Greenlee, Principals Glenn Terry, Scott Rollinson, Kindyl Etnyre, Assistant Principals Cheri Fuller and Shaun Newmes, RTA President/Teacher Gail Johnson, and various guests.

3. Mr. Schubert moved to go into Executive Session at 6:01 p.m. to Discuss Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employees (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), Negotiations (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), Pending Litigation (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11), Student Discipline (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9), Selection of a Person to Fill a Public Office (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3), Other Matters Relating to Individual Students (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10), Lease of Real Property (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5), Setting of Sale Price of Real Property (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6), Sale or Purchase of Securities, Investments or Investment Contracts (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(7), and Lawfully Closed Meeting Minutes (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21), seconded by Mrs. Praneis.
Neece, Schubert, Midgett, Praneis, Michowski, Warren – 6 ayes
Motion carried.

Mr. Schubert moved to return to open session at 6:34 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Praneis.
Midgett, Praneis, Neece, Schubert, Michowski, Warren – 6 ayes

4. **Pledge of Allegiance**

5. **Correspondence**

- Thank you note from AnnDee Nimmer for flowers sent to her after surgery.
- Letter from SMMS teacher Robin Hagan regarding concern about cuts to staff and programs in the future.
- Six letters of out-of-school suspensions, eight letters of in-school suspension, and one letter of bus suspension.
- Mrs. Warren noted other letters have been received and copies will be forwarded to other board members.

6. **Comments from the Community**

Mrs. Warren moved to suspend the regular order of business and open the meeting for audience input, seconded by Mrs. Neece.

- Several members from the audience addressed the Board on behalf of RGS teacher AnnDee Nimmer.
 - Other members from the audience addressed the Board regarding budget reductions.
- Regular session resumed.

9. Closed Session Minutes

Mrs. Warren moved to approve the January 25, 2012 regular closed session minutes and the February 9, 2012 special purpose closed session minutes and that they are to remain closed, seconded by Mrs. Praneis.

All voted aye – 6

Motion carried.

10. Action on Items Arising Out of Closed Session

None

11. Budget Reductions for 2012-2013

Superintendent Greenlee presented recommendations for budget reductions to board members for the 2012-2013 school year. Approximate savings for the recommended proposed reductions is \$1.3 M.

12. Policy

○ The following policy changes were reviewed and will be recommended for Board action at the March BOE meeting. Recommendations for each of the policies listed below are noted in the Policy Committee minutes.

- 2:250 – Access to District Public Records
- 3:60 – Administrative Responsibility of Building Principal
- 4:80 – Accounting and Audits
- 5:90 – Abused and Neglected Child Reporting
- 5:100 – Staff Development Program
- 5:200 – Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal
- 5:240 – Suspension
- 6:60 – Curriculum Content
- 6:150 – Home and Hospital Instruction
- 6:235 – Access to Electronic Networks
- 7:305 – Student Athlete concussions and Head Injuries

○ A policy meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.

13. Long-Term Teacher Substitute Pay

Mrs. Praneis moved to approve change of long-term teacher substitute pay from the per diem rate on the first cell of teacher salary schedule (Bachelor's degree – 0 year experience), to \$125 per day after the tenth day of continuous long-term substituting effective immediately, seconded by Mr. Schubert.

Schubert, Praneis, Neece, Midgett, Michowski, Warren – 6 ayes

Motion carried.

14. Superintendents Report

- RGS staff will conduct screening for pre-schoolers and next year's kindergarten students on March 6, 7, and 8, 2012 at Winnebago County Special Education Cooperative.
- Teacher's Institute Day evaluations are attached. Attachment C
- The Kishwaukee Division of IASB will hold a spring dinner meeting on Wednesday, March 7, 2012 at Batavia High School.
- Parent-teacher conferences are February 23rd and March 1st .

15. Administrative Reports

None

16. Comments from the Community

Mrs. Warren moved to suspend the regular order of business and open the meeting for audience input, seconded by Mrs Neece.

- Members from the audience addressed the Board on behalf of RGS teacher AnnDee Nimmer.
- RGS teacher Gail Johnson commented Dr. Seuss's birthday is March 2nd and his birthday will be celebrated by the kick-off of Read Across America.

Regular session resumed.

- 17.** Mrs. Michowski moved to go into Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. to Discuss Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employees (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), Negotiations (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), Pending Litigation (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11), Student Discipline (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9), Selection of a Person to Fill a Public Office (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3), Other Matters Relating to Individual Students (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10), Lease of Real Property (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5), Setting of Sale Price of Real Property (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6), Sale or Purchase of Securities, Investments or Investment Contracts (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(7), and Lawfully Closed Meeting Minutes (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21), seconded by Mr. Schubert.

Neece, Schubert, Midgett, Praneis, Michowski, Warren – 6 ayes
Motion carried.

Mr. Schubert moved to return to open session at 8:00 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Neece.
Midgett, Praneis, Neece, Schubert, Michowski, Warren – 6 ayes

Mrs. Warren explained that the budget reduction process has been a long and difficult one and as a Board they continue to remain committed to providing the best education that they can provide to our students. Unfortunately, the funding to continue to spend at the level the district has been spending, has simply disappeared.

- 18.** A motion was made with regret by Mrs. Warren, seconded by Mr. Midgett, to authorize the administration to move forward with the proposed budget reductions as presented by Superintendent Greenlee for the 2012-2013 school year.

Members' Comments

- Mr. Midgett commented that the process is not pleasant or easy and is sorry cuts have to be made. He also commented on unpredictable state funding.
- Mrs. Michowski shared she is very fortunate her children are students in RSD. Lots of time and effort has been spent making the budget reduction decisions and at this time, she cannot say yes to all proposed budget reductions.
- Mr. Schubert stated he has been a board member for 25 years and has never seen the district in the financial status it is in currently. He thanked all RSD teachers for their hard work and dedication.
- Mrs. Praneis stated how very difficult the decisions have been to make reductions. She thanked everyone for their support.
- Mrs. Neece thanked each person for their support of RSD and stated how difficult this process has been.
- Mrs. Warren commented that reducing teaching positions is not easy, but the district needs to take action now because of financial uncertainty.

Schubert, Praneis, Neece, Midgett, Warren – 5 ayes
Michowski – 1 nay
Motion carried.

19. Adjournment

Mr. Midgett moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Schubert.

All voted aye – 6

Motion carried.

A special purpose board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 13, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the RGS cafeteria to take action on Reduction in Force as outlined in the Proposed Budget Reductions.

The next regular Board of Education meeting will be held at Rockton Grade School Cafeteria on Wednesday, March 21, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Approved date: March 21, 2012

President: _____

Secretary: _____