

**Minutes of Regular Meeting
Held October 28, 2015**

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

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

2. **Roll Call**

Jim Meason, Chanice Michowski, Stacey Heiar, Kevin Finnegan, Gail Johnson, Katie Littlefield

Absent: Brenda Warren

Others present: Superintendent Willis, RGS Principal/Assistant Superintendent Glenn Terry, Principals Megan Forsythe, Kindyl Etnyre, Assistant Principal Autumn Czizek, Business Manager Sue Miller, RTA Vice President Dan Baumgartner, Gary Meier, Michelle Jahr, and Dennis Hildebrandt all from Siepert & Co. LLP, Theresa O’Hea, Andrea Leitner, Amy Bigwood, Mrs. Brien and other community members.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

4. **FY 2015 Audit Report**

Auditor Gary Meier, Siepert & Co. LLP presented a review of the district’s audited financial statements for the fiscal year 2015 that ended June 30, 2015.

Mr. Meason made a motion to approve the audit report, seconded by Mrs. Michowski.

Roll call: Mr. Meason, Mrs. Michowski, Mrs. Heiar, Mr. Finnegan, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Littlefield – 6 ayes, Motion carried.

5. **Resolution Abating Working Cash Fund to Debt Services Fund**

Approval is recommended that the Board approve the Resolution abating the District’s working cash fund and calling the outstanding General Obligation Limited School Bonds, Series 2009, for redemption prior to maturity.

Whereas, the Board has determined and does hereby determine that it is necessary and in the best interests of the District that the Working Cash Fund be abated and that the Bonds be called for redemption prior to maturity; and Whereas, Section 20-10 of the School Code of the State of Illinois, as amended (the “Code”), authorizes the Board to abate the Fund; and Whereas, in accordance with the terms of the Bonds, the Bonds may be called for redemption in advance of their maturity, and it is necessary and desirable to make such call for the redemption of the Bonds on December 1, 2015, and provide for the giving of proper notice to the registered owners of the Bonds.

Mr. Finnegan made a motion to approve the Resolution abating the District’s working cash fund and calling the outstanding General Obligation Limited School Bonds, Series 2009, for redemption prior to maturity, seconded by Mr. Meason.

Roll call: Mrs. Michowski, Mrs. Heiar, Mr. Finnegan, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Meason, Mrs. Littlefield – 6 ayes, no nays, Motion carried.

6. **Presentation of Tax Levy for FY16 Tax Revenue**

Glenn Terry and Sue Miller presented the Tax Levy figures. Board approval of the estimated levy figures is required so truth in taxation notice and levy can be published for the required 30 days. The levy hearing is scheduled on December 16, 2015.

Mr. Finnegan made a motion to approve the estimated levy figures and to put the levy on public display for 30 days for approval on December 16, 2015, seconded by Mr. Meason.

Roll call: Mrs. Heiar, Mr. Finnegan, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Meason, Mrs. Michowski, Mrs. Littlefield – 6 ayes, Motion carried.

7. **Comments from Community**

Mrs. Littlefield moved to suspend the regular order of business and open the meeting for audience input, seconded by Mrs. Heiar. No one wished to address the Board. Regular session resumed.

8. Mr. Meason made a motion to go into **Executive Session** at 7:10 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 Mrs. Michowski.

Roll call: Mr. Finnegan, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Meason, Mrs. Michowski, Mrs. Heiar, Mrs. Littlefield – 6 ayes, Motion carried.

Mrs. Littlefield moved to return to open session at 8:17 p.m., seconded by Mr. Meason.

Roll call: Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Meason, Mrs. Michowski, Mrs. Heiar, Mr. Finnegan, Mrs. Littlefield – 6 ayes, Motion carried.

9. **Correspondence**

- Thank you card from Jenny Middleton for the reduction in rates for insurance coverage for staff members.
- Eight letters of in-school suspension.

10. **Consent Items**

Items recommended for the consent agenda are:

- A-1 Approve September Open Session Minutes
- A-2 Approve Cooperative October Bills, E&P Report
- A-3 Approve RSD October Bills and November Payroll
- A-4 Approve Appointment of Authorized Agent

A-5 Approve Policy Update

1. May: 2:250, 3:40, 3:50, 3:60, 4:45, 5:40, 5:120, 5:180, 5:330, 6:15, 6:40
2. Aug: 2:160, 2:260, 4:50, 5:50, 5:170, 5:270, 5:290, 7:10, 7:40, 7:220, 7:260, 7:310, 7:325, 8:10, 8:80
3. 5 Yr Review: 6:140, 7:90, 8:30-E1, 8:30E-2
4. Existing Policy Update: 5:20

Mr. Meason made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Mrs. Michowski.

Roll call: Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Meason, Mrs. Michowski, Mrs. Heiar, Mr. Finnegan, Mrs. Littlefield – 6 ayes, Motion carried.

11. **Personnel**

Mr. Meason made a motion to approve the following personnel report, seconded by Mrs. Johnson.

