

ROCKTON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 140  
ROCKTON, ILLINOIS 61072

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 15, 2006 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 November 15, 2006, at the Rockton Grade School – District Office Conference Room 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	P	P	P	P	P	P

Others present: Superintendent Jean Harezlak, Principals Jay Larson, Georgiann McKenna, Barb Browning, Assistant Principal Jim Taphorn, Curriculum Coordinator Kindyl Etnyre, Teacher Gail Johnson, and various guests.

Mr. Schubert moved to enter closed session at 6:06 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, last month's closed session minutes, pending litigation, negotiations, student discipline, and potential litigation involving a construction dispute, seconded by Mrs. Percy.

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

Mrs. Percy moved to return to open session at 6:30 p.m., seconded by Mr. Schubert.

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

The Rockton Warriors Booster Club presented a check to Rockton School District for \$15,000 for the SMMS track and field.

### **PTO Playground Proposal**

Stacey Byxbe and Shelly Curtis, PTO Co-presidents, presented a preliminary proposal to upgrade the current playgrounds at RGS and WPES. To help raise funds for the playgrounds they will be sponsoring a Fun Run May 4, 2007.

### **Public Hearing for School Code Waiver**

The Rockton School District 140 Board of Education held a public hearing for a renewal request for the district's previous five-year waiver to attend school on Abraham Lincoln's birthday.

The Public Hearing was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was opened for public input from 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. No one wished to address the Board regarding the waiver.

### **School Improvement Plans**

Each building principal presented a summary of the proposed 2006-07 school improvement plan for their building.

Mrs. Warren moved to approve the 2006-07 school improvement plans for each building as presented, seconded by Mrs. Percy, carried unanimously.

### **Correspondence**

- A thank you card was received from Jackie Russell for the plant sent in memory of her father.
- A thank you card was received from Scott and Erin Rollinson for the book received for the birth of their son Owen.
- One letter of bus suspension and two letters of in-school suspension.

## **Consent Agenda**

Mrs. Praneis moved to approve items on the consent agenda, seconded by Mr. Schubert.

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

Items included:

1. October 25, 2006 Regular meeting minutes and October 24, 2006 Policy Committee meeting minutes
2. November bills, December payroll, October treasurer's report
3. Winnebago County Special Education Cooperative bills
4. Donation of books for RGS library

## **Policy Committee**

At the October 24, 2006 Policy Committee meeting, the following policy changes were reviewed and recommended for BOE action at the December meeting. Recommendations for each of the policies listed below are noted in the Policy Committee minutes. Copies of the policy changes were provided.

- o 6:70 – Teaching About Religions
- o 6:80 – Teaching About Controversial Issues
- o 6:150 – Home and Hospital Instruction
- o 6:210 – Instructional Materials
- o 6:220 – Instructional Materials Selection and Adoption
- o 6:280 – Grading and Promotion
- o 6:290 – Homework
- o 6:330 – Awards and Scholarships
- o 7:80 – Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance
- o 7:90 – Release During School Years
- o 7:220 – Bus Conduct
- o 7:290 – Adolescent Suicide Awareness and Prevention Programs
- o 7:310 – Publications
- o 7:340 – Student Records
- o 8:40 – Spectator Conduct and Sportsmanship for Athletic and Extracurricular Events

## **Personnel**

Mrs. Warren moved to approve employment of Lynn Bergstrom, Michelle Beeman, Lisa Larson – WPES After-School Reading Teachers, Tammy Welcher – WPES After-School Reading Aide, Linh Phommachanh - SMMS Science Olympiad Advisor, Rich Mayer - SMMS Quiz Bowl Advisor, Kevin Burns – SMMS Girls Basketball Coach, and accept resignations of Lindy Daniels – SMMS Quiz Bowl Advisor, and Pam Timmer – SMMS Special Education Aide, seconded by Mrs. Neece.

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

## **Closed Session Minutes**

Mrs. Warren moved to approve the October 25, 2006 regular closed session minutes and that they are to remain closed, seconded by Mr. Schubert, carried unanimously.

## **Request for Additional Custodial Time**

Mrs. Percy moved to approve additional custodial time as presented, seconded by Mr. Schubert.

