

ROCKTON SCHOOL DISTRICT 140

Regular Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 21, 2020

1. Call to Order

President Littlefield called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

2. Roll Call

Katie Littlefield, Gail Johnson, Brett Lundsten, Chad Papke, Josh Houghton

Absent: Mary Newman, Shawn Connors

Others Present: Glenn Terry, Kim Garst, Tim Ehlers, Lindy Daniels, Kindyl Etnyre, Erin Hauser, Megan Forsythe, Justin Bonne, Autumn Czizek, Jacqui Thompson, Gina Tuula, Jenny Blocker

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Additions/Corrections to Agenda

None

5. Comments from the Community

None

6. Correspondence

- Thank you card from Administrators and Jenny Drake for the Amazon Gift Card
- Thank you card from the RTA for the meals,treats, and extra time off which was given on the October 9th SIP day
- Thank you card from Kindyl Etnyre and Erin Hauser for the lunch provided on the October 9th SIP day
- Letter from Jenessa Fiduccia requesting FMLA leave
- 3 in-school suspension at WPES
- 2 in-school suspension at SMMS

7. FY 2020 Audit Report and Approval

Jenny Blocker, SPA, The Benning Group, LLC gave a review of the district's audited financial statements for the fiscal year 2020 that ended June 20, 2020. Approval was recommended of the report after the presentation.

Josh Houghton motioned to approve FY 2020 Audit Report, seconded by Chad Papke.

Roll Call: Josh Houghton, Chad Papke, Katie Littlefield, Brett Lundsten, Gail Johnson
5 Ayes. Motion passed.

8. Executive Session

Chad Papke motioned into Executive Session at 6:06pm 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 Brett Lundsten.

9. Policy Report

- First Reading

10. Consent Items

Items recommended for the consent agenda are:

- Approval of Personnel
 - **Non-Certified New Hire**
Mariah Kramer, SPED Classroom Para @RGS, Effective 10/1/2020
Huntar Franklin, Classroom Para @RGS, Effective 10/12/2020
 - **Certified FMLA Request**
Jenessa Fiduccia
- Approval of RSD #140 October 2020 bills:\$309,096.24, October 2020 Payroll Liabilities \$391,026.04, October Activity Expenditures \$5,943.58
- August 2020 Expenditures, August 2020 Revenue Report, August 2020 Operating Funds Summary, September 2020 Treasurer's Report
- Approval of September 23, 2020 Special Purpose Minutes
- Approval of WCSEC Cooperative partial September 2020 Bills, Employment & Personnel Report
- Approval of WCSEC Cooperative September 2020 Financial Reports

Gail Johnson motioned to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Brett Lundsten.

Roll Call: Gail Johnson, Brett Lundsten, Katie Littlefield, Chad Papke, Josh Houghton
5 Ayes. Motion Passed.

11. New Business

- COVID Health Update/WCHD
 - i. Mr. Terry advised the BOE that he has had several virtual meetings with Dr. Martell of the Winnebago County Health Department. Dr. Martell has indicated that the spread is not happening inside schools, which is a positive indicator that schools will remain open.
 - ii. Winter Athletics
 - 1. Mr. Terry and the BOE had a brief discussion regarding winter athletics. At this point no one expressed support for having winter athletics.
- Board Retreat
 - i. Katie Littlefield asked that various dates be sent out to all BOE members to determine a time to meet for the BOE retreat.
- Copier Contract
 - i. Mr. Terry advised the BOE that the district's copier contract with RK Dixon will be up and he will be gathering proposals from companies.
- Snow days
 - i. Mr. Terry and the BOE had a brief discussion regarding the use of e-learning days when the weather would otherwise force school to close.

12. Superintendent's Report

- Parent Survey
 - i. Mr. Terry reported to the BOE that the last day to respond to the parent survey he sent out will be Friday, October 23, 2020. He advised the BOE that transportation may be affected.

13. Administrative Reports
RGS Administrative Report

October 21, 2020

1. Kindyl Etnyre

a. RGS:

- i. Fall school pictures with Interstate Studio were safe and successful. We were able to offer picture times for our remote learning families after school hours. Thank you, Interstate Studio!
- ii. Thank you to our remote partnerships this school year: Kindergarten-Ms. Rachel Maddix, Mrs. Kelly Baumgartner and Mrs. Jocelyn Allen; 1st grade-Mrs. Annie Rohrer, Mrs. Kristin Schmidt and Mrs. Clarissa Metz; and, 2nd grade-Mrs. Sam Hawkinson, Mrs. Amy Dalke and Mrs. Wendy Enos. It takes a great deal of collaboration and coordination to offer an enriching remote learning experience!
- iii. Thank you to our special education staff and therapists offering in-person and remote learning opportunities each day! Your efforts do not go unnoticed.

