

ROCKTON SCHOOL DISTRICT 140
ROCKTON, ILLINOIS 61072

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 14, 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 November 14, 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 6:00 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

Mr. Meason arrived at 6:05 p.m.

Others present: Superintendent Jean Harezlak, Principals Scott Rollinson, Barb Browning, Jay Larson, Assistant Principal Jim Taphorn, Curriculum Coordinator Kindyl Etnyre, Business Manager Julia Saunders, Reporter Rob Baxter from Rockford Register Star, and RTA President/Teacher Glenn Terry.

Closed Session

Mr. Schubert moved to enter closed session at 6:01 p.m. to discuss 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). Student discipline - 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(9). Setting of a price for sale or lease of school property - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6), seconded by Mrs. Neece.

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

Mr. Schubert moved to return to open session at 7:15 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Neece.

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

Correspondence

- Thank you card received from Betsy and Rich Atkins for the baby book received for the birth of their daughter Sydney.
- Four letters of in-school detention and one letter of bus suspension.

Consent Agenda

Mrs. Praneis moved to approve consent agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. Schubert.

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

Items included:

1. October 24, 2007 Regular meeting minutes
2. November bills, December payroll, October treasurer's report
3. Winnebago County Special Education Cooperative executive action
4. Donations
 - Two laptop computers valuing \$800 from Kristine Bielke.
 - Laura and Jim Benkovich donated \$75 for the seventh grade Upham Woods trip to help fund a student in need.

5. Request – WPES fifth grade team requested approval for annual trip to Timber-lee Outdoor Education Camp.
6. IMRF Resolution

Personnel

A motion was made by Mrs. Warren, seconded by Mr. LaForge, to approve the following personnel report.

- a. Employment – 2007-08 school year
 - o Gina Radke ACE/Special Education Teacher Assistant – part-time - SMMS
 - o Kathy Broaddus Fourth/Fifth Grade Choir
- b. Resignation
 - o Cori Taylor Chess Club Advisor - SMMS

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

Closed Session Minutes

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

Policy Committee Recommendations

Mrs. Warren moved to approve the following revised policy changes, seconded by Mrs. Percy, carried unanimously.

- o 2:125 – Board Member Expenses
- o 4:180 – Pandemic Preparedness
- o 5:130 – Responsibilities Concerning Internal Information
- o 5:180 – Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity
- o 5:200 – Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal
- o 5:222 – Part-Time Teachers
- o 6:40 – Curriculum Development
- o 6:235 – Access to Electronic Networks
- o 7:90 – Release During School Hours

Mrs. Warren moved to approve the October 24, 2007 Policy Committee minutes, seconded by Mrs. Neece, carried unanimously.

The following policy changes were reviewed and recommended for Board action at the December BOE meeting. Recommendations for each of the policies listed below are noted in the October 24, 2007 Policy Committee minutes. Copies of the recommended policy changes were provided.

- o 5:186 – Board Member Expenses
- o 5:200 – Terms and conditions of Employment and Dismissal
- o 5:300 – Schedules and Employment Year
- o 5:330 – Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves
- o 5:332 – Insurance Benefits
- o 5:335 – Job Descriptions/Categories/Multi-Level Pay
- o 5:336 – Full/Part-time Status

2007 ISAT Results

A review of the ISAT results from the assessment completed in March 2007 was presented by Kindyl Etnyre, Curriculum Coordinator.

Review and Award Bid for SMMS Cleaning/Replacement of Cooling System Fluid

Mrs. Warren moved to award bid to Mechancial Inc. in the amount of \$35,580 for SMMS cleaning/replacement of cooling system fluid, seconded by Mrs. Pearcy.

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

Laidlaw Transportation Contract

Mrs. Pearcy moved to approve two year extension of transportation contract with First Student (formerly Laidlaw Transportation) as presented, seconded by Mr. Schubert.

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

Tax Levy for 2007

Julia Saunders, Business Manager presented the 2007 tax levy. Information presented included the estimated tax rates and recommended levy figures. The levy hearing is scheduled on December 19, 2007 at 6 p.m.

Mr. Schubert moved to approve estimated levy figures as presented, seconded by Mrs. Pearcy.

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

Enrollment Update

An update of the district's enrollment including the data from this year's ISBE Fall Housing Report and a 20-year history of enrollment numbers was provided.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Congratulations to District PTO

The PTO and Booster Club "Fun Run" held in October raised over \$43,000 through the excellent exercise efforts of staff and students and the generous donations of corporate sponsors. A very special thank you to parents Kristy Smith and Linda Rivers along with their Fun Run Committee.

Mobil Education Alliance Grant

SMMS and WPES each received \$500 grant from Mobil Education Alliance Grant through our local Rockton Mobil station. Funds will be used to purchase technology equipment.

American Education Week: November 12-17

This is the 86th annual celebration of American Education Week. The event honors teachers, education support professionals, parents, and community members for their commitment to providing quality education to children. This year's theme, ***Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility*** reflects the Association's calling upon America to provide students with quality public schools so that they can grow, prosper, and achieve in the 21st century.

Winter Concerts

Don't miss these opportunities to enrich your holiday season by attending a performance featuring our talented students.

December 3	6:30 p.m.	WPES Fifth Grade	HHS PAC
December 5	6:30 p.m.	RGS Second Grade	HHS PAC
December 10	6:30 p.m.	WPES Third Grade	HHS PAC
December 17	7:00 p.m.	SMMS Band	SMMS Gym

Golden Apple Nominees

The Golden Apple Foundation is recognizing preK through fifth grade teachers this year. Congratulations to our district nominees: Michelle Bottensek, Emily Dummer, Sue Eggum, Marge Guerrero, Teresa Halom, Gail Johnson, AnnDee Nimmer, Annie Rohrer, Kelly Baumgartner, Cari Benkovich, Andrea Leitner, Amy Meier, Kathy Sipe, Lance Tuula.

IASB

Information regarding plans for the November conference was provided.

Bright Star Award

Rockton School District is the recipient of an award of excellence from SchoolSearch, an educational research and consulting firm that publishes online rankings of school systems in the United States. The Bright Star award honors school districts whose students' academic performance ranks in the upper one third of Illinois school districts, but whose expenditure per pupil ranks in the lower one-fourth of Illinois school districts.

Other

- Superintendent Harezlak mentioned the December newsletter will be mailed soon and includes a school finance article and the final article regarding BOE members.
- Announced that REEF is presenting Trivia Night on February 9, 2008.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr. Taphorn

- Mentioned that boys basketball has started.
- Reported that 393 honor roll letters were mailed this week.
- Commented that the SMMS band concert was great.

Mr. Rollinson

- Commented that the Veteran's Day assembly was wonderful.
- Thanked the Rotary Club for donating dictionaries for third grade students.
- Mentioned that Pizza Ranch in Roscoe donated food for teachers during parent-teacher conferences last week.
- Commented that the PTO did an awesome job raising \$43,000 from the Fun Run.

Mrs. Browning

- Mrs. Browning invited all BOE members to the Holiday Party on December 1st at La Casa Grande in Beloit.
- Mentioned that the second grade concert is December 5.
- Reported that RGS students are raising money for Whimpy's fund.

Mrs. Etnyre

- Announced that teacher switch day is in January.
- Commented that she is enjoying the mentoring program.

NEXT BOE MEETING

The next regular Board of Education meeting will be held at Rockton Grade School library on Wednesday, December 19, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Schubert moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m., seconded by Mr. LaForge, carried unanimously.

Approved date: December 19, 2007

President: _____

Secretary: _____