

**Minutes of Regular Meeting
Held May 17, 2017**

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

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

1.1 Roll Call

Brett Lundsten, Gail Johnson, Shawn Connors, Josh Houghton, Chad Papke, Katie Littlefield

Absent: Stacey Heiar

Others Present:

Superintendent Terry, RTA President Dan Baumgartner, Principals Kindyl Etnyre,

Megan

Forsythe, Autumn Czizek, Assistant Principal Matt Roer, Maintenance Director Tim Ehlers, WPES Teachers Kathy Sipe, Andrea Leitner, Laura Benkovich, Art Teachers Annie Hancox, Dan Enderle, Janessa Zimmer, and many community members.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

1.3 Approval of Agenda

Katie Littlefield motioned for approval of the agenda, seconded by Josh Houghton. All

in

favor, 6 ayes, Motion passed.

02. Comments from the Community

None.

03. Correspondence

- Thank you cards from Lisa Rehfeldt, Cheryl Daubert, Kelly Gilliam, Donna Hayenga, Jenny Middleton, Tina Bottensek, Sue Miller, Tammi Gaziano, and Teresa Tomblinson for the Amazon gift cards from the Board in honor of Administrative Professionals Day.
- Thank you cards from the 1st Grade Team, Cori Taylor, and Ann Hart for the popcorn treat from the Board in honor of Staff Appreciation Day!
- Thank you card from the David Griffin family for plant sent in his memory.
- Four letters of in-school suspension
- Five letters of out-of-school suspension

04. Student Artwork Presentations

Artwork by Alayna Stewart/RGS, Brooke Mason/WPES, and Ava Cicmansky/SMMS was presented to the Board and will be displayed in the District Office until each student graduates from high school. Great job Alayna, Brooke, and Ava!

05. Wonders Reading Series Presentation - WPES

Kathy Sipe (3rd Grade) and Andrea Leitner (4th grade) and Laura Benkovich (3rd grade) presented a very positive and enjoyable update of the new Wonders Reading Series that has been adopted at WPES.

06. Mr. Houghton moved to go into **Executive Session at 6:14 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 (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 Contract (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(7), And Lawfully Closed Meeting Minutes (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21),**

seconded by Mrs. Johnson.

Roll call: Mr. Lundsten, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Connors, Mr. Houghton, Mr. Papke, Mrs. Littlefield.

Mr. Connors moved to return to open session at 6:42 p.m., seconded by Mr. Houghton.

Roll call: Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Connors, Mr. Houghton, Mr. Papke, Mr. Lundsten, Mrs. Littlefield - 6 ayes, motion carried.

07. Action on Items Arising Out of Closed Session

7.1 Approval of 3-15-17 Regular Closed Minutes

Mr. Houghton motioned to approve the 3-15-17 regular closed minutes and they are to remain closed, seconded by Mrs. Johnson.

Roll call: Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Connors, Mr. Houghton, Mr. Papke, Mr. Lundsten, Mrs. Littlefield - 6 ayes, Motion carried.

7.2 Personnel

Mrs. Johnson moved to approve the following employments, seconded by Mr. Houghton.

CERTIFIED STAFF

1. Craig Carter (Resign) – Geography Club Advisor
2. Annie Hancox (Resign) – RGS Art Teacher

3. Lucinda Balandis (Hire) – Geography Club Advisor
4. Adrienne King (Hire) – 2nd grade teacher
5. Jacob Doyle (Hire) – 5th grade teacher
6. Katie Ostdick – (Hire) – 5th grade teacher
7. Ashley Jenkins – (Hire) – 3rd grade teacher
8. Carey Hubbel – RGS Nurse

NON-CERTIFIED STAFF

1. Casey Granberg (Hire) – Summer Maintenance 20 hours/week
2. Alex Gaziano (Hire) – Summer Maintenance 20 hours/week
3. Corey Rehfeldt (Hire) – Summer Maintenance 40 hours/week

Roll call: Mr. Connors, Mr. Houghton, Mr. Papke, Mr. Lundsten, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Littlefield - 6 ayes, Motion carried.

08. Consent Items

April

Items recommended for the consent agenda are last month's open session minutes,

Bills, May payroll, March treasurer's report and all items identified below:

- WCSEC Employment & Personnel, Bills Paid
- Depositories: In accordance with Board Policy, a list is provided annually of authorized depositories, investment managers and brokers for district investments.
- Booster Club fundraisers for 2017-18 school year.
- PTO fundraisers for the 2017-18 school year.
- *Renewal: Board approval is recommended for the annual renewal of the district's membership of the Illinois Elementary School Association (IESA) for the 2017-18 school year. The membership enables our students to participate in IESA sanctioned sporting and academic events.
- 2017-18 Title I District Plan
- 5-12-17 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Mr. Lundsten motioned to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Mr. Papke.

