Rockford Public Schools
Quality Community – Quality Schools
Together Building a Tradition of Excellence

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting #10

Date | time Monday – December 10, 2018 | 7:30 p.m.
Location Administration Boardroom
Meeting called to order with a moment of silence by Vice President Lewis

In Attendance

Board of Education: Bobbi Jo Blanton, Geoffrey L. Downs, Lisa M. Kreager, Timothy J. Lewis, Miles J. Postema, Nick Reichenbach. Regrets: Laura L. Featherston. Administration: Dr. Michael Shibler, Michael Cuneo, Dr. Ryan Kelley, Marlene Clark, Student Representative Ally Orvis

Adoption of Agenda

Motion was made by Miles Postema, supported by Geoff Downs, approving the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Welcome

Valley View Elementary

Valley View Elementary Principal Jeremy Karel welcomed the Board of Education and Administration to the meeting and reported on several elementary district-wide and individual school activities. On behalf of the elementary principals, Mr. Karel extended gratitude to Gayla Fox and her staff for their assistance with the recent elementary holiday programs.

Students throughout the district are participating in several acts of giving, including providing Christmas cards to veterans and charitable activities to align with the current PBIS focus of generosity. Mr. Karel reported that three Rockford elementary schools will be featured on WZZM this Friday morning for their participation in Toys for Tots. He also acknowledged the generosity of Wolverine Worldwide for providing Christmas to families in need.

Specific to Valley View, Mr. Karel recognized the Rockford Education Foundation for providing funding to bring Michigan-based author Patricia Polacco to the school in November. Two additional portable classrooms are now available at the school to house art and music classes, and Mr. Karel thanked the central office, maintenance, and operational technology for the additional resources.

Recognition

None.

Call of the Audience

None.

Correspondence

Secretary Postema read correspondence from Kim Zuidema.

Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Lisa Kreager, supported by Bobbi Jo Blanton, approving the following consent agenda items. Motion carried unanimously.

- Minutes of November 26, 2018 Study Session and Regular Meeting #9
- Payment of bills in the amount of $3,064,393.46
- Certified staff resignation. Jennifer Warner-Leja effective December 17, 2018.

Reports

Student Representative

Student representative Ally Orvis reported on several activities prior to Christmas break, including an upcoming choir concert and breakfast with Santa. The second College and Career Night will be held at RHS on January 9.

School Resource Officer

Director of Security Scott Beckman introduced to the Board of Education, Kent County Sheriff Deputy/RPS School Resource Officer Eric Brunner, who will begin immediately after Christmas break. Deputy Brunner was chosen through an interview process held in October by Rockford administrators. In addition to his presence throughout the district, Deputy Brunner will provide mentoring and educational opportunities for staff and students. A letter of introduction will go out to parents and staff prior to Christmas break. Deputy Brunner thanked the Board of Education and Administration for the opportunity to serve the district.

RHS Creative Teaching and Learning Center Update

Director of Instructional Technology Maggie Thelen provided a comprehensive report to the Board of Education on program and facility development for the Creative Teaching and Learning Center at RHS, including last week's team visit to Clemson University to view the SCALE UP (Student-Centered Active Learning Environment with Upside-down Pedagogies) model first hand.

The vision for the center is as follows:
"To create an integrated learning environment that provides students active learning experiences through a student-centered and interactive learning environment. Time is spent with hands-on activities, driving questions and simulations that take students deeper into the content, problem-solving, and inquiry learning. This environment is highly collaborative where small groups of students work in teams to investigate, communicate, develop, and learn."

Ms. Thelen reviewed features of the RPS facility and how staff are being prepared to maximize its use for teaching and learning. Dr. Shibler anticipates the facility will open in June 2019, and will schedule public open houses as it nears completion.

Old Business

None.

New Business

RHS Cafeteria AV Bid Recommendation

Assistant Superintendent of Finance Mike Cuneo reported on bids received for installation of audio-visual equipment at the RHS cafeteria to meet growing needs. Upon recommendation of Dr. Shibler, motion was made by Nick Reichenbach, supported by Geoff Downs, approving the bid from Moss Telecommunications in the amount of $59,048.46, to be paid through the 2014 bond issue. Motion carried unanimously.

Certified Staff Recommendation

Upon recommendation of Dr. Shibler, motion was made by Miles Postema, supported by Lisa Kreager, approving the following certified staff employment for the remainder of the 2018-19 school year:

Jessica Karsies	4th grade	Valley View Elementary

Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Karsies expressed her enthusiasm to be part of the RPS team.

Recommendation for Position of East Rockford Middle School Principal

Following the announcement of East RMS Principal Mike Ramm's appointment as the district's next Assistant Superintendent of Instruction due to Dr. Kelley's retirement, interviews were held to identify a new principal for East Rockford Middle School.

Five candidates (two external and three internal) were interviewed and, on behalf of the interview team, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Korie Crawford submitted a recommendation to Dr. Shibler to appoint Adam Burkholder, RHS Assistant Principal, to the position.

Upon recommendation of Dr. Shibler, motion was made by Miles Postema, supported by Geoff Downs, appointing Adam Burkholder as East Rockford Middle School Principal, effective January 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Burkholder thanked Dr. Shibler and the Board of Education for the opportunity and looks forward to serving the staff and students at East RMS.

MASB Board of Directors Nomination

Board of Education Trustee Lisa Kreager expressed interest in running for the Region 3, Group 5 Board of Director position on the Michigan Association of School Boards. Motion was made by Miles Postema, supported by Bobbi Jo Blanton, nominating Lisa Kreager as a candidate for the MASB Region 3, Group 5 Board of Director position. Motion carried unanimously.

Lifetime Activities Pass

On December 31, 2018, Dr. Ryan Kelley will retire after 31 years of service to the Rockford Public Schools. Following Dr. Shibler's comments on Dr. Kelley's service to the district, Board Vice-President Lewis presented Dr. Kelley with a Lifetime Activities Pass.

Adjournment

Vice President Lewis adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Miles J. Postema, Secretary

Rockford Public Schools Board of Education

Minutes approved at January 14, 2019 meeting