



Date | time Monday –March 13, 2023 | 5:30 p.m.

Location Administration Boardroom

Meeting called to order with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance by President Folsom

In Attendance

Board of Education: Tricia Anderson, Kelley Freridge, Barbara Helms, Jarrod Folsom, Jake Himmelspach, Christie Ramsey, Nick Reichenbach

Student representative: Olivia Bommarito

Administration: Dr. Steve Matthews, Mike Ramm, Mike Cuneo, Korie Wilson-Crawford, Mindy Duba, Lisa Jacobs, Jodi Nester.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion was made by Kelley Freridge to approve the agenda as presented. Support by Christie Ramsey. Motion passed unanimously.

Recognition

A video was played honoring the Middle School Students of the Month for March of 2023.

Consent Agenda

Nick Reichenbach made a motion, supported by Kelley Freridge approving the following consent agenda items. Motion carried unanimously.

- Spring Coaches
 - Certified Staff Resignations
 - Approval of Minutes from February 13, 2023 meeting
 - Presentation of bills in the amount of \$11,319,745.18
-

Reports

Student Representative Report

Olivia Bommarito gave a report to the Board of Education about things that are happening at the secondary level including the Spring Musical, the art show. She also talked about one of our quiz bowl team results. The team finished 1st in West Michigan against 9 other teams. Girls' Gymnastics finished their season as back to back state champions. Competitive cheer finished second in regionals with the highest score in Rockford High School history. Julian Cardenas won an individual state championship in Diving.

Collaborative Team Reports

Larry Watters (Parkside Elementary Principal) and Adam Burkholder (East Rockford Middle School Principal) reported on what has been happening at RPS. Elementary - March is reading month! There are many games and reading incentives happening at the Elementary buildings. Kindergarten registration

nights are happening during the month of March and screening will take place in April. There will be Elementary spring concerts and Mr. Watters encouraged community members to attend.

Secondary – Behind the scenes the 2024-2025 school year is being planned. Master schedules are being created, staffing discussions, etc. Secondary buildings held open houses for incoming students to tour the building. North Rockford Middle School has a Spelling Bee champion! Brady won the local and the Kent ISD Spelling Bee. He will move on to another competition. Senior meetings are happening after spring break. Band, Choir and Orchestra had a great showing at Festival.

GYO Report

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Korie Wilson-Crawford presented a preliminary report on the GYO program. We have applied for a grant and are still waiting for approval. The state of Michigan is interested in building the teacher pool using students, existing staff who don't have a teaching certificate, etc. Rockford applied for a grant submitting three ways to grow the pool. One is a partnership with Grand Valley State University for students. The second partner is Ferris State University. This would be for current employees could go back to school to become certified teachers at no cost to them. The third would be with Michigan State University. This would be for current certified staff. It would allow them to go back to school to obtain a master's degree. The Kent ISD also applied for a grant. If they both are granted, we could use the Kent ISD avenue as well.

Committee Reports

Board Trustee Tricia Anderson reported on the curriculum and instruction committee meeting. The committee discussed the library book selection and review process and procedures. Teachers are starting to expand their classroom libraries and going in a positive direction. The PLC calendar was reviewed and discussed. The committee also discussed the Advanced Placement opportunities coming to RHS. They also talked about the new elementary instruction committee.

Board Trustee Nick Reichenbach reported on the building and site committee meeting. He talked about the renovations to Roguewood Elementary. There will be a study regarding the noise at the stadium.

Board Trustee Kelly Freridge discussed the Human Resources committee meeting. There was discussed regarding collective bargaining and ways to attract and retain staff.

CPR Report

District Nurses Kelly Theaker and Jennifer Collins discussed the district MERT (Medical Emergency Response Team) teams. The team is made up of staff volunteers who serve on the MERT team. The teams are trained every other year in the fall. All members are also certified or re-certified for CPR.

New Business

2023-2024 Draft Calendar

Superintendent Steve Matthews presented the recommended 2023-2024 draft calendar. Assistant Superintendent Korie Wilson-Crawford discussed the calendar and some of the changes that are in the calendar for 2023-2024. The calendar was created using a collaborative process. Motion to approve by Kelley Freridge with support by Nick Reichenbach. Motion carried unanimously.

2023 Summer Paving Projects

Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Mike Cuneo discussed paving projects that will be taking place at Belmont Elementary, Meadow Ridge Elementary and Rockford High School. A portion of the parking lot at Rockford High School, full replacement of paving at Meadow Ridge along with widening the driveway. Belmont Elementary will also have all paved surfaces replaced. Motion to approve by Tricia Anderson, support by Christie Ramsey. The motion passed unanimously.

Classroom Technology Upgrade

Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Mike Cuneo discussed upgrading classroom technology at Belmont Elementary and Meadow Ridge Elementary to support new furniture. There will be new wireless capabilities and upgrading the projectors to much brighter models. Motion to approve by Jake Himmelspach with support by Christie Ramsey. Motion pass unanimously.

New Elementary Flooring

Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Mike Cuneo discussed new flooring at the new elementary school. There are multiple types of flooring. Shawn Hayward, Director of Operations, explained the types of flooring that will be used. Each wing of the school will have different colors and patterns. Motion to approve by Christie Ramsey with support from Kelley Freridge. The motion passed unanimously.

New Elementary Network Equipment

Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Mike Cuneo discussed the network equipment needs at the new elementary school. Carl VanderZee explained the need to purchase now in order to utilize federal funding. Motion to approve by Nick Reichenbach with support from Jake Himmelspach. The motion passed unanimously.

New Elementary Playground Equipment

Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Mike Cuneo presented the plans for playground equipment at the new elementary school. A committee reviewed options and made recommendations. Motion to approve by Christie Ramsey with support from Jarrod Folsom. The motion passed unanimously.

ELA Adoption

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, Mike Ramm discussed the new middle school ELA curriculum. A team of teachers, instructional coaches, Sharon Wells (Director of Literacy) and Mr. Ramm vetted, selected, and recommended a curriculum for Rockford Public Schools. The proposal includes print and on-line access. Rockford Public Schools 7th and 8th grade classes piloted two options and provided feedback as well. The curriculum committee led by Mike Ramm, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, reviewed these options and brought forth a recommendation. Motion to approve the recommended curriculum by Kelly Freridge with support from Jake Himmelspach. Board Trustee Helms asked for clarification. Mr. Ramm responded with information about the pilot. Ms. Helms presented some information regarding her perspective on curriculum adoption. There was further discussion regarding the process that is used to select curriculum and how curriculum supports students. After discussion, the motion passed with six yay votes and one nay vote from Trustee Helms.

Recognition of Visitors & Hearing of People Present

The following individuals addressed the Board of Education.

Brenda Wodarski

Katina DeRoo

Craig Ladyman

Charles Curtis

Chris Crandle

Adjournment

President Folsom read parts of the public participation policy (0167.3) before adjourning the meeting at 7: p.m.

Recording Secretary

Secretary, Board of Education