

School District of Rhinelander
Board of Education

Regular Monthly Meeting
Monday, January 22, 2024

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order on Monday, January 22, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Superior Diesel Advanced Learning Center – Rhinelander High School, 665 Coolidge Ave., Rhinelander, WI.

Ronald Counter, Board President, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Judy Conlin (virtual), Mike Roberts, Duane Frey, Ben Roskoskey, Ronald Lueneburg, Merlin Van Buren, and Ronald Counter

Board Members Absent: Mary Peterson and David Holperin

Others present at this meeting were: Superintendent, Eric Burke; Director of Business Services, Robert Thom; Director of Human Resources, Michele Cornelius; Director of Instruction, Ryan Ourada; Director of Learning Support, Richard Gretzinger; James Williams Middle School Principal, Kyle Raleigh; Northwoods Community Elementary Principal, Gayle Daniel; Secretary/Deputy Clerk, Shelley Anderson, Eileen Persike of the Northwoods Star Journal, and Heather Schaefer of the Northwoods River News. Five other people were also present.

Declaration of Public Notice

President Counter indicated that the ‘Declaration of Public Notice’ was printed with the meeting agenda. This notice identifies the public places where the meeting agenda was posted and/or shared.

Citizens/Delegations

- Ryan Jirik addressed the Board concerning Sign Here Interpreting LLC breaking their contract with the District.
- Jenna Jirik spoke to the Board regarding the possible negative impact that Sign Here Interpreting LLC's breach of contract may have on her daughter.

Report Topics

President's Report

- President Ron Counter stated that he and others attended the WASB State Education Convention in Milwaukee. All gained important information.

Vice-President's Report

- Vice-President Ben Roskoskey stated he also attended the WASB State Education Convention and that it reinforced all of the positive changes that the District has made.

- Continuing these changes is essential for the well-being of students, staff, and the community.

Rhineland Education Association Report

- No report was given.

Student Council and National Honor Society Representative Report(s)

- No report was given.

Committee Chair Reports

Instruction and Accountability Committee

- Ben Roskoskey reported that agenda item E was presented to the Committee, and Ryan Ourada will give a report to the Board. The Committee was also given an update from Mr. Ourada on target-based grading. The Committee recommended agenda items F and G to the Board for approval.

Operations and Strategic Planning Committee

- Ronald Lueneburg reported that the Committee recommended agenda items J, K, and L to the Board for approval.

Employee Relations Committee

- Duane Frey, Committee Chair, reported that the Committee had a preliminary salary discussion, and no action was taken.

Capital Projects Ad Hoc Committee

- Mike Roberts, Committee Chair, reported that the Committee did not meet.

CESA 9 Representative Report

- Merlin Van Buren, the Board's Representative to CESA 9, reported that regular business occurred at the last meeting.

Oneida/Vilas School Superintendent-Board Representative Report

- Eric Burke, Superintendent, had no report.

Discussion, Reports/Updates, and/or Action Topics

Minutes of December 18, 2023, Regular Board Meeting

MOTION: R. Lueneburg, seconded by M. Roberts.

Approve the minutes of the

December 18, 2023, Regular Board Meeting as printed.

Abstain: M. Van Buren

Motion passed with a voice vote.

December 2023 Payment of Claims and Contracted Services

MOTION: M. Roberts, seconded by R. Lueneburg.

Approve the December

payment of Claims in the amount of \$1,054,171.44 and the December 2023 Payment of Contracted Services in the amount of \$1,520,634.83 as printed.

Aye: J. Conlin, M. Roberts, D. Frey, M. Van Buren, B. Roskoskey, R. Lueneburg, R. Counter

Nay: None

Motion passed 7/0

Consider Acceptance of Various Gifts/Donations Contributed to the District

MOTION: B. Roskoskey, seconded by M. Van Buren. Accept with sincere gratitude the following gifts/donations:

- \$800.00 from Park City Credit Union
- \$750.00 from David and Julie Holperin
- New snow pants and coats valued at \$150.00 from an anonymous donor

Motion passed with voice vote.

Information on Budget Challenges

Robert Thom, the Director of Business Services, briefed the Board on the budgetary difficulties confronting the District. Additionally, he presented data indicating that our District is among several in the State grappling with similar financial challenges.

State Report Card Update

The Board received a presentation from Ryan Ourada, the Director of Instruction, regarding the State Report Card for our District.

