

School District of Rhinelander
Board of Education

BOARD MEETING UPDATE

Regular Monthly Meeting

Monday, February 19, 2018

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order on Monday, February 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Superior Diesel Advanced Learning Center of Rhinelander High School; located at 665 Coolidge Avenue, Rhinelander, WI. Ronald Counter, Board President, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Judy Conlin, Mike Roberts, David Holperin, Dennis O'Brien, Duane Frey, Ann Munninghoff Eshelman, Benjamin Roskoskey, and Ron Counter

Board Members Absent: Mary Peterson

Approximately fifteen guests were present for this meeting, as well as Superintendent Kelli Jacobi, Jamie Taylor of the Northwoods River News, and Eileen Persike of the North Star Journal.

Declaration of Public Notice

The 'Declaration of Public Notice' was printed on the meeting agenda. This notice identifies the public places at which the meeting agenda was posted and/or shared.

School Board Professional Development

Maggie Peterson, Director of Special Education-Pupil Services and Tracy Hoffhein, Hodag Connections Coordinator, shared information about the Hodag Connections program and how the program helps struggling students. Three students attended the meeting and shared the obstacles they have had in their personal lives, how they struggled while they were in school, and how the Hodag Connections program provided them the services they needed to be successful and achieve their graduation certification. Two of the students in attendance were participants in the 'Adult Learners' program and were personally awarded their certificates at the meeting by Mr. Shane Dornfeld, Rhinelander High School Interim Principal. The Board applauded the students for their success in overcoming their personal struggles.

Ms. Peterson informed the Board that the program's goals are to increase enrollment, increase work options for students, continue to support the 'Community Closet' which provides personal items to those students in need, and to provide students a smooth transition from high school to post-secondary education. The Board thanked Ms. Peterson, Ms. Hoffhein, Mr. Dornfeld, and all other involved staff members for continuing with their efforts to help all students succeed.

For more information regarding the Hodag Connections' program options, go to <http://www.rhinelander.k12.wi.us/htvl> or contact Tracy Hoffhein at hofftra@rhinelander.k12.wi.us.

Report Topics

President's Report

President Counter requested a moment of silence in memory of the seventeen people killed in the February 14th school shooting in Parkland, Florida. He also informed the Board that consideration of the space needs for elementary classrooms and other space needs in the district would be taken off the agenda for this meeting since no recommendation for the school board action has been proposed by the Capital Projects Ad Hoc Committee.

Vice-President's Report

Vice-President Conlin had nothing to report.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Jacobi informed the Board that due to the inclement weather, representatives from Kerber Rose CPA would not be in attendance at this meeting to review the annual audit. This presentation will be rescheduled.

Superintendent Jacobi also shared the February 2018 CESA 9-School District of Rhinelander newsletter and informed the Board that in light of the Florida school shooting last week, administrators and staff in the school buildings are sharing

information with parents on how to have conversations with their children in an effort to keep them calm and provide stability in the midst of tragedy. Also, at the start of next school year, staff in all buildings will engage in the "ALICE" training. This training will provide staff with the skills to proactively handle the threat of an aggressive intruder or active shooter event.

Student Representative Report

Tyler "Ty" Fredrick, Student Council Representative, reported that the students have been focusing on plans for the February winter dance; however, confirmed attendance is low at this time and if more reservations are not received, it may have to be canceled.

With Ty in attendance, Ann Munninghoff Eshelman, Board member and Mock Trial Legal Counsel, commended Ty and the Mock Trial team for their efforts at the Regional Competition in Wausau over the weekend of February 10th. Although the team lost the competition, Ms. Munninghoff Eshelman commended the students for the dignity, grace, and civility with which they conducted themselves. Ms. Munninghoff Eshelman shared a special congratulations to Ty on his delivery of the closing arguments that he provided for both sides of the case. She informed the Board that arguing both sides is extremely difficult and Ty did an excellent job.

Professional Staff Report

Gina Seidl, Early Childhood (EC) Teacher, reported on the EC program, which serves the needs of special education students ages 3-5. The program provides services well into the community (i.e. Headstart, private schools, child care centers, health care providers, and families in their homes) as well as in the classroom. Services include free 'Child Find' screenings on the first Tuesday of every month.

Upon arrival to the classroom, students are involved in gross motor/sensory activities inside and outside of the classroom, circle time, book time, individual work time and snack time. Ms. Seidl stated she truly loves her job and invited all Board members to visit her classroom at Crescent Elementary School at any time so they can see how the children enjoy their learning and social experiences.

