

**Minutes of Regular Meeting
Held September 25, 2013**

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

1. **Call to Order** by President Jim Meason at 6:35 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

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

Others Present: Superintendent Mike Greenlee, Principals Glenn Terry, Scott Rollinson, Kindyl Etnyre, Diane Roth, Julia Saunders, Lindy Daniels, Gail Johnson, Eric Eiss, Rich Mayer, Mark Donaldson, Erica Pennington, Chuck Kleeberger, Rob Provost and other various guests.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

4. **Budget Hearing**

The district budget hearing scheduled for 6:30 p.m. provided an opportunity for public input. The Board of Education is required by law to adopt a budget for the fiscal year by September 30th. The revised budget was passed out to the Board at the meeting reflecting the health insurance changes. The revisions were reviewed at the meeting. Superintendent Greenlee recommended the budget be adopted with the amended figures.

Mr. Schubert moved to approve the FY2013-2014 Rockton School District Budget seconded by Mrs. Warren.

Roll Call: Mrs. Praneis, Mr. Schubert, Mrs. Michowski, Mr. Midgett, Ms. Neece, Mrs. Warren, Mr. Meason – 7 ayes, Motion carried.

5. Jim Meason moved to go into Executive Session at 6:37 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 Brenda Warren.
Roll call: Mrs. Michowski, Mr. Midgett, Ms. Neece, Mrs. Praneis, Mr. Schubert, Mrs. Warren, Mr. Meason – 7 ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Meason moved to return to open session at 6:55, seconded by Mrs. Praneis.

Roll call: Mr. Midgett, Ms. Neece, Mrs. Praneis, Mr. Schubert, Mrs. Warren, Mrs. Michowski, Mr. Meason – 7 ayes. Motion carried.

6. **Correspondence for the September 25, 2013 Board of Education Meeting**

- Thank you card from Nancy Shouler and family for the plant sent to her husband during his hospital stay.
- Three letters of out-of-school suspension were sent out.

7. **Comments from the Community**

Mr. Meason moved to suspend the regular order of business and open the meeting for audience input, seconded by Mr. Schubert.

Chuck Kleeberger and Ron Provost, participants in the Strategic Planning Meeting held September 20, 2013, commented that it was a privilege to be part of the Strategic Planning Team and were thankful for all that the Rockton School District does for its students and the community.

Robin Crouch, RGS parent, addressed the Board regarding the importance of safety belts on Rockton school busses.

8. **Consent Items**

Mrs. Michowski moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Ms. Neece. Items recommended for the consent agenda are last month's open session minutes, September bills, October payroll, August treasurer's report and all items identified with an **asterisk**.

- * **Cooperative:** Action taken at the September 12, 2012 executive meeting of the Winnebago County Special Education Cooperative was reviewed. Superintendent Greenlee recommended approval.
- * **Recognition:** The School Code also requires that the State Board of Education establish general operational recognition standards for public schools and develop recognition standards for student performance and school improvement. Each school district must ensure that each school makes available to all students instruction in the six fundamental learning areas, i.e., language arts, mathematics, biological, physical, and social sciences, fine arts, and physical development and health. Each school district shall also ensure that each school in the district carries out a continuous school improvement process that includes all State Goals for Learning. Through the School Improvement Planning process each school in the district establishes local learning objectives that are consistent with the primary purpose of schooling, assessment systems for measuring students' progress in the fundamental learning areas, reporting systems for informing the community and the state of assessment results, and plans for improvement. The superintendent has verified that each school and the district as a whole complies with all requirements as cited in the Illinois School Code. Therefore, Superintendent Greenlee recommended that the Board approve the 2012-2013 Application for Recognition of Schools for Rockton Grade School, Whitman Post Elementary School, and Stephen Mack Middle School.

* Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefit Report: Effective January 1, 2012, Sections 10-20.47 and 34-18.38 of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/10-20.47 and 5/34-18.38) were amended to require school districts to report administrator and teacher salary and benefits to ISBE and post on the district website by October 1.

* District Contracts/Fund Raisers: By law, it is required to submit all school sponsored fundraisers anticipated revenues over \$1,000 deposited in school accounts to be brought before the Board of Education for approval. It is recommended that the Board of Education approve fundraisers over \$1,000 as part of the Consent Agenda. It is recommended that the Board of Education approve fundraisers as listed: Market Day and Jump Rope for Heart.

Roll Call: Mrs. Praneis, Mr. Schubert, Mrs. Michowski, Mr. Midgett, Ms. Neece, Mrs. Warren, Mr. Meason – 7 ayes, Motion carried.

9. **Personnel**

A motion was made by Mr. Midgett, seconded by Mrs. Praneis to approve the following personnel changes for the 2013/2014 school year.

Certified Employees

- Lance Tuula – SMMS Asst. Play Director
- Dan Baumgartner – Chess Club Advisor

Non-Certified Employees

- Debbie King – RGS Teacher Asst.
- Erin Rollinson – RGS Teacher Asst.
- Wendy Enos – WPES Teacher Asst.
- Alicia Bottensek – RGS Kitchen Staff
- Kris Holland – SMMS Cross Country (Shared)
- Rebecca Shaw – SMMS Choir Director
- Diane LaForge – Increase time by 1 hour (7.25 per day)

Roll Call: Mrs. Warren, Ms. Neece, Mr. Midgett, Mrs. Michowski, Mr. Schubert, Mrs. Praneis, Mr. Meason – 7 ayes, Motion carried.