Discussion and/or Action on 2024 Summer School Proposals

MOTION: B. Roskoskey, seconded by M. Roberts. Board approve the elementary, middle school, and high school summer school sessions as proposed.

Motion passed with voice vote.

Discussion and/or Action on the 2024-2025 School Year Calendar

MOTION: B. Roskoskey, seconded by M. Roberts. Board approve the 2024-2025 school year calendar as proposed, with graduation to be held on May 30, 2025.

Motion passed with voice vote.

Discussion and/or Action on the 2024-2025 Public School Open Enrollment Determination of Availability

MOTION: M. Roberts, seconded by D. Frey. School District of Rhinelander to approve or deny 2024-2025 regular education student open enrollment applications pursuant to state requirements and based on the criteria outlined in the District's Open Enrollment Program #5113. For the School District of Rhinelander to deny any new open enrollment applications for the 2024-2025 school year for students requiring special education programming or services due to zero spaces available in the following service areas: early childhood special education, elementary cross-categorical special education, middle school cross-categorical special education, high school cross-categorical special education, deaf and hard of hearing, visually impaired, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech and language pathology.

Motion passed with voice vote.

Discussion and/or Action on the Pupil Nondiscrimination Self-Evaluation Report

MOTION: M. Roberts, seconded by M. Van Buren. Approve the 'Pupil Nondiscrimination Self-Evaluation Report' as submitted.

Motion passed with voice vote.

Discussion and/or Action on First Reading of New Policy 7544

MOTION: M. Roberts, seconded by R. Lueneburg. Board approve the first reading of Policy 7544 - Use of Social Media.

Motion passed with voice vote.

Discussion and/or Action on Second Reading of New Policies 6236 and 7250.01

MOTION: R. Lueneburg, seconded by M. Roberts. Board approve the second reading of policies 7250.01 and 6236.

Motion passed with voice vote.

Discussion and/or Action on Revised Policies Relating to Professional Staff, Support Staff, Students, and Property

MOTION: R. Lueneburg, seconded by M. Roberts. Board approve the revisions to the following policies:

- Policy 3215 - Use of Tobacco and Nicotine by Professional Staff
- Policy 4215 - Use of Tobacco and Nicotine by Support Staff
- Policy 5512 - Use of Tobacco and Nicotine by Students
- Policy 7434 - Use of Tobacco and Nicotine on School Premises

Motion passed with voice vote.

Superintendent's Report

- Superintendent Eric Burke mentioned that the presenters at the WASB State Convention included Judy Conlin, Shane Dornfeld, Kyle Raleigh, Lexi Allen, Amy Vanney, and Leah VanZile.
- Only eight presentations were recorded at the WASB Convention, and this presentation was among them.
- Information cards on the upcoming referendum were distributed.
 - These cards will also be mailed to the community.
 - The cards aim to educate and inform individuals about the purpose of the referendum.

Enter Closed Session

MOTION: R. Counter, seconded by B. Roskoskey. Enter closed session pursuant to

- a. Wis. Stats. 19.85 (1) (c), to consider employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.
- b. Wis. Stats. 19.85 (1) (f) to consider financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations.

c. Wis. Stats 19.85 (1) (g) to confer with legal counsel as may be necessary with respect to litigation in which the District is involved or is likely to become involved.

More specifically, to consider staff contracts, the hire of staff, staff layoffs, and/or staff resignations/retirements, and to consider an agreement regarding a specific individual and/or contracted service, and/or the histories and/or disciplinary data of specific persons.

Aye: J. Conlin, M. Roberts, D. Frey, B. Roskoskey, R. Lueneburg, M. Van Buren, R. Counter

Nay: None

Motion passed 7/0 at 6:57 p.m.

Closed Session

Closed-session topics were discussed.

Return to Open Session

MOTION: R. Lueneburg, seconded by D. Frey.

Return to open session.

Aye: M. Roberts, D. Frey, B. Roskoskey, R. Lueneburg, M. Van Buren, R. Counter

Nay: None

Motion passed 6/0

Open Session

MOTION: B. Roskoskey, seconded by M. Van Buren.

Approve the hire of Emily

Wells as proposed.

Motion passed with a voice vote.

MOTION: B. Roskoskey, seconded by D. Frey.

Approve the resignation of

Ann Pickart and Amy Jakubowski as proposed.

Motion passed with a voice vote.

Adjournment

MOTION: B. Roskoskey, second by R. Lueneburg.

Move to adjourn.

Motion passed with a voice vote at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Shelley Anderson Secretary/Deputy Clerk