Committee Reports

Instruction and Accountability Committee

Judy Conlin, Committee Chair, reported that the Committee did not meet in February.

Operations and Strategic Planning Committee

Mike Roberts, Committee Chair, reported that the Committee did not meet but he informed the Board that due to its acceptance of proposals and recommendations for improving the CAVOC site the ski trails are in excellent shape and collegiate ski meets are being held there. He was also pleased to learn that due to the trail conditions, the UW-Green Bay team uses the site as their home practice course.

Employee Relations Committee

Committee Chair Duane Frey reported that the Committee did not meet in February.

Capital Projects Ad Hoc Committee

Mike Roberts, Committee Chair, reported that the Committee met just prior to this regular monthly school board meeting at which it considered an option to purchase the St. Joseph's Church/School/Rector property. The Committee did not take any action, but directed Superintendent Jacobi to investigate whether or not the Board needs to retain its own realtor and what the difference in cost would be if the Board retains a realtor to represent the District or if it retains an attorney for representation in the event there is interest in making an offer to purchase the property.

CESA 9 Report

CESA 9 Board of Control Representative Duane Frey had nothing to report.

Oneida/Vilas School Supt.-Board Report

Superintendent Jacobi reported that the Oneida/Vilas group has not recently met.

Citizens/Delegations

No citizens/delegations wished to address the school board.

Action and/or Discussion Topics

Meeting Minutes

The Minutes of the January 15, 2018 regular monthly meeting were approved.

Payment of January Claims and Services

The January 2018 payment of claims in the amount of \$816,171.20 and the January 2018 payment of contracted services in the amount of \$625,897.19 were approved as printed.

Gift/Donation Acceptance

The following gifts/donations with accepted with sincere appreciation:

- \$50 from Andrew and Carolyn DelNegro of Mount Pleasant, WI to be applied to the student Spanish trip travel account
- Robotic parts and a donation for transportation, worth a total value of \$500, from the U.S.W. Union, Local #2-15. The donations are to be used to help support the Robotics Team with parts and to help with travel costs to state competition.
- A large rope, valued at \$175.00, from Bernie and JoAnne Dart of Rhinelander, to be used as a boundary marker at the Cedric A. Vig Outdoor Classroom (CAVOC) animal mount museum provided to students for the study of the Northwoods animals
- \$100 from Adam and Krista Matyska of Harshaw, WI, to be used for supplies and/or materials for the Playscape project at the CAVOC site
- \$25 from an anonymous donor, to be applied to the Food Service "Angel Fund"
- \$20 from Judy Benish (address unknown) to be used by the Spanish Club students in their fundraising efforts to go to Spain in 2019
- \$200 from Maggie Peterson of St. Germain, WI to be used by the Spanish Club students in their fundraising efforts to go to Spain in 2019
- Donations to be used toward the travel expenses for the RHS Dance Team to compete at national competition:
 - > \$50 from Raymond Traynor of Hainseville, IL
 - > \$50 from Bid Daddy's of Rhinelander, LLC
 - > \$100 from Eric Theilman, Theilman Home Improvements LLC of Rhinelander
 - > \$100 from Randall L. Natrop, DDS of Rhinelander
 - > \$100 from O'Reilly Auto Parts of Rhinelander

Middle School Trap Shooting Team Proposal

The Board approved the development of a James Williams Middle School Trap Shooting Team in partnership with the Hodag Sports Club. This club sport will be at no cost to the District.

Since the first year of trap shooting for high school level students was very successful, Mr. Phil Kriesel, Head Coach, proposed the development of a trap shooting team as a club sport for James Williams Middle School students as well. As with the high school team, the middle school team will be under the cooperation of the District and the Hodag Sports Club. It will be a District-recognized co-ed sport and will be an adaptive sport so that students with special needs can also participate. Student fees and community support will fund the required needs of the team so there will be no cost to the District.

Graduation from the 'Hunter's Safety' program will be required for students to participate on the trap team. All firearms would be stored in a safe location at the Hodag Sports Club, or students will transport their firearms without bringing them onto school property. Coaches will also make arrangements for temporary storing of firearms if necessary. Ammunition will be controlled on the Hodag Sports Club grounds, and students will be required to only use ammunition that is provided. Emphasis would be given to the importance that firearms are not to be brought onto school property.

