

ROCKTON SCHOOL DISTRICT 140
Board of Education Meeting
January 24, 2024

1. **Call to Order**

President Driggers called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. **Roll Call**

Cynthia Driggers, Mary Newman, Steve Harkess, Kelsey Lueshen, Scott Robinson

Absent: Carson Breed, Trish Burgan

Others Present: Glenn Terry, Kindyl Etnyre, Erin Hauser, Megan Forsythe, Nicole Nelson, Justin Bonne, Jodie Freeman, Mary Vosberg-RTA

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

4. **Additions/Corrections to Agenda**

None

5. **Comments from the Community**

None

6. **Correspondence**

7. **Consent Items**

Items recommended for the consent agenda are:

- **Financials:** Approval of RSD #140 January 2024 bills \$1,287,648.19, Approval of December Payroll Vendor Liabilities Approval of December Reports as follows: Cash Report, Revenue Report, Expenditure Report, Cash & Investment Report, Operating Funds Summary, Fund Balance Report, Treasurer's Report, Check Register, Activity Check Register, Payroll Gross Earnings \$1,251,989.16, Payroll Liabilities Paid \$597,262.13
- Approval of December 13, 2023 BOE Minutes
- Approval of January 10, 2024 COW Minutes
- Approval of January 11, 2024 Special Purpose Minutes
- Approval of WCSEC Cooperative December 2023 Bills, Employment & Personnel Report
- Approval of WCSEC Cooperative December 2023 Financial Reports

Scott Robinson motioned to approve the above referenced consent items, seconded by Steve Harkess.

Roll Call: Cynthia Driggers, Mary Newman, Steve Harkess, Kelsey Lueshen, Scott Robinson

Motion Passed.

8. **Approval of the Bid from American Field Services for the resurfacing of the track at SMMS in the amount of \$123,000.00.**

Scott Robinson motioned to approve the bid from American Field Services in the amount of \$123,000.00 for the resurfacing of the SMMS track, seconded by Steve Harkess.

Roll Call: Cynthia Driggers, Mary Newman, Steve Harkess, Kelsey Lueshen, Scott Robinson

Motion Passed.

9. **Approval of January Personnel**
Certified New Hire

Emily Larson, 4th Grade Teacher - 2nd Semester, WPES, Effective 1/16/24 - 5/23/24 or last day of Teacher attendance for 23-24 SY

Non-Certified New Hire

Brooke Bullard, SPED Classroom Para, SMMS, Effective 1/23/24

Melissa Rivera, Food Service, RGS, Effective 1/29/24

Lilyana de la Uz, Rehire Pre-k Para, Effective 2/5/24

Non-Certified Termination/Resignation

Karina Arroyo, Food Service Cook, RGS, Effective 12/20/23

Diana Perkins, SPED Classroom Para, SMMS, Effective 1/3/24

Kristine Dirks, Food Service, WPES, Effective end of school year

Sarah Sandoval, Pre-k Para, RGS, Effective 2/2/24

Jennifer Wetzel, 1:1 Para, WPES, Effective 2/2/24

Scott Robinson motioned to approve 1 Certified New Hire, 3 Non-Certified New Hires, 5 Non-Certified Termination/Resignation, seconded by Cynthia Driggers.

Roll Call: Scott Robinson, Kelsey Lueshen, Cynthia Driggers, Mary Newman, Steve Harkess

Motion Passed.

10. Approve going out to bid for RGS/WPES parking lot

Kelsey Lueshen motioned to approve going out to bid for the RGS/WPES parking lot, seconded by Steve Harkess.

All in favor 5 ayes. Motion Passed.

11. Old Business

None

12. New Business

- **E-Rate**

Mr. Terry advised the BOE that the district has \$200,000 left to access with E-Rate. The district did not apply for the E-Rate Grant last year but will be applying this year to replace access points and possibly switches. With the E-Rate grant the district will be reimbursed 50%. Our current access points are very dated and we have various brands. Having one brand for all access points will allow us to manage all access points through one piece of software. Should be ready for approval at the February meeting.

- **New Positions**

Mr. Terry spoke with the BOE about investing in programming to better support our students. This could include hiring math interventionists and/or an EL Teacher. More discussion will take place at the February committee of the whole meeting.

- **Facility Tax**

Mr. Terry discussed the possibility of implementing a county wide facility tax. Interest has been expressed by districts throughout the county and would allow for districts to use this revenue for construction, facility improvements, or paying down bonds, all of which would benefit property owners. The ROE is holding an educational presentation on March 15th at 8:15 am that Mr. Terry will be attending with a Board member.

