

ROCKTON SCHOOL DISTRICT 140
ROCKTON, ILLINOIS 61072

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 26, 2007 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Rockton School District No. 140, Winnebago County, Illinois was duly called and held on September 26, 2007, at the Rockton Grade School Library in Rockton, Illinois, within the boundaries of said District.

President Brenda Warren called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Roll Call	<u>LaForge</u>	<u>Meason</u>	<u>Pearcy</u>	<u>Neece</u>	<u>Praneis</u>	<u>Schubert</u>	<u>Warren</u>
	P	P	P	P	P	P	P

Mr. Meason arrived at 6:30 p.m.

Others present: Superintendent Jean Harezlak, Principals Barb Browning, Jay Larson, Assistant Principal Jim Taphorn, Business Manager Julia Saunders, RTA President/Teacher Glenn Terry, Teachers: Michelle Anderson, Lucinda Balandis, Lindsay Kaiser, Jennifer Leppert, Melinda Mayfield, Linh Phommachanh, Abby Rinker, Amy Stevens, Sue Walsh, Erin Young, Nadine Kelley, and Andria Brass.

Closed Session

Mrs. Pearcy moved to enter closed session at 6:04 p.m. to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). Lawfully closed meeting minutes - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21). Negotiations - 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(2). Student discipline - 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(9). Setting of a price for sale or lease of school property - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6), seconded by Mr. Schubert.

Roll call vote: Aye: Schubert, Pearcy, LaForge, Neece, Warren, Praneis. Nay: None. Carried

Mr. Schubert moved to return to open session at 6:17 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Pearcy.

Roll call vote: Aye: Schubert, LaForge, Neece, Warren, Pearcy, Praneis. Nay: None. Carried

Budget Hearing

The budget hearing was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mrs. Warren. Mrs. Warren moved to open the meeting for public input, seconded by Mr. Schubert, carried unanimously, no one wished to address the Board of the proposed budget. Mrs. Harezlak reviewed budget revisions.

Mr. Schubert moved to approve the 2007-2008 budget as presented, seconded by Mrs. Pearcy.

Roll call vote: Aye: Meason, Pearcy, Schubert, LaForge, Neece, Warren, Praneis. Nay: None. Carried

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

Welcome New Teachers

Our school community is pleased to recognize and welcome our new teachers – Michelle Anderson, Lucinda Balandis, Carie Champeny-Johns, Lindsay Kaiser, Jennifer Leppert, Melinda Mayfield, Susan Muraski, Linh Phommachanh, Abby Rinker, Stacey Shahamat, Amy Stevens, Sue Walsh, and Erin Young. Each had an opportunity to share their experiences as new professional staff members in our schools.

Correspondence

- One letter of bus suspension, one letter of in-school detention, and one letter of school suspension.

Consent Agenda

Mrs. Percy moved to approve consent agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. Schubert. Roll call vote: Aye: Percy, Meason, Schubert, LaForge, Neece, Warren, Praneis. Nay: None. Carried.

Items included:

1. August 22, 2007 Regular meeting minutes and August 30, 2007 Special Purpose meeting minutes
2. September bills, October payroll, August treasurer's report
3. Winnebago County Special Education Cooperative executive action
4. Donations
 - Prince of Peace Church in Rockton for donation of school supplies to be distributed to students with financial needs
 - Konica copier donated by Craig and Kelly Gilliam's efforts from ALSCO Metals Corporation.
5. Requests
 - Denie Kelly, SMMS teacher, requested permission to hold classes and camp overnight with seventh grade ACE students at Rock Cut State Park in May 2008.
 - Glenn Terry, SMMS teacher, requested permission to distribute information and conduct parent information meetings regarding the School Tours of America to Washington D.C. for eighth grade students in March 2008.
6. 2007-2008 Application for Recognition of Schools
7. Hazardous Roadways

Policy Committee

A Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for October 10, 2007 at 4:30 p.m. in the District Office conference room.

Personnel

A motion was made by Mrs. Warren, seconded by Mrs. Percy, to approve the following employments for 2007-2008 school year.

Certified

- Susan Muraski SMMS English and Social Studies Teacher – part-time
- Marianna Johnson WPES After School Reading Teacher
- Rachel Schrader WPES After School Reading Teacher
- Lynn Bergstrom WPES After School Reading Teacher
- Andria Brass Yearbook Advisor (1/2 stipend)

Non-Certified

- Susan Muraski SMMS ACE Teacher Assistant – part-time
- Heather Schlueter SMMS Special Education Teacher Assistant – part-time and Yearbook Advisor (1/2 stipend)
- Barbara Maxey RGS/SMMS ESL Teacher Assistant – part-time
- Terri Watson Assistant Track Coach

Roll call vote: Aye: Percy, Meason, Schubert, LaForge, Neece, Warren, Praneis. Nay: None. Carried

Closed Session Minutes

Mrs. Warren moved to approve the August 22, 2007 regular closed session minutes and the August 30, 2007 special purpose closed session minutes and that they are to remain closed, seconded by Mr. Schubert, carried unanimously.

