

**Minutes of Regular Meeting
Held March 15, 2017**

**The Board of Education
Rockton School District No. 140**

01. Call to Order by President Littlefield at 6:00 p.m.

1.1 Roll call

Chanice Michowski, Gail Johnson, Shawn Connors, Josh Houghton, Stacey Heiar, Jim Meason, Katie Littlefield

Others present: Superintendent Terry, RTA President Dan Baumgartner, Principals Kindyl Etnyre, Megan Forsythe, Autumn Czizek, Assistant Principal Matt Roer, Business Manager Sue Miller, and seventh grade teachers Stephanie Bennington, Craig Carter, Matt Hammes, Amy Limke, Jana Hoffland, and Sally Southworth, community member Brett Lundsten, and Friends Of Hononegah Member Tom Polaski and other various guests.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

1.3 Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Littlefield motioned for approval of the agenda, seconded by Mr. Connors. All in favor, 7 ayes, Motion passed.

02. Comments from the Community

Tom Polaski, Friends of Hononegah, spoke to the Board regarding the upcoming April 4th referendum for 17.8 million bond issue to build and equip a new field house.

03. Correspondence

- Ten letters of in-school suspension
- Three letters of out-of-school suspension

04. Seventh Grade Presentation

Seventh grade teachers updated the BOE on what students do to earn the Waukaubec reward and the celebration of the reward.

05. Mr.Houghton motioned to go into **Executive Session** at 6:19 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 ©(2), Pending Litigation (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11), Student Discipline 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 Contract (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(7), And Lawfully Closed Meeting Minutes (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21), seconded by Mr. Connors.

Roll call: Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Connors, Mr. Houghton, Mrs. Heiar, Mr. Meason, Mrs. Michowski, Mrs. Littlefield - 7 ayes, Motion carried.

Mr. Meason moved to return to open session at 7:15 p.m., seconded Mr. Houghton.

Roll call: Mr. Connors, Mr. Houghton, Mrs. Heiar, Mr. Meason, Mrs. Michowski, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Littlefield - 7 ayes, Motion carried.

06. Action on Items Arising Out of Closed Session

None.

07. Consent Items

Jim Meason moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Shawn Connors.

Items recommended for the consent agenda are last month's open session minutes, March bills, April payroll, February treasurer's report and all items identified below:

- WCSEC Bills Paid
- School Tours of America to Washington, D.C. Letter of Permission for informational meetings
- 12-20-16 Regular Closed Session Minutes to remain closed.
- 1-3-17 Regular Closed Session Minutes to remain closed.
- 2-23-17 Building & Grounds Committee Meeting Minutes
- 3-1-17 Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes
- 3-10-17 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Roll call: Mr. Houghton, Mrs. Heiar, Mr. Meason, Mrs. Michowski, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Connors, Mrs. Littlefield - 7 ayes, Motion carried.

08. Building & Grounds Committee Update

8.1 Building & Grounds Committee Update

Mr. Houghton updated the BOE on a presentation given by Bob Lewis, Forecast 5 regarding RSD #140's bonding capability and options for funding the parking lot renovation.

8.2 Parking Lot Renovation Update

Larson & Darby and Parking Lot Committee met for the first time and went over the intent of committee, established the goal of coming to a consensus for the site access, circulation and parking for RGS and WPES campus that can fit within the district's financial plan. A meeting schedule was also established. For further details, please see committee meeting minutes.

09. Finance Committee Update

9.1 Finance Committee Update - James Hall and Mr. Connors updated the BOE on the potential cost and schedule of updating the technology infrastructure at the RGS campus. Discussion was held on E-Rate.

9.2 Request approval for E-Rate

Mrs. Michowski made a motion to approve the eE-Rate grant to upgrade the technology infrastructure at Rockton Grade School, purchase a new firewall, and fiber internet at all three buildings costing between \$58,670 and \$62,270 seconded by Mr. Connors.

Roll Call: Mrs. Heiar, Mr. Meason, Mrs. Michowski, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Connors, Mr. Houghton,

Katie Littlefield, - 7 ayes, Motion carried.

9.3 Action on Administrative Expenditure Resolution

Mr. Terry updated the BOE on the Administrative Expenditure Resolution for all school districts with per pupil administrative expenditures in the 25th percentile and below which will waive the limitation on administrative costs for school year 2016-2017 and recommended for the Board to pass the Resolution. Stacey Heiar read the resolution.

Mr. Meason motioned to pass the Administrative Expenditure Resolution, seconded by Mrs. Littlefield.

Roll Call: Mrs. Heiar, Mr. Meason, Mrs. Michowski, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Connors, Mr. Houghton, Mrs. Littlefield - 7 ayes, Motion carried.

9.4 Request approval for Chromebook purchases for 2017-2018 school year

Mr. Connors updated the BOE on the cost and schedule of purchasing Chromebooks for the 2017-2018 school year. Mr. Connors recommended approval.

