

ROCKTON SCHOOL DISTRICT 140

Board of Education Meeting

Wednesday, April 21, 2021

1. Call to Order

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

2. Roll Call

Katie Littlefield, Shawn Connors, Josh Houghton, Chad Papke, Brett Lundsten, Mary Newman, Cynthia Driggers

Others Present: Glenn Terry, Lindy Daniels, Gina Tuula, Kindyl Etnyre, Erin Hauser, Megan Forsythe, Justin Bonne, Autumn Czizek, Jacqui Thompson, Scott Robinson, Stephen Harkess, Carson Breed

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Additions/Corrections to Agenda

Moving #22. Members Comments after #11. Approval of Speech and Language Pathologist Position.

5. Comments from the Community

None

6. Correspondence

7. Executive Session

Brett Lundsten motioned into Executive Session at 6:03 pm 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) Lawfully closed meeting minutes (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) and Self-evaluation, practice and procedures or professional ethics, when meeting with a representative of a statewide association of which the public body is a member (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(16), seconded by Chad Papke.

8. Action Arising out of Closed Session

8.1 Approval of December 16, 2020 BOE Closed Session Minutes

8.2 Approval of January 6, 2021 Committee of the Whole Closed Session Minutes

8.3 Approval of January 20, 2021 BOE Closed Session Minutes

8.4 Approval of February 10, 2021 Committee of the Whole Closed Session Minutes

8.5 Approval of February 24, 2021 BOE Closed Session Minutes

8.6 Approval of March 10, 2021 Committee of the Whole Closed Session Minutes

8.7 Approval of March 17, 2021 BOE Closed Session Minutes

Josh Houghton motioned to approve the above referenced closed session minutes and recommend they are to remain closed, seconded by Shawn Connors.

All in Favor 7 ayes. Motion passed.

9. Consent Items

Items recommended for the consent agenda are:

- Approval of Personnel

Maternity Leave/FML Request

- Ally DiGiovanni, 60 days FML, Effective 9/1/2021

Certified New Hire

- Ashley Jenkins, 3rd Grade Teacher @WPES, Effective 2021-2022 SY
- Luke McMillian, Band Teacher @SMMS, Effective 2021-2022 SY
- Lindsey Tackeberry, 3rd Grade Teacher @WPES, Effective 2021-2022 SY
- Taylor Williams, 3rd Grade Teacher @WPES, Effective 2021-2022 SY
- Katie Burke, 4th Grade Teacher @WPES, Effective 2021-2022 SY
- Megan Genens, 5th Grade Teacher @WPES, Effective 2021-2022 SY

Certified Transfers

- Leah Carter, WPES 3rd Grade to SMMS PE Teacher, Effective 2021-2022 SY

Certified Resignation

- Sarah Padhye, English/SS at SMMS, Effective 6/7/2021

Stipend Resignation

- Sarah Padhye, Student Council Advisor, Effective 6/7/2021

Non-Certified New Hire

- Justin Lalande, 1st Shift Custodian @RGS (Replace Dean), Effective 4/19/2021
- Emily Nighswonger, 2nd Shift Custodian @SMMS (Replace Christena), Effective 4/26/2021
- Trisha Mastrangeli, Paraprofessional @RGS (replace Hunter), Effective 5/3/2021

Non-Certified Resignation

- Dan Lawson, Custodian @SMMS, Effective 3/25/2021
- Dean Middleton, Custodian @RGS, Effective 3/26/2021
- Brooke Michowski, Paraprofessional @WPES, Effective 5/7/2021
- Hunter Franklin, Paraprofessional @RGS, Effective 4/9/2021

Non-Certified Transfer

- Christena Rollins, Custodian @SMMS, Transfer from 2nd shift to 1st shift (Replace Dan), Effective 4/5/2021

- Approval of RSD #140 April 2021 bills-\$373,615.23, April 2021 Payroll Liabilities-\$385,131.76, April Activity Expenditures-\$2,601.24, March Revenue Report, February Operating Funds Summary, February 2021 Treasurer's Report
- Approval of March 17, 2021 BOE Minutes
- Approval of WCSEC Cooperative March 2021 Bills, Employment & Personnel Report
- Approval of WCSEC Cooperative March 2021 Financial Reports
- Approval of Consolidated District Plan
- Approval of RGS Title I School Wide Plan
- Approval of WPES Title I School Wide Plan

Shawn Connors motioned to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Mary Newman.

Roll Call: Katie Littlefield, Mary Newman, Cynthia Driggers, Chad Papke, Josh Houghton, Shawn Connors, Brett Lundsten

10. Lindy Daniels will give an i-Ready scores presentation

Lindy Daniels gave a presentation regarding the new i-Ready program and scoring that was rolled out this year in the district. Mrs. Daniels explained the move from STAR testing to i-Ready and the advantage teachers now have of tracking their students progress or struggles quickly. Diagnostic testing is performed 3 times a year for comparison and growth tracking. Kindergarten had 2 classrooms that piloted the program while first through eighth grade are using the personalized instruction portion of i-Ready the entire school year. It is recommended that the students use the i-Ready program 45 minutes per subject per week.