10. **Closed Session Minutes**

Mr. Meason moved to approve the August 14, 2013 regular closed session minutes, seconded by Ms. Neece. The August 14, 2013 minutes are to remain closed. 7 ayes, Motion carried.

11. **Action on Items Arising Out of Closed Session**

None.

12. **Strategic Plan Update**

On Friday September 20th, the Rockton School District began Strategic Planning for the next five years. Twenty-four people met at the American Center and created goals for the future of our students and school district. A summary was presented by Superintendent Greenlee that provides an overview of the work created by the Task Force.

13. **ISAT Score Report**

Lindy Daniels presented the results of the 2013 ISAT in grades three through eight. She discussed the impact of the new state cut scores and how that impacts the results.

14. **SMMS Basketball**

Eric Eiss informed the Board that SMMS will play three extra non-conference games this season at no extra cost to the district. Booster Club has generously agreed to pick up the costs.

15. **SMMS Lego League**

SMMS asked for approval to start a First Lego League team at SMMS for the 2013/2014 school year. The club would be at no expense to the district.

Mr. Schubert moved to approve it on a one-year trial basis, seconded by Ms. Neece.

16. **Self-Insurance Status**

Gallagher, the district's insurance broker, provided details regarding the rates for our health insurance for the 2013-14 school year. The new rates will save employees with 1 dependent \$42.00 per month and for family coverage a total of \$64.00 per month. The new rates will save the district a total of \$53,850 this fiscal year. Our dental insurance will remain flat for the upcoming year.

Roll call: Mr. Midgett, Mrs. Michowski, Mr. Schubert, Mrs. Praneis, Mrs. Warren, Ms. Neece, Mr. Meason – 7 ayes, Motion carried.

17. **Superintendent's Report**

➤ **Policy Committee**

New policies from press need to be reviewed. Superintendent Greenlee recommended a policy committee meeting on October 23rd at 5:30 pm in the Rockton Grade School Library.

➤ **Teacher Institute Evaluations**

Summary evaluations for teacher institute days on August 20th and August 21st were reviewed.

18. **Board Reports**

Mrs. Praneis and Mr. Midgett stated the district will be working with Larson & Darby to look at options for repairing the SMMS HVAC Chiller. Also, Taylor Company will be bringing a group of volunteers on Saturday, September 28th to SMMS to re-seed the islands in the parking lots.

19. **Administrative Reports**

A. **Mrs. Kindyl Etnyre**

- Thanks to Mrs. Kaz and the student council for planning our first successful dance of the year. They included a dodge ball, dunk tank, bags tournament and an outside dance floor in the event.

- We wish all the best to our volleyball, soccer and cross country athletes and coaches as they end the season with conference tournaments and sectional meets.
- Mrs. Etnyre personally thanked the BOE for approving the First Lego League at SMMS and providing opportunities beyond the classroom.
- The Curator of Conservation from SeaWorld (former Stephen Macker) will be bringing an assembly to SMMS on October 23rd for the 7th grade. Thanks to Misty Chipalla for arranging this assembly.
- Shout out to the SMMS staff for choosing to 'make it a great day' every day!

B. Mr. Scott Rollinson

- Thank you to the Booster Club for hosting a Rec Night for WPES on September 20, 2013.
- WPES is looking forward to the PTO Fun Run being held on Friday, September 27, 2013.
- 3rd grade will be going on a field trip to downtown Rockton during this week.
- 4th grade is looking forward to going on a field trip to Midway Village next month.

C. Mr. Glenn Terry

- Walmart is recognizing 20 of our teachers. They will receive gifts including \$50 gift cards for their classrooms.
- Upcoming events: Oct. 2nd Character Assembly at 10:00, Oct. 10th is RGS Movie night, and Oct. 19th is our inaugural RGS Bike Rodeo put on by Mrs. Dimke.
- First grade is finishing up their community field trip to downtown Rockton and 2nd grade will be going to Severson Dells the week of Oct. 7th.

20. **Comments from the Community**

- 1) Rich Mayer commented that he and Mark Donaldson attended a Summer Leadership Conference this past summer. Mr. Mayer pointed out and praised the collaborative relationship between RTA, School Board and Administration.

21. **Members' Comments**

- 1) Mrs. Michowski commented that her daughter, Abby had fun at the outdoor SMMS dance. It was a very neat opportunity.
- 2) Mr. Midgett shared a handout with the BOE highlighting eight characteristics of effective school boards.

22. Mr. Meason moved to go back into Executive Session at 8:24 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.

23. **Adjournment**

Mr. Meason moved to adjourn at 9:20 p.m. seconded by Ms. Neece. 7 ayes, Motion carried.

The next regular Board of Education meeting will be held at Rockton Grade School Library on October 23, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

Approved date: October 23, 2013

President: _____

Secretary: _____