2. Erin Hauser

a. PTO

- i. Thank you to the Rockton PTO and BOE for the delicious lunch on our October SIP day. Thank you also for the generous Amazon gift cards - very much appreciated.
- ii. Our Deedee's coffee mug fundraiser has been a huge success so far! Don't forget to stop in Deedee's Cafe to get your Rockton 140 mug and a donut coupon!
- iii. Spirit wear - PTO is partnering with American Bell for our next fundraiser. Students can submit their artwork to the Rockton PTO and a talented student's artwork from each school will be selected to be the next spirit wear design.

b. RGS

- i. On Friday, October 2nd, RGS students walked over to Chemtool to practice the ALICE evacuation drill and procedures. Teachers used important vocabulary in classrooms such as alert, lockdown and evacuation to help prepare all students in the event of an emergency. The Rockton Police were also a huge help with this drill - we are thankful for their support!
- ii. Thank you to Chemtool for the donation of child sized masks for our students! All teachers are able to have their own supply of masks in their classrooms as a result of this wonderful donation.
- iii. Thank you to our dedicated RGS Office Secretaries - your hard work and dedication never go unnoticed.

1. **Megan Forsythe**

- a. Our remote learning teachers – Shelia Ball (3rd), Ruth King & Laura Benkovich (4th), and Gina Tuula (5th) – have been meeting the past few weeks with administrators and Elizabeth Byam to discuss their remote learning experiences and brainstorm ways we can set Whitman Post up for a smooth transition should future classrooms need to go remote. I cannot thank these teachers enough for their leadership, patience, and dedication these past couple of months as they took on such an enormous undertaking to set our students up for a positive and valuable remote learning experience.
- b. Our teachers continue to have regular opportunities for various training sessions with our instructional technology coach, Elizabeth Byam. Elizabeth does such a wonderful job responding to our schools' needs and sets up these trainings in such a timely and effective manner. For example, once we realized we would need a new common system for parents and teachers to schedule their conferences, Elizabeth immediately arranged for training sessions and created a very helpful guide to follow to set up conference sign ups for teachers. We appreciate Elizabeth's support!

2. **Justin Bonne**

- a. This week and last we began our after school math program which is providing math enrichment to 18 students. This is made up of six students from each grade level that were selected by grade level teams. Nick Boelte is running the 3rd grade group, and Mindy Clark is heading the support for 4th and 5th. Like everything this year, we had to rethink how we were going to make it work and ended up with a remote format for this fall.
- b. Thanks to our amazing Whitman Post Staff for finding new ways to boost morale. Last week, Amy Bigwood and Taylor Lewis, delivered treats to staff throughout the building in what they called the "Woot-Woot Wagon". Today, third grade kicked off "Spirit Wednesdays", which is where teachers and students will wear their class t-shirts on certain Wednesdays throughout the month.

SMMS Administrative Report

1. Autumn Czizek

- Shout out to Mrs. Patterson for completely changing library check out and making books accessible for both our in person learners and our remote learners. We appreciate all of the time and effort that you have put into make this new normal work!
- Thank you to our special education staff for balancing their in person learning and remote learners. They are working very hard to meet the needs of all of the students and working so very hard. We appreciate your efforts for the kids!

2. Jacqui Thompson

- Wednesday, October 21st, the Rockton Police Department joined us to facilitate our annual ALICE/evacuation drill. Students first watched a video produced by Hononegah students, practiced barricading rooms, and ran through two scenarios where an intruder entered the building. Classes had to decide if they would evacuate or barricade, but everyone stayed in classrooms this year to minimize the mixing of cohorts.
- A huge thank you to our social workers Mrs. Devries and Mrs. Grimes for their efforts with Recess Rocks these past few weeks. Each week Mrs. D and Mrs. G have created fun, socially distanced activities, to help engage students and get them moving at recess. We definitely appreciate all the extra hands on deck too!

14. Members' Comments

Gail Johnson stated to the BOE that she has had conversations with community members who no longer have children in the district, but they were impressed that you do not hear about our district in the news.

Chad Papke asked Tim Ehlers how the custodian staff are holding up with the extra cleaning duties that have been put on their plate due to the pandemic. Mr. Ehlers responded that his staff are doing well, all things considered.

Katie Littlefield gave a shout out to the PTO for all the energy they have brought to the table this year.

15. Adjournment

Chad Papke motioned to adjourn at 7:49pm, seconded by Brett Lundsten.

All in favor 5. Motion passed.

Katie Littlefield

Gail Johnson