

River Valley School District
Thursday, January 14, 2021
Regular Meeting
Middle School Library
7:00 pm

- The public was able to view this meeting live on our River Valley YouTube Channel.

- Anyone who attended the meeting in person was required to wear a mask and follow social distancing.

- Public comments were to be shared without attending this meeting in person by contacting Kathy Jennings, Board President, prior to the meeting at 608-588-4737 or at jennings.rvsb@rvschools.org.

Present: Nelson, Jennings, Young, McGuire, Bettinger, Cates, Strozinsky, Iausly (arrived 7:04), Maier (arrived 7:05)

Absent: Kelsey Olson (Student Representative)

Admin: Glasbrenner, Krey, Blakley, Radtke, Hegland, Kjos, Peterson

Others: Shawn Duren, Kasey Maxwell, Judy Ettenhofer (Home News), Paula Wedige (Administrative Assistant)

President Jennings opened the meeting. She noted that the meeting had been properly posted and notice had been provided to the appropriate media and each School Board Member. Young moved to proceed with the legal meeting. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Approval of Agenda

Young moved to approve the agenda. McGuire seconded. Motion carried.

Iausly arrived at 7:04 p.m. Maier arrived at 7:05 p.m.

Public Comments

None.

Student Council Report

Student Council Advisor, Kasey Maxwell, provided the report. She noted that the Endowment Board is offering round two of COVID assistance relief funds for staff. New requests can be made until January 22. At the middle school, Heather Meixelsperger is starting a fellowship through UW Madison in coordination with DPI to help develop games for students and teachers to use in their classrooms to further understanding with curriculum. The group is made up of 20 professors, STEM teachers, middle school teachers, and high school teachers from around Wisconsin. The middle school held a door decorating contest and is planning other COVID-friendly events in the future. Middle school girls basketball and wrestling seasons started on January 11. Staff continue to meet to discuss best practices for in-person and on-line learners. Lastly, the middle school choirs presented "A Holly Jolly Jukebox: A Mini Musical" via RVTV.

At the high school, the musical "Urinetown" is now available to view on showtix4u.com. The musical was performed live December 18 to 20. Mrs. Hedges Spanish class is reading their very first novel completely in Spanish. Heston Amble, FFA Vice President, gave out 72 boxes of

products to veterans and elderly in the district. Products were donated by area businesses: Arena Cheese, Prem Meats, Straka Meats, Mega Concrete, Andrea Joo Realtor/Century 21 Affiliate, Kissed by the Sun Raw Honey, Butternut Road Coffee Truck, and Sidney Bakes.

Update on School District Operations from Administration

The district is expecting four times the funding amount that we received for COVID relief the first time around, estimated at \$625,000. We have \$20,000 left from the first round, but the monies have been allocated. Academic testing will happen this spring, but we are not sure how to test kids that are virtual. The county has asked for our employee count in preparation for COVID 19 vaccines. Some employees and students have already been vaccinated at other places where they work or volunteer.

Hegland provided information on how we return student-athletes to their sports after they have tested positive for COVID. The process is to quarantine for 10 days and then meet with the athletic trainer for an initial workout to assess their health before they are approved to return to regular practice and competition. This does not require a doctor to sign off on the return.

Blakley noted that ACT test prep is underway. Students are back in the high school building since January 11, and it is nice to have them back.

Radtke noted that second quarter ends on January 15. We are seeing some students that were previously on-line learners returning to in-person learning. He agreed that it is good to have students back in the building.

Peterson stated that 14 elementary students will be coming back from virtual learning in addition to one home school student. Elementary ends its second trimester on March 5. Students are glad to be back at school.

Board Reminders, Announcements, and Training Opportunities

The new mileage rate for 2021 is 56 cents per mile. Board members were reminded to fill out a Campaign Finance Registration Statement for 2021 by the January 15 deadline.