Upham Woods Field Trip

Mr. Schubert moved to approve overnight seventh grade trip to the University of Wisconsin Extension's Upham Woods Youth Camp at Wisconsin Dells as presented, seconded by Mrs. Percy.

Roll call vote: Aye: Neece, Meason, LaForge, Praneis, Schubert, Warren, Percy. Nay: None. Carried.

FY2007 Audit Report

Mr. Schubert moved to approve the FY2007 audit as presented by auditor Gary Meier from Siepert and Co. LLP, seconded by Mrs. Neece.

Roll call vote: Aye: Percy, Neece, Meason, LaForge, Praneis, Schubert, Warren. Nay: None. Carried.

2007 Illinois Report Card

Our district students have maintained a high level of excellence as demonstrated in the district's 2007 state report card that is enclosed for your review. At this time, this information has not been released to the media. The district and building report cards will be posted on our website by October 15th and individual student reports will be sent home with first quarter report cards. Kindyl Etnyre, Curriculum Coordinator, will provide a summary assessment of our results at the October BOE meeting.

Self-Insurance Summary

For the fifth year in a row, the district is able to maintain the same medical insurance rates for individual (\$452) and family (\$480) medical coverage. Miller & Buettner, district's insurance broker, was able to negotiate a lower rate for our reinsurance due to the 66 % loss ratio for last year's claims (the stop-loss carrier bid is based on an expectation for a 75% loss ratio). The current self-insurance fund balance gained \$273,849 since September 2006 yielding a current balance of \$1,398,520. The anticipated risk to the reserve for FY08 is \$482,000.

Emergency Management Grant

Rockton School District is part of a regional consortium of schools that received funding from the Federal Readiness and Emergency Management Grant. The grant enables participating school district to develop or improve safety plans that address four aspects of emergency management – prevention, preparedness, response and recovery. The grant award is for \$247,450 and involves ten districts. The funds are allocated according to the district size.

Superintendent Harezlak met with Deputy Chief Jeff Stein, SRO Penny Cure, SRO Brandon Wells from South Beloit, Dean Snowdon, and the principals on September 21, 2007 to discuss crisis incident action plans and updating building crisis manuals. Superintendent Harezlak also discussed with the BOE the possibility of purchasing an emergency notification system. The BOE directed Superintendent Harezlak to obtain more information regarding system options.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

District Strategic Plan II – Update

Three action teams have been formed to address the strategies identified by the Strategic Planning Task Force last May. The teams will begin meeting this fall and prepare recommendations to bring to the BOE in the spring of 2008.

Golden Apple Foundation

September 20th was "Golden Apple" day for teachers in Winnebago County. The Golden Apple Foundation presents apples to teachers in appreciation for the valuable work with children. This day was also the beginning of the annual award nomination process for teachers. This year teachers in pre-kindergarten through fifth grade can be nominated for excellence in education. Nomination forms are available at www.goldenappleofrockford.com.

Annual Fundraisers

The Rockton School District PTO, Booster Club and Rockton Teachers Association have requested and received approval from the superintendent to conduct a variety of fundraisers for this school year.

2007 Summary of PDK Gallup Poll

A listing of summary items for the 36th Annual Phi Delta Kappa Gallup Poll was provided. The primary purpose of this annual poll of over 1,000 U.S. adults is to trace and interpret the public's view of its schools.

Bulletins were provided.

Other

- Superintendent Harezlak reported that Rockton Elementary Education Foundation (REEF) will be hosting a 'Trivia Night' at SMMS in February, 2008. Fifth grade through eighth grade students and their parents are invited to attend the fundraising event.
- Pictures of WPES after school activities taken by Kris Holland were displayed at the BOE meeting.
- The IASB – Kishwaukee Division semi-annual conference and dinner meeting is Thursday, October 11, 2007 at HHS.
- Discussed proposal to address issue of large eighth grade advanced reading and English class.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr. Larson

- Commented that the school year is off to a smooth start.
- Reported that fall MAPS testing is completed.
- Mentioned that the last school sponsored dance was moved to the parking lot at SMMS and was a great success.

Mr. Taphorn

- Reported that he and Mr. Rollinson are in charge of the Action Community Involvement Team and the first meeting was September 26. The meeting went well.

Mr. Rollinson

- Mrs. Harezlak mentioned that the mini putt rewards night and bike ride event went well.

Mrs. Browning

- Reported that Milana Bergstrom and Trina Austin are very excited about the automated library system at RGS.
- The PTO Fun Run is October 11th.
- Commented that all the new teachers are wonderful.

Mrs. Etnyre

- Mrs. Harezlak mentioned that Mrs. Etnyre has a great school improvement day planned for September 28th.

NEXT BOE MEETING

The next regular Board of Education meeting will be held at Rockton Grade School library on Wednesday, October 24, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Schubert moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Neece, carried unanimously.

Approved date: October 24, 2007

President: _____

Secretary: _____