Mr. Connors motioned to approve the purchase of Chromebooks and related technology expenses not to exceed \$200,000, seconded by Mrs. Johnson.

Roll call: Mr. Meason, Mrs. Michowski, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Connors, Mr. Houghton, Mrs. Heiar, Mrs. Littlefield - 7 ayes, Motion carried.

10. Personnel Committee Update

10.1 Personnel Committee Update - Mrs. Johnson updated the BOE on the personnel committee's discussion on anticipated staffing needs for the following school year due to projected enrollment numbers.

10.2 Approval for Staffing request for 2017-2018 school year

Mr. Houghton motioned to approve the creation of an extra section at WPES, to authorize a current SMMS teacher to teach an additional section during their planning hour, and to expand the current part-time position at SMMS to full-time for the 2017-2018 school year, seconded by Mrs. Johnson.

Roll call: Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Connors, Mr. Houghton, Mrs. Heiar, Mr. Meason, Mrs. Michowski, Mrs. Littlefield - 7 ayes, Motion carried.

10.3 Personnel

Mr. Meason moved to approve the following employments, seconded by Mr. Connors.

Roll call: Mrs. Michowski, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Connors, Mr. Houghton, Mrs. Heiar, Mr. Meason, Mrs. Littlefield - 7 ayes, Motion carried.

RSD #140 CERTIFIED STAFF

- Emily Dummer – (Retirement) Effective at the end of FY2020
- Barb Kubat – (Retirement) Effective at the end of FY2020
- Lisa Larson – (Leave) Child rearing FY2018 returning FY2019
- Alex Huffhines – (Hire) Track coach

- Ehren Manning – (Hire) Assistant Track Coach
- Katie Trusner – (Hire) WPES Running Club Advisor Effective 3/15/2017

RSD #140 NON-CERTIFIED STAFF

- Jenny Genore – (Resign) RGS Para effective 3/17/2017
- DuWayne Jones – (Resign) Track Coach Effective 3/10/17
- Elaine Mauer – (Hire) Early Childhood para effective FY2018
- Sheri Ford – (Hire) Early Childhood para effective FY2018

WCSEC EMPLOYMENT & PERSONNEL

WCSEC NEW HIRES

- Amanda Hagen - Social Work Internship, effective August 2017

WCSEC RESIGNATIONS

- Kallie Svedin - RGS Early Childhood Para, effective February 24, 2017
- Laura Lueshen - RGS Early Childhood Teacher, effective June 1, 2017
- Erin Parker - Speech/Language Pathologist, effective end of 2016-17 school year
- Keegan Ray - Speech/Language Pathologist, effective end of 2016-17 school year
- Laura Erwin - Speech/Language Pathologist, effective end of 2016-17 school year

WCSEC REDUCTION IN FORCE

- Kaila Roberson - RGS Early Childhood Teacher a.m. & Dorothy Simon Elementary School Early Childhood Teacher p.m., effective end of 2016-2017 school year

11. Request approval of resolution limiting board member/staff expense reimbursement

Mr. Terry updated the BOE on the new PRESS Policy resolution limiting expenses for Board Member/Staff reimbursement to \$4,000.

Mrs. Littlefield motioned to pass the RSD #140 Resolution to limit board member/staff expense reimbursement, seconded by Mr. Connors.

Roll call: Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Connors, Mr. Houghton, Mrs. Heiar, Mr. Meason, Mrs. Michowski, Mrs. Littlefield - 7 ayes, Motion carried.

12. New Business

None.

13. Superintendent's Report

a. Upcoming committee meetings

1. Building & Grounds Committee Mtg - in our next meeting, we will be discussing roof repair, water testing, RGS tile, and parking lot hot patching.
2. Finance Committee Mtg - in our next meeting, we will be discussing administrative contracts and non-certified raises.

b. RGS/WPES Roofing Update

We will have a bid opening on March 28th on our roof repair recommended by our Life Safety inspection; which then will be approved in April's Board meeting. This will be coordinated with the timing of the upcoming Levy.

c. April BOE Meeting Structure

The April 19th BOE meeting will be separated into 2 meetings due to the seating of the new Board members from the April 4th election.

In the first meeting, we will conduct unfinished business that the current board has started.

After adjournment, we will start a second BOE meeting by seating the new board members

and electing new officers.

d. Thank you to Chanice Michowski and Jim Meason

Thank you to Chanice Michowski for her 8 years of service to the Board. I have always appreciated Chanice's desire to ask questions on each proposal which resulted in the Board slowing down and reflecting before making tough decisions. In our 15 months together, she has sure kept me on my toes.

Thank you to Jim Meason for his 15 years of service. It has always been clear that Jim was a Board Member first and foremost to give back to his community. I appreciate Jim's willingness to step up at a time of need and assume the responsibility of Board President. Thank you for setting a great example.