- Certified Staff
 1. Gina Tuula (Maternity Leave) - 5th grade teacher
 2. Grant Oleson (Hire) – Stipend, Girls Basketball Coach
- Non-Certified Staff
 1. Dan Lawson (Hire) – 2nd Shift maintenance
 2. Tom Fuller (Resign) – 2nd Shift maintenance
 3. Don Van Stone (Hire) – Temporary Custodial/Maintenance

Roll call: Mr. Meason, Mrs. Michowski, Mrs. Heiar, Mr. Finnegan, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Littlefield – 6 ayes, Motion carried.

12. **Snow Removal**

Approval is recommended to approve JD Construction for district snow removal for the 2015-16 school year.

Mrs. Michowski made a motion to approve JD Construction for snow removal services for the 2015-16 school year, seconded by Mr. Meason.

Roll call: Mr. Meason, Mrs. Michowski, Mrs. Heiar, Mr. Finnegan, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Littlefield – 6 ayes, Motion carried.

13. **Discussion of Communication throughout the District**

Gail Johnson presented a plan of mailing out a newsletter twice a year to the community to ensure good communication, provide school district information and to highlight all the wonderful accomplishments of Rockton School District students and staff. In discussing the financial aspect of newsletter mailings, the consensus was to seek sponsors from local businesses and organizations.

14. **Closed Session Minutes**

Mrs. Littlefield moved to approve the September 23, 2015 regular closed session minutes and that they are to be opened, seconded by Mrs. Johnson.

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

None.

16. **Superintendent's Report**

Assistant Superintendent Glenn Terry updated the BOE on the latest KJWW survey results on the SMMS HVAC system. He explained that the system does not have the capacity to heat/cool SMMS effectively. Repair is necessary and several options were discussed. In November, the Board will be asked to approve going out for bid on repairs.

17. **Administrative Reports**

Mr. Glenn Terry/RGS

- RGS Halloween parade is at 1:00 Friday. It's a highlight of the year, please attend if you can.
- Please note the positive comments about our two new administrators, Megan Forsythe and Autumn Czizek, in the staff SIP day surveys. We made two great choices and staff and the community are recognizing their high character and leadership ability.
- The same can also be said for our new Business Manager, Sue Miller and our new Maintenance Director, Tim Ehlers. I have received tons of positive feedback from staff. I've enjoyed working through some difficult projects with them including the budget, levy, our bonds, and life safety. We have built a very strong leadership team.

Mrs. Megan Forsythe/WPES

- A great big thank you to our PTO, Delta DJ (Mr. Mason), and WTVO for their help in the Fun Run. WPES raised \$10,483.79 and we still are counting the on-line donations.
- Family Bike Ride – a beautiful fall day with approximately 40 participants; thank you to Mr. Donaldson for coordinating the event.
- Quarterly Rewards Activity for all who were detention-free & passing grades; thank you to all of our volunteers for a successful celebration including ice cream, scooters, kick ball, and a lot more fun stuff.
- PTO's Family Reading Night at RGS was a successful evening. Everyone enjoyed the Hoo Haven presentation.
- No more hard copies of interim reports (instead an e-mail will be sent home reminding parents of the mid-term)
- PTO's Canned Drive is November 9 through November 13.
- WPES Rec Night is November 6 at SMMS and this is sponsored by the Boosters.
- Our Veteran's Day Assembly is November 11 and is a favorite of all. Breakfast is provided for the vets along with a ceremony and slideshow of photos of veterans related to our students and staff.

Mrs. Kindyl Etnyre/Mrs. Autumn Czizek

- This Friday, October 30th is our annual Halloween Dance sponsored by Student Council. Feel free to stop by and help judge the costume contest from 6-8 p.m.
- Friday, November 6th will be our Class Act assembly at 2:00 p.m.

- SMMS would like to congratulate Lauren Johnston (7th grade) for representing our district at the IESA State Cross Country meeting in Peoria, Illinois. Lauren placed 34th out of 208 runners. We are so proud of Lauren! Thanks to Coach DeKeyser, Coach Taylor and the Johnston family for their on-going support of this program.
- SMMS met our Fun Run goal of raising over \$7,000.00. The students will be rewarded with an afternoon movie and concession stand on November 24th.
- Autumn and Kindyl attended an A.L.I.C.E. training on October 26th and 27th.
- On behalf of the RWBC, we would like to announce that the Gold Canyon Candle sale has officially started and appreciate your support.

18. **Members' Comments**

Gail Johnson stated the tutors from Rockton United Methodist Church are having a great time tutoring at RGS. One tutor, a retired high school teacher, commented that tutoring 2nd graders is very different than teaching high school!

Jim Meason encouraged all to attend the first round of the Class 7A playoffs game 1:00 p.m., Saturday, October 31st between Auburn and Hononegah Community High School. It should prove to be an exciting game.

19. **Adjournment**

Mrs. Littlefield moved to adjourn at 8:50 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Heiar. 6 ayes, Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held at the Rockton Grade School Music Room, Wednesday, November 18, 2015.

Katie Littlefield, President

Stacey Heiar, Secretary