As part of the annual WASB Convention in January, Krey and Matt Snow will make a presentation about RVTV titled “Engaging Stakeholders Near and Far.”

Glasbrenner noted that this week is Wisconsin Adult School Crossing Guard Recognition Week and thanked the six crossing guards for their work and for keeping kids safe.

Legislative Update

Per Glasbrenner, legislative information was provided during the prior agenda item of “Update on School District Operations from Administration.”

Consent Agenda: - Checks, Invoices, Receipts – December 2020; Open Session Meeting Minutes – December 10, 2020, Regular Meeting

Iausly moved to approve the consent agenda items as submitted. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Crisis Plan Binder Revisions

Young moved to approve the revisions to the “Bus Accidents” section of the Crisis Plan to remove the steps taken by the bus company and specify what the district does. Maier seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Resignations, if any

None.

Consideration & Action on Hirings, if any

None.

Consideration & Action on Authorizing Board Convention Delegate to Act on WASB Convention Resolutions

Young moved to authorize Nelson, as the Board’s WASB Convention Delegate, to act on the Board’s behalf when voting on convention resolutions during the delegate assembly. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Sports Co-ops

Iausly moved to approve the sports co-ops for 2021-22 for swimming with Richland Center and gymnastics with Barneveld. Cates seconded. Motion carried. Hegland noted that the hockey co-op is already covered for next year.

Consideration & Action on Policy Committee Recommendations

As recommended by the Committee, Young moved to approve the second reading of the following policies: 838 Naming District Facilities (NEW); 423 Public School Open Enrollment; 423 Rule Public School Open Enrollment; 362.2 Fines, Loss, or Damage to Materials; and 470 Student Fees and Fines. Maier seconded. Motion carried with Bettinger opposed.

As recommended by the Committee, Young moved to approve the first reading of the following policies: 523 Exhibit Periods of Exclusion from School with Infectious Conditions; 743 Acceptable Use of Networked Computers, Electronic Mail, and Internet Safety Policy; 720 Safety Program; 721 Buildings and Grounds Inspection; 721 Rule Buildings and Grounds Inspection Procedures (NEW); 732 Buildings and Grounds Maintenance. Cates seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration & Action on Technology Committee Recommendations

No recommendations for action. The Committee met in December and noted that the Chromebook changeover is now complete, but new laptops for staff are delayed until February due to a stocking issue. A tracking and ticketing system for Chromebook repairs is being created. The Library Media Specialists reported to the Committee and some ideas being considered are swapping out Chromebooks instead of providing loaners, charging a user fee, and a help desk student tech team to help repair Chromebooks.

Consideration & Action on Budget/ERC Committee Recommendations

It was noted that the 2019-20 Auditor Report showed no deficiencies or compliance matters and that we are under contract with WIPFLI auditors through 2021-22. The 2020-21 Budget is on track, and we still have approximately \$23,000 left in COVID monies. For 2021-22, employee wages and benefits will be discussed over the next few meetings and CPI for base wage purposes is 1.23%.

As recommended by the Committee, Young moved to approve the extension of Family First Coronavirus Relief Act (FFCRA) Leave until June 30, 2021. Strozinsky seconded. This allows employees to be paid a total of 80 hours of leave during 2020-21 due to COVID. Motion carried.

As outlined in the Strategic Plan, the Committee will be working on benefits and salaries to remain competitive to attract and retain employees and will discuss the idea and cost of running late buses again.

Consideration & Action on Resolutions Accepting Gifts, if any

Iausly moved to adopt the Resolution Accepting Gifts of \$2,334.29 from the Athletic Boosters Club to gymnastics team for uniforms and equipment. Cates seconded. Polled vote was 9-0 in the affirmative. Motion carried.

Glasbrenner thanked the Spring Green Chamber of Commerce for the clothing drive that benefitted many River Valley students.

Iausly moved to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. Maier seconded. Motion carried.

Submitted by Paula Wedige for:

_____ Deborah Nelson, School District Clerk