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

## **Update on Construction Projects**

Superintendent Harezlak reported on the progress of the RGS/WP project and the track and soccer field. Windows for the RGS/WP addition are expected to be delivered next week. The rest of the construction is on schedule. Moving in the new addition is expected to begin the last day before Winter Break.

Mr. Schubert moved to approve change order for the removal of brush at SMMS for \$2,500, seconded by Mrs. Praneis.

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

### **Tax Levy for 2006**

Mr. Schubert moved to approve the estimated and proposed levy figures as presented, seconded by Mr. Meason.

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

### **Enrollment Update**

An update was provided of the district's enrollment that is based on the ISBE Fall Housing Report. This annual report to the state documents the enrollment in each school facility as of September 30<sup>th</sup>.

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

Mrs. Harezlak presented and discussed the following:

#### **American Education Week: November 12-18, 2006**

This is the 83<sup>rd</sup> annual celebration of American Education Week. The event honors teachers, education support professionals, parents, community members and substitute teachers for their commitment to providing quality education to children. This year's theme "*Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility*," highlights the importance of bringing together educators, school staff, parents, students, and communities in a unified effort to build great public schools.

#### **December Events**

Don't miss these opportunities to enrich your holiday season by attending one or all of these special school events.

December 4	6:30 p.m.	WPES 3rd Grade Concert - HHS PAC
December 5	7:00 p.m.	WPES DARE Graduation - HHS PAC
December 6	6:30 p.m.	RGS 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Concert - HHS PAC
December 11	7:00 p.m.	SMMS Band Concert - SMMS Gym
December 13	6:30 p.m.	WPES 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Concert - HHS PAC
December 14	6:30 p.m.	PTO General Assembly - SMMS Gym

#### **Golden Apple Nominees**

The Golden Apple Foundation is recognizing sixth through twelfth grade teachers this year. Our school district is honored to have 11 teachers nominated for this regional award. Congratulations to the following SMMS teachers: Dan Baumgartner, Lindy Daniels, Ann Hart, Denie Kelly, Penny Lee, Marta Polakowski, Scott Rollinson, Cindy Snowdon, Cori Taybr, Sue Vermett, Laura Zimmerman.

#### **School Board Elections**

Notices were published in local newspapers regarding the April 17, 2007 School Board election.

Candidates for the three vacancies may begin collecting nominating signatures and the last day to file nominating papers is February 5, 2007.

#### **IASB**

Information regarding plans for the November conference was provided.

#### **Other**

A dedication ceremony will be in January for the new RGS/WPES wing. The Board also directed Superintendent Harezlak to look into the cost of a dedication plaque for SMMS.

Mrs. Harezlak reported that George Lingel, consultant for IASBO, will be present at the December BOE meeting to discuss financial projections for the district.

Mr. Schubert moved to suspend the regular order of business and open the meeting for audience input, seconded by Mrs. Pearcy. Gail Johnson shared some of the activities that were held during American Education Week. Regular session resumed.

### **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

- Mrs. Browning shared student artwork pieces that were fired in the new RGS kiln. The parent-teacher conferences were well attended. The Kids Who Care assembly was held last week and the students responded well. Mrs. Browning mentioned that she is doing a 'Joke of the Day' for students that is sponsored by Scholastic Book Fair.
- Dr. McKenna mentioned students are collecting food for the pantry and they are collecting coats for Koats for Kids. She spoke about the mentor program training.
- Mr. Larson reported that the NJHS sponsored turkey bowling was a great success and over 4000 cans of food were donated to the food pantry. The food service ladies prepared turkey dinner that was delicious.
- Mr. Taphorn mentioned that the district holiday party is December 8<sup>th</sup> at the Clock Tower and encouraged everyone to attend. Three hundred eighty three honor roll letters were mailed last week.
- Mrs. Etnyre reported that she has enjoyed being in the classrooms during MAP assessments. She mentioned that she is honored to work in such a wonderful school district.

### **MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

- Mr. Schubert commented about student progress.
- Mrs. Pearcy mentioned that the Veteran's Day ceremony at WPES was wonderful.

### **NEXT BOE MEETING**

The next regular Board of Education meeting will be held at Rockton Grade School Library on **Monday**, December 18, 2006 at 6:00 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Schubert moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Neece, carried unanimously.

Approved Date:        December 18, 2006

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

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