Roll call: Mr. Connors, Mr. Houghton, Mr. Papke, Mr. Lundsten, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Littlefield - 6 ayes, Motion passed.

09. Finance Committee

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9.1 Finance Committee Update - Shawn Connors stated there was discussion on the amended budget and what areas were off by 10 %, and IDOT and Safe Route grants

well as the possibility of having a joint bid with the Village for blacktop work if it can be coordinated with our parking lot project.

9.2 Amended FY17 Budget Presentation - Glenn Terry updated the BOE regarding budget areas that led to the presented budget amendment. The district received unexpected additional IDEA funds that were being used for the new early childhood Class, speech pathologist supplies and Chromebook purchases for the special education department. Also, SMMS HVAC funds were budgeted for the 15-16 school year but the bills were received after June 1st, so they were paid during the 16-17 year thus creating a \$145,000 difference in expenditures.

10. Tax Defense Resolution

We have been working for over a year to coordinate a tax defense coalition with our area taxing bodies to assist with intervening on tax appeals at the Board of Review level and the PTAB level. This resolution states our desire to work together and share the associated cost among taxing bodies dividing by taxing rates. Every taxing body has the option to participate in defenses on a case by case basis.

Mrs. Littlefield motioned to approve the tax defense resolution included in your packet seconded by Mr. Lundsten.

Roll call: Mr. Houghton, Mr. Papke, Mr. Lundsten, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Connors, Mrs. Littlefield - 6 ayes, motion carried.

11. Request Approval for Benchmark Flooring Carpet Bid

Discussion was held regarding the \$38,000 bid from Benchmark Flooring for carpet Installation and repair on the RGS/WPES campus.

Mrs. Littlefield motioned to approve the Benchmark bid of \$38,000 for carpet installation and repair on the RGS/WPES campus, seconded by Mr. Lundsten.

Roll call: Mr. Papke, Mr. Lundsten, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Connors, Mr. Houghton, Mrs. Littlefield - 6 ayes, motion carried.

12. Milk and Bread Bid Approval

Approval is requested on the bid from our bread and milk vendors. This is a joint district agreement involving Hononegah, Kinnikinnick, Prairie Hill, Shirland and South Beloit school districts.

Mr. Connors motioned to approve the bread and milk bid for the 2017-2018, seconded by Mr. Papke.

Roll call: Mr. Lundsten, Mrs. Johnson Mr. Connors, Mr. Houghton, Mr. Papke, Mrs Littlefield - 6 ayes, Motion carried.

13. Sub-grant Memorandum of Understanding

Kim Moore, Director of the Cooperative, discussed the new method for federal grant

writing for Co-op member districts at last year's August Board meeting. Instead of the Co-op writing the IDEA grant and applying the funds received to our bill, we write the grant and use the money to pay our bills. This allows each district to individualize how they spend federal grant money. By passing this resolution, we are agreeing to how we will document the spending of federal funds.

Mrs. Littlefield motioned to pass the Sub-grant Memorandum of Understanding as presented in your packet, seconded by Mr. Lundsten.

Roll call: Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Connors, Mr. Houghton, Mr. Papke, Mr. Lundsten, Mrs. Littlefield - 6 ayes, Motion carried.

14. Parent Teacher Advisory Committee

Illinois School Code requires an annual meeting of parents and staff to review our code of conduct and the district's wellness policy. Assistant Principal Matt Roer chaired this year's meeting and reviewed the committee recommendations at the meeting.

15. Advanced Classes at Whitman Post

Megan Forsythe updated the BOE on the WPES new approach of not labeling advanced classes. This new approach is a result from a booktalk on Jo Boaler's book titled, *Mathematical Mindsets, Unleashing Student's Potential Through Creative Math, Inspiring Messages and Innovative Teaching*. The hope is to reduce undue pressures and stigmas placed on all students.

16. Discussion/Approval of 2017-2018 Committee of the Whole Meeting Dates

There was discussion on starting 'Committee of the Whole' meetings beginning in July, 2017. These meetings will be held the second week of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the district office conference room.

Mr. Houghton motioned to approve starting Committee of the Whole meetings in July, 2017, seconded by Mr. Lundsten. All in favor, 6 ayes, Motion carried.

17. New Business

Discussion was held regarding if the BOE would support a resolution against the Great Lakes Basin Railroad. The board would support a resolution. Mr. Terry will bring a resolution to the June meeting.

18. Superintendent's Report

- Mr. Terry updated the BOE on the new Online Registration process which was started on May 1st. As of May 17, 2017, 62 percent of our families have completed the on-line registration with positive results.
- The transition to our new accounting/payroll software in the District Office is going very well. We completed our first payroll and there were only 2 small glitches. A great big thank you to Sue Miller who has spearheaded this project and has done an amazing job.