11. Approval of Speech and Language Pathologist Position

Shawn Connors motioned to approve an additional speech and language pathologist position, seconded by Josh Houghton.

Roll Call: Brett Lundsten, Shawn Connors, Josh Houghton, Chad Papke, Cynthia Driggers, Mary Newman, Katie Littlefield

12. Member's Comments

Katie Littlefield thanked BOE and the district for the years of service being a board member and stated that she enjoyed her time as President of the BOE.

13. Review Election Results

Katie Littlefield read the election results as received from the Winnebago County Clerk's office. Congratulations to the following 4 elected board members:

Two Year Term

Stephen Harkess- 890 votes

Four Year Term

Scott Robinson- 783 votes

Cynthia Driggers- 748 votes

Carson Breed- 674 votes

14. Administer Oath- New BOE Members

President Katie Littlefield administered the oath of office to four elected BOE members from the April 6, 2021 election: Scott Robinson, Stephen Harkess, Carson Breed, Cynthia Driggers

15. Board Organization

President Littlefield asked for nominations for president pro tem to carry out the election of officers to the Rockton School District Board of Education, the following were nominated:

- Cynthia Driggers

President Littlefield asked if there were any further nominations. President Littlefield called for a vote on the candidate by show of hands.

Results:

Cynthia Driggers was elected president pro tem by an unanimous vote.

President pro tem Driggers asked for nominations for the office of President. The following were nominated:

- Cynthia Driggers

President pro tem Driggers asked if there were any further nominations. "If there are none, nominations for President are closed." Discussion was held on the candidate. President pro tem Driggers called for a vote on the candidate by show of hands.

Results:

Cynthia Driggers was elected President by a unanimous vote.

President Driggers asked for nominations for the office of Vice President. The following were nominated:

- Carson Breed

President Driggers asked if there were any further nominations. "If there are none, nominations for Vice President are closed." Discussion was held on the candidate. President Driggers called for a vote on the candidate by show of hands.

Results:

Carson Breed was elected Vice President by a unanimous vote.

President Driggers asked for nominations for the office of Secretary. The following were nominated:

- Mary Newman

President Driggers asked if there were any further nominations. "If there are none, nominations for Secretary are closed." Discussion was held on the candidate. President Driggers called for a vote on the candidate by show of hands.

Results:

Mary Newman was elected Secretary by a unanimous vote.

16. Approval of 2021-2022 BOE and COW Meeting Dates

Carson Breed motioned to approve the 2021-2022 BOE and COW meeting dates and location, seconded by Scott Robinson.

All in favor-6 ayes.

17. Approval to Eliminate Fees for a year/Outstanding Fees

Carson Breed motioned to approve the elimination of registration fees for the 2021-2022 school year and to waive outstanding fees still owed from the previous year, seconded by Mary Newman.

Roll Call: Cynthia Driggers, Scott Robinson, Stephen Harkess, Carson Breed, Mary Newman, Katie Littlefield

18. COVID

Mr. Terry updated the BOE on COVID related topics impacting the district. There was discussion regarding the stimulus payments received from the Federal Government and how the funds will be allocated. There was also conversation regarding what can be covered using these funds, i.e., additional staff/teachers, PPE, transportation for delivering meals, etc.

Mr. Terry also addressed the possibilities of what next school year could look like and whether remote learning will be an option for students.

19. New Business

- Board Appointments
 - Potential meeting dates for BOE interviews

Mr. Terry and the BOE had a discussion regarding interviewing potential candidates to be appointed to the vacant spots still open on the BOE. The decision was made that if the BOE only received 2 resumes for the vacant positions that the interview process would not be necessary and the applicants would be appointed.

20. Superintendent's Report

- Hiring Update
- SMART Procure FOIA Request

Mr. Terry briefly informed the new BOE of the reason for the SMART Procure FOIA request.
- Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters FOIA Request

Mr. Terry informed the new BOE the request received from Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters regarding a vendor we have used in the past.