14. Administrative Reports

RGS - Kindyl Etnyre

- Happy Illinois Arts Education Week (March 13-19) & School Social Worker Week, March 5-11) - These weeks remind us how fortunate we are as a district to employ dedicated individuals such as Mrs. Annie Hancox, Mrs. Rebecca Scheppman and Mr. Jordan Spencer.
- Read Across America: Thank you to our committee for establishing an environment filled with guest readers, mystery readers and opportunities to enjoy reading! Committee members include: Amy Stevens, Theresa O'Hea, Christine Wolfe, Betsy Atkins, Mary Spors, Stori Dimke, Paige Jaeger, Annie Hancox, Lindsay Campbell & Barb Kubat
- RGS Book Fair: Thank you to Mrs. Kelly Baumgartner, Mrs. Cheryl Butler and numerous volunteers for creating another successful book fair experience for our students and families! The RGS library earned \$1287.20 in Scholastic dollars and \$1849.25 in cash profit.
- Thank you to the PTO for supporting \$2000 in mini-grants for RGS staff members! Your support is greatly appreciated.
- Thank you to Mr. Jim Meason and Mrs. Chanice Michowski for their years of commitment to the students and staff of the Rockton School District.

WPES - Megan Forsythe

- Read Across America Week: Thank you to the WPES Read Across American Committee: Leah Carter, Amy Bigwood, Kathy Sipe, and Paige VanSistine - for putting together all of the fun activities to celebrate reading. The kids loved it and also enjoyed seeing the principal duct taped to the wall since they all completed the reading challenge of providing evidence of reading at home, reading a Dr. Seuss book, and reading with someone they have never read with before.
- Book Fair! Thank you to Mrs. Kelly Baumgartner and other staff members for helping put on another successful book fair. Not only do the kids enjoy the library's transformation and the new books, but the book fair also generated \$2,420 'Scholastic Dollars' and \$1,156 cash profit for our library to put towards new books.
- PARCC Testing! All grade levels have started PARCC testing. The three ELA tests will be completed before spring break and the four math tests will all be completed in April.
- PTO Update:
 - A. Thank you to Michelle Anderson and all of the volunteers for putting together our Spring Family Reading Night last Thursday. It was a fund evening in Seussville!
 - B. Congratulations to all of the PTO mini-grant recipients! The PTO awarded \$6,000. To RGS, WPES, and SMMS teachers to put towards supplies and projects for their classrooms.
 - C. Rockton Night at the Ice Hogs is Saturday, April 1st with the WPES choir performing our national anthem. Students are encouraged to sell tickets and attend this event as a fundraiser for our PTO.

SMMS - Autumn Czizek & Matt Roer

- Girls Basketball - Congratulations to the girls basketball teams for their success this season. Eighth grade ended up in first and seventh grade was the runner-up!
- NJHS Smashball Tournament - NJHS Smashball Tournament was held after school today. We had a great turnout. Students had fun and lots of peanut butter and jelly was collected for the local food pantry.
- Field Trips - Sixth grade is headed to Medieval Times on Friday, March 17 and seventh grade is headed to Chicago to Navy Pier to see Romeo and Juliet. Thank you to the teachers for arranging these great experiences for our students.
- Thank You - Thank you to PTO for funding \$2,000 worth of mini-grants. Our teachers and students appreciate all of the work that you put in to support our schools.
- Book Fair - Thank you to Mrs. Patterson for setting up a fabulous book fair for the SMMS students. With this fair, \$1,753.00 was earned in Scholastic Dollars.
- PARCC Testing - Students have started PARCC testing and all has been going well. Thank you to James Hall and Lindy Daniels for all of their help getting everything ready.
- Rockton Warriors Booster Club - SMMS Rec Night was held on March 10 and was a great time. There was lots of games played and karaoke sang.
- Thank you to Jim Meason and Chanice Michowski for their years of service on the board. We appreciate your dedication to the district.

15. Comments from the Community

- Dan Baumgartner stated the RTA would like to thank both Chanice and Jim for their years of service to the Rockton School District. "Our school district is a destination district and that is due to you always doing what was best for the students. As a parent,

I appreciate your commitment and your desire for our kids to have the best education possible.”

16. Members' Comments

- Gail Johnson thanked Barb Kubat for inviting Board members to read to classes during Read Across America week. “It was very fun.”
- Gail Johnson thanked Jim and Chanice for all their years of service. “I learned a lot from you as I worked as a union leader and as a BOE member.”
- Katie Littlefield thanked both Chanice and Jim for their years of service.

17. Adjournment

Mrs. Littlefield motioned for adjournment at 8:42 p.m., seconded by Mr. Connors. The next meeting will be April 19, 2017, in the Rockton Grade School Music Room. All in favor, 7 ayes, Motion carried.

Katie Littlefield, President

Stacey Heiar, Secretary