The trap team would not be a free shooting event for the students. Each student would need to pay approximately \$200-\$300 to cover fees, targets, and ammunition. Scholarships would be available to those students who may want to participate, but their family finances do not allow. Funds raised locally or by donations of ammunition by individuals or businesses would help to fund the scholarships.

Students will be required to follow the activities code just as all other students involved in co-curricular activities and their emergency medical cards will need to be on file with the team's head coach and assistant coach. Students will be required to wear eye and ear protection during trap team activities, which will be provided by the Hodag Sports Club

Benefits of the program include the following

- Trap shooting will reach those middle school students that may not have an interest in participating in a currently-offered activity.
- Students may take a different interest in school due to being part of a team sport.
- By offering more activities to students, staff members have a greater opportunity to reach those students that have remained on the "outside" of school activities.
- Being involved in a firearms program will help to ensure that students are responsible during participation in firearm sports.
- The middle school feeder program will be key to the success of the high school trap team program.
- Students become more engaged in school and are more likely to take leadership roles due to their passion of having the opportunity to become involved in an activity that is of interest to them.

2018 Summer School Proposals

The Board approved the following 2018 summer school proposals:

Elementary

The elementary program will be held for nineteen (19) days, June 11th through July 6th (no school on July 4th), at Crescent and Pelican Elementary Schools. Classes at Crescent will be held from 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. each day and at Pelican from 8:15 a.m. -12:45 p.m. daily. Lunch will be served at both schools and transportation will be provided. Teachers will be scheduled from 7:45 a.m.-1 p.m. each day.

Program Objectives

- Provide all students with remedial as well as acceleration opportunities in reading, language arts, math, science, and social studies
- Provide enrichment programming to help develop talents and skills of all students
- Provide intensive tutoring for selected and targeted tier intervention students in reading and math

Anticipated Cost

\$231,203.00

James Williams Middle School

The middle school program will also meet for nineteen (19) days, June 11th through July 6th (no school on July 4th). Lunch will be served and transportation will be provided. Classes will meet from 8:15 a.m-12 noon, with teachers being scheduled from 7:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Exceptions to the time frame of the schedule will be the Summer Beginning Band program for incoming 6th graders, which will continue in August. Tutoring will supplement academic courses.

Program Objectives

- Provide all students with remedial as well as acceleration opportunities in reading, language arts, math, science, and social studies skills
- Allow students who failed a class to demonstrate proficiency in course content
- Provide on-line computer opportunities to support learning in reading, language arts, and math, as well as to provide innovative technological classroom instruction in science, social studies, math, reading and language arts as appropriate
- Provide enrichment programming to help develop talents and skills for all students
- Provide intensive tutoring for selected and targeted tier intervention students in reading and math

Anticipated Cost

\$54,779.00

Rhineland High School

Students attending the high school programs will be able to get on buses going to and from the middle school with the regular bus routes and walk to and from the high school. No special bus routes for regular education students will be provided.

Program Offerings

- Credit Recovery -- Four days per week for a total of 24 days from 8-10 a.m. and again from 10 a.m.-12 noon (2 instructors)
- Accelerated Learning - - An online virtual program (WI Virtual School or Odysseyware) - available 24/7
- Summer Fitness -- 6:30-9:30 a.m. each day (3-4 Instructors)
- Employability Skills with field trips focused on community transition - 15 days from 7:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., with a second work-based component that will be offered through July and August (2 Instructors and 1 Teaching Assistant)
- Drivers Education -- 7-9 a.m. with behind-the-wheel scheduled between 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. (1 Instructor)
- Summer Band -- Two different band practice sessions; one in July for 4 days (for performing in the 4th of July parade) and one in August for 4 days (traditional Band Camp) (1 Instructor)

Anticipated Cost

\$46,469.71

CAVOC (Cedric A. Vig Outdoor Classroom)

The CAVOC program is held to introduce 3rd grade students into the environmental, geographical, and historical curriculum of Wisconsin. It serves as a kick-off to the 4th grade curriculum. The program will be offered June 18, 19, and 20 from 8:00 a.m.-12 noon to students entering 4th grade. Twenty five (25) students will be chosen each day and will be bused to CAVOC from Pelican Elementary.

Anticipated Cost

\$1,896 (to be funded through the Curriculum Dept. budget)

Closed Session

The Board entered closed session to consider the hire of a professional employee and the resignation of a professional employee.