- May 26th is a Teacher Institute Day which will start with a 7:30 a.m. breakfast SMMS. Mr. Terry invited the Board members to come enjoy a great breakfast and some time with staff.

- Mr. Terry updated the BOE on the Coop Joint Agreement which eliminated the Governing Board.

19. **Administrative Reports**

RGS/Kindyl Etnyre

RGS Art Show: A 'royal' thank you to Mrs. Hancox! The students were so pleased to see the final Candyland displays and compliments came pouring in all evening. Thank you to Mrs. Nett and Mrs. Clements-Jewery for volunteering countless hours to the art show.

2nd Grade Visiting WPES: We tried a new format for our 2nd graders visiting and touring WPES this past Tuesday. Each class met with a 3rd grade teacher for a Q & A session and personal tour.

Farewells: In the words of Dr. Seuss, "*Don't cry because it is over, smile because it happened.*" RGS wishes all the best to JoAnn Eischeid, Annie Hancox and Naomi Wilterdink. We will miss you!

End of Year Happenings at RGS:

- a. Field Day - Thursday, May 19
- b. First Grade Field Trip to the Madison Zoo - Wednesday, May 24
- c. Pre-K Field Trip to Hononegah Forest Preserve - Wednesday, May 24

WPES/Megan Forsythe

Art Show 2017! Thank you to Storm Trooper, Mr. Enderle, for getting us all excited about art with a science fiction theme. The Force was with WPES as we enjoyed some amazing projects on May 4th. And a special thanks to Chewbacca and Darth Vader for the added fun they provided for this event.

SIP Day: Thank you to Laura Benkovich, Zach Newman, and Lance Tuula for leading a few different Google training sessions on our April 28th SIP Day. Teachers got a lot out of these sessions and are getting excited to find new ways to use technology to enhance student learning!

End of Year Dates!

- a. Wax Museum (4th grade): We invite you all to come meet famous people of the past this Friday, May 19th from 1:00-1:45 in the back field of WPES.
- b. Field Day: Come check out our WPES students engaging in team building activities on Tuesday, May 23rd with 3rd grade from 8:15 - 9:45, 5th grade from 10:00 - 11:30, and 4th grade from 12:45 - 2:15.
- c. End-of-Year Bash: Wednesday, May 24th, from 12:35-2:35 we will have our final Rewards celebration with wings donated from Buffalo Wild Wings and ice cream donated from the Dairy Haus, as well as a DJ, a bouncy house, and tons of fun to celebrate a great quarter and a FANTASTIC school year!
- d. Thank you to Julie Breese for 30 years of teaching at RSD #140. We wish her

well in her new retirement adventures.

PTO Update:

- a. Neon Night was a success with a great turn out of many glowing kids and parents!
- b. Thank you to the “Dream Team” of moms - Joni Meichtry, Dana Stockton, Tammy Peterson, and Heather Hardwick - who helped out with our Hollywood-themed Staff Appreciation Week. And thanks to the many area sponsors who donated items for the week! Staff enjoyed being spoiled and were very appreciative.

SMMS/Autumn Czizek, Matt Roer

Track- Congratulations to our state qualifiers. We had nine students qualify for state track this year. We wish them the best of luck this weekend at state and will be sending them off on Friday morning with an all school assembly.

Economy Day- The sixth grade spring economy day was a success! The sixth grade students put in a lot of effort and time to make their stores great! Thank you to the 3rd grade students for coming over to visit!

Field Day-Field day is coming up on Thursday, May 25. We are looking forward to a great talent show followed by a day of fun activities!

Awards Night-SMMS Awards Night was held on May 8 where we honored many students for the accomplishments this year. Thank you to Jenny Middleton for all of her work to organize the event!

8th Grade Graduation- Graduation will be held on May 24 at 7pm at the Hononegah Performing Arts Center.

Graduation Walk-The 8th grade students will be saying goodbye to Rockton and walking through the halls of RGS and WPES while the elementary students line the halls on Monday, May 22 around 1:00. We are looking forward to this event and think it will be a great addition to our graduation activities!

20. Comments from the Community

- a Dan Baumgartner thanked Glenn Terry, area superintendents, and the WCSEC team for positive experience in negotiating the three year WCSEC contract. Dan, along with Gina Tuula, were very proud to be part of this negotiation.

21. Board Member Comments

Gail Johnson commented she is very proud to work alongside her fellow Rockton Board members and was very proud to get elected to this Board last April.

22. Adjournment

- Motion Mr. Lundsten moved to adjourn at 7:43 p.m., seconded by Mr. Houghton. 6 ayes, carried. The next regular meeting will be June 21, 2017 in the Rockton Grade School Music Room.

Katie Littlefield, Board President

Stacey Heiar, Board Secretary