- **E-Learning**

Mr. Terry and the BOE had a discussion regarding loss instructional time due to multiple e-learning days due to weather. Mr. Terry suggested putting a limit on how many e-learning days that are used before calling for an emergency day that would have to be made up at the end of the school year. More discussion to follow.

13. Superintendent's Report

- **Bike Path Update**

Mr. Terry reported that there has been no progress with the proposed bike path connecting downtown Rockton to SMMS. However, there has been talk about extending the current bike path on Dorr Road and running the path down to WPES. Mr. Terry did state that the Village would be looking for a contribution from the District before moving forward with this project.

- **FOIA Request-Smart Procure**

Mr. Terry advised the BOE that he received a FOIA request from Smart Procure for purchase orders issued by the district. This is a request that the district receives quarterly.

- **FOIA Request-Illinois Retired Teachers Association**

Mr. Terry advised the BOE that he received a FOIA request from Illinois Retired Teachers Association for information on teachers that will be retiring at the end of the school year. This is a request that he receives annually.

14. Administrative Reports

RGS Administrative Report

1. Etnyre

- i. Today, all kindergarten, first and second grade teachers participated in a school-wide math professional development opportunity provided by an iReady consultant. Remember our instructional focus is strengthening our tier one practices. Topics included:
- ii. The RGS staff would like to thank the R.E.E.F. committee for supporting our students and teachers: Erin Parker/Rebecca Scheppmann, April Graves and dance parties in the cafe!

2. Hauser

- i. Thank you to all of our teachers, staff, students and families for their efforts during three days of remote learning during snow/cold days. We appreciate their flexibility and support!
- ii. Our character program is focusing on acceptance this month! Our students love to earn spot tickets, Friday recognition and certificates! Check out our RGS FB page to see all of our students showing outstanding character! Thanks to Mrs. Scheppmann, for organizing our Little Spot rewards twice per month and our daily Little Spot inspirational messages.

WPES Administrative Report

a. Nelson

- i. We want to thank Mr. Newman for two amazing concerts this month. Our 3rd & 5th graders did fantastically and we were fortunate to have Ms. Ballard and the choir perform at not only the 5th grade concert but also the Rockton Christmas Walk. We are excited to see the 4th grade concert in the Spring.
- ii. Wimpy's, Candy Cane Sales were a huge hit! We sold candy canes for three days during our Spirit of Giving Week. We raised a total of \$3,167 in donations and candy cane sales!
- iii. Our Whitman Post yearbook winners were both from 4th grade this year! Our 2023 - 2024 theme is "Whitman Post is Out of This World." Dane Carbaugh was our front cover winner and Ashlynn Wells won the back cover design with their great outer space designs.
- iv. The Holiday Shoppe was a huge success! The PTO did a wonderful job planning and organizing this event for our community. The feedback on the event has been great. This year the PTO brought in Santa, outside vendors, and NJHS students with their service projects. One NJHS student shared that they were able to raise \$200 for their charity, Brown Paws Rescue, and were able to get Noodles adopted during the event. Overall it was a wonderful day!

SMMS Administrative Report

1. Bonne

- Ideas for Bonne & Freeman
- NJHS
- Student Council
- HHS Elective
-

2. Freeman

- Cori Taylor, who has been a teacher in the RSD for 28 years, was named the 97ZOK teacher of the week on 1/12/24! She was surprised by Dave Allen and Emily from 97ZOK with a cake from Nothing Bundt Cakes and a giftcard to WM Day Spa. SMMS paraprofessional, Verneda Kessling,

nominated Cori and was there to give her a big hug when the radio DJ's came into Cori's Incubator class.. Cori was interviewed by Steve Shannon on the radio and she shared what inspired her to be a teacher. Congrats to Mrs. Taylor!

- SMMS kicked off No Name Calling Week this week with class act lessons in classrooms from our Social Workers that focused on how badly words can impact people. The goal is to eliminate name calling and reduce bullying behaviors. Tomorrow is Wear Yellow or a positive message to spread kindness and Friday ends the week with Random Acts of Kindness Day!

15. Members' Comments

None

16. Executive Session

- appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1))
- Other matters relating to individual students (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10))

Kelsey Lueshen motioned into executive session at 6:30 pm, seconded by Steve Harkess.

17. Adjournment

Kelsey Lueshen motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm, seconded by Scott Robinson.


Cynthia Driggers, President


Mary Newman, Secretary