21. Administrative Reports

RGS Administrative Report

April 21, 2021

1. Kindyl Etnyre
 - a. RGS:
 - i. Thank you to: Erin Parker, Keegan Ray, Paige Jaeger, Noel Battista, Robin Hardyman, Mary Vosberg, Kelly Cleaveland, Kaitlyn Feehan, Jennifer Bryant, Alyssa Martinez, Teresa Halom, Jessica Robinson, Laura Erwin, Taylor Rotolo, Rebecca Scheppmann and Lisa Rehfeldt! We screened 113 preschool students and 140 kindergarten students in eight days! We will be holding screening dates in August, too.
 - ii. RGS celebrated World Art Day on Thursday, April 15th by submitting flower creations to Mrs. Graves. Mrs. Graves will be able to create an art garden!
 - iii. We would love to recognize Lisa Rehfeldt and Cheryl Daubert for making every family feel at home at RGS and taking care of each staff member and student every day, especially this year! You are our heroes! Happy Administrative Professionals Day!

2. Erin Hauser

- i. April 12-16 was National Library week! We celebrated with jokes from Mrs. Baumgartner and Mrs. Butler each day on the announcements, fun FB posts and an incredible story walk that our students went on during their library class. We greatly appreciate Mrs. Baumgartner and Mrs. Butler bringing our library to life each day!
- ii. Way to go, RSD! Together we raised \$500 to support Miss. Carley's Community Center.
- iii. RGS and WPES, with the help of the RSD PTO, is planning a modified Fun Run in May. Our students will greatly look forward to the normalcy and excitement this event will bring!

WPES Administrative Report

1. Megan Forsythe

- a. Thank you to our interview team for putting in so much of their time over the past few weeks. Two teachers from each grade level, as well as administrators, reviewed applications (over 50), interviewed 14 candidates, and even observed six finalists teaching in the classroom. It was a time-intensive process, but we are very excited to welcome our newest teachers to join the Whitman Post team.
- b. The Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) testing has begun! Testing began last Tuesday, with almost all of our remote learning students coming into the building to take these state-mandated tests - only 5 of 63 did not come in for the IAR. Thank you to Lindy Daniels for getting us set up for a very smooth process as we hope to finish these tests up next week.
- c. Happy Administrative Professionals Day to Alison Booth & Nicole Kelly! Whitman Post is so grateful for our dynamic duo in the office who create such a fun and positive place and make all feel so welcomed and valued at our school.

2. Justin Bonne

- a. As part of our Character Recognition Program, last Friday, we celebrated the end of the quarter by recognizing students with exceptional integrity. One student from each class was awarded with a kindness crown and a treat at lunch. This included a Star Crunch for being our star students and an Honest brand juice because they always do the right thing. We will be ending the year with the very fitting character trait of perseverance as we head for the finish line.
- b. Congrats to Jenna Parrish and her family as they welcomed baby Ezra to the on March 30th! A couple of our SpEd teachers have made that a theme as Mrs. Strubhart will begin her maternity leave soon as well. We want to thank them both as they have gone above and beyond to make sure all was in-place before their leave began.

With that we would like to welcome Amy Selover and Beth Johnson who are the long-term subs for Jenna and Kaila.

PTO

1. PTO has worked with our staff to set-up school supply kits again this year through FirstDay School Supplies and they are ready for order.
2. In the middle of March, PTO launched the Spring Hanging Baskets fundraiser which ended being a huge success and made over \$2,000 in profit. They will be ready for pick-up the first week of May at SMMS.

SMMS Administrative Report

1. Autumn Czizek

- Happy Administrative Professionals Day to Jenny Middleton and Tina Bottensek! We appreciate all that they do for our students, families and staff. We appreciate all of the time and effort that they put in to make sure that SMMS runs smoothly and that we are all taken care of!
- Shout out to Lucinda Balandis and Penny Lee for putting the time and effort into creating our yearbook this year and working virtually with the students to create it. We are looking forward to checking out the COVID edition of the book this year!

2. Jacqui Thompson

- All of the students at Stephen Mack participated in an iReady and Aleks competition during the last month of third quarter. Students worked as a class to be the group with the highest number of passed iReady lessons for Reading. Additionally, students worked independently to be the one with the most

amount of lessons passed for Math. Three classrooms won an ice cream reward and nineteen students won a free meal at Culvers!

- IAR Testing is underway at Stephen Mack! The entire building has students completing IAR tests Tuesday-Thursday this week. We even had the pleasure of hosting our remote 6th and 7th graders for these tests this past Monday and Tuesday. Our 8th grade remote students came in for the first time this morning and will do so again tomorrow and Monday of next week to complete all of these state tests. We are so proud and thankful for everyone's support and flexibility to make this happen in such a crazy year

21. Executive Session

Carson Breed motioned into Executive Session at 7:30 pm 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) Lawfully closed meeting minutes (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) and Self-evaluation, practice and procedures or professional ethics, when meeting with a representative of a statewide association of which the public body is a member (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(16), seconded by Cynthia Driggers.

22. Adjournment

Carson Breed moved to adjourn at 8:15 pm, seconded by Scott Robinson. All in favor, 6 ayes, Motion Carried.


Cynthia Driggers, President


Mary Newman, Secretary