



Date | time Monday – March 8, 2021 | 6:30 p.m.

Location Administration Boardroom
Physical attendance by invitation only*

*In compliance with MDHHS Emergency Order under MCL 333.2253, board of education meetings are defined as non-residential gatherings, and such gatherings at indoor non-residential venues are restricted to no more than 25 persons (Sec. 2(a)(2)).

In adherence to this restriction, physical attendance at this meeting is by invitation only. To preserve the public's right to observe the meeting or address the Board of Education, remote access options are provided below and are in compliance with Public Act 254 of 2020 and Rockford Public Schools Board of Education Bylaw 0167.3.

TO OBSERVE THE MEETING VIA LIVESTREAM:

Go to <https://www.youtube.com/user/beyondtherock/live>

TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF EDUCATION (two-way communication):

No later than 3:30 the day of the meeting, please contact the Superintendent's Executive Assistant at mclark@rockfordschools.org to request access and register to speak.

TO CONTACT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING:

<http://www.rockfordschools.org/email-the-board-of-education/>

ACCESSIBILITY:

Upon request to the Superintendent, the district shall make reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities to be able to participate in this meeting. Please call 616.863.6557 or email mclark@rockfordschools.org.

Meeting called to order with a moment of silence by President Postema

Attendance

Board of Education: Bobbi Jo Blanton, Geoffrey L. Downs, Kelley Freridge, Jake Himmelspace, Timothy J. Lewis, Miles J. Postema, Nick Reichenbach.

Student representative: Guin Waite.

Rockford Public Schools: Dr. Michael Shibley, Mike Ramm, Mike Cuneo, Korie Wilson-Crawford, Mindy Duba (remote), Lisa Jacobs, Matt Zokoe, Dan Zang, Dr. Kelly Amshey, Sharon Wells, Marlene Clark, Scott Beckman, Melissa Cochill, Jason Springer (BTR videographer).

Adoption of Agenda

Motion was made by Geoff Downs, supported by Bobbi Jo Blanton, approving the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Recognition

None.

Recognition of Visitors and Hearing of People Present

None.

Correspondence

Secretary Reichenbach read correspondence from Paula Kinsey.

Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Nick Reichenbach, supported by Jake Himmelspach, approving the following consent agenda items. Motion carried unanimously.

- Minutes of February 22, 2021 study session and Regular Meeting #14
- Payment of bills in the amount of \$4,921,976.13
 - 2020-21 Middle School Extra-Duty Spring Coaching Appointments.
 - Boys Tennis (East RMS): Tracy Ouellette and Michael Gariepy (Head Co-Coaches)
 - Boys Tennis (North RMS): Ross Dondit (Head Coach)
 - Girls Tennis (East RMS): Amy Banfield (Head Coach)
 - Track (East RMS): Shayne Dove (Head Boys Coach), Erin Cole (Head Girls Coach)
 - Track (North RMS): Jonathan Bates (Head Boys Coach), Jennifer Nyeholt (Head Girls Coach), Brian Barr (Assistant Coach), Tim Saur (Assistant Coach)
 - 2020-21 High School Extra-Duty Spring Coaching Appointments.
 - Baseball: Matthew Vriesenga (Head Coach), Steve Dengler (JV Coach), Maxwell Crimp (Freshman Coach)
 - Boys and Girls Crew: Tucker Anderson (Boys Head Coach), Grant Hoffman (Boys Assistant Coach)
 - Boys Golf: Christopher Schoder (Head Coach), Bob Wells (JV Coach)
 - Boys Lacrosse: Michael DeWitt (Head Coach), Cole Shuple (JV A Coach), Adam Kroll (JV B Coach)
 - Girls Lacrosse: Mike Emery (Head Coach), Mark Neuman (JV Coach)
 - Girls Soccer: Stuart Quackenbush (Head Coach)
 - Softball: Bradley Thomas (Head Coach), Christina Novak (JV Coach), Marcie McCann (Freshman Coach)
 - Girls Tennis: Tom Huizing (Head Coach), Hope Clancy (JV Coach)
 - Track: Andrew Martin (Boys Head Coach)
 - Boys Water Polo: Craig Peterman (Head Coach), Jerrad Reickard (JV Coach), Mason Westedt (Assistant Coach)
 - Girls Water Polo: Katie Clarin (Head Coach), Jerrad Reickard (JV Coach), Samantha Velting (Assistant Coach)

Reports

Student Representative

Student representative Guin Waite reported to the Board of Education on the recent granting of Winter Wishes, the upcoming spirit days and St. Patrick's Day events, student council meetings, and peer listener activities.

Collaborative Team Reports

The Board of Education receives information about events occurring in our schools in the form of monthly collaborative team reports.

Elementary: Cannonsburg Elementary Principal Matt Zokoe reported the elementary leadership team has risen to the challenges of educating students during COVID. He shared that leaders will conduct social-emotional check-ins with staff during this anniversary of the lockdown. Mr. Zokoe also reported on the development of common formative assessments, preparations for spring M-STEP testing, NWEA goal setting, the continued focus on student achievement, March is Reading Month activities, and preparations for kindergarten enrollment.

Secondary: Rockford High School Principal Dan Zang extended well wishes to North RMS Principal Lissa Weidenfeller during her recovery. Mr. Zang reported on how district educators are using NWEA testing data to advance student achievement, registration and scheduling for next school year, appreciation to the student council and peer listener student leaders, and preparations for senior events as we prepare to close out the school year. The RHS graduation is scheduled for Tuesday, May 25, with the location to be determined based on gathering restrictions in place at that time. In addition to state assessments after spring break, students will undergo AP testing in May. Principal Zang also thanked those who participated in an at-home graduation ceremony for a student whose father is terminally ill.

Rockford Virtual: Principal Dr. Kelley Amshey reported on a successful and smooth transition to the third trimester, with several students transitioning back to in-person learning while others transitioned into the virtual setting. Dr. Amshey also reported that specials and elective courses are now available for elementary and middle school students. Rockford Virtual students are participating in March is Reading Month activities, preparing for the upcoming M-STEP and PSAT testing, and several families have expressed interest in continuing with Rockford Virtual next year. Dr. Amshey will provide a report to the Board of Education on next year's Rockford Virtual program at an upcoming meeting.

Dr. Shibley commended his entire leadership team and staff for going over and above to provide students with quality instruction in a safe environment during a very unique time. President Postema thanked Dr. Shibley for his leadership and guidance.

Rockford Preschool Program Report

Executive Director of Community Services Lisa Jacobs reported to the Board of Education on the district's preschool program which provides several quality early childhood options for families under the leadership of Child Care Director Melissa Cochrill.

The Michigan Department of Education's Office of Great Start to Quality measures the quality of early childhood programs through alignment with 40 quality indicators and issues ratings to programs. Indicators fall under the five categories of: staff qualifications/professional development, family and community partnerships, administration and management, environment, and curriculum and instruction.

The district's RHS Child Development Lab has earned a 5-star rating, and preschool offerings for community education preschool, Montessori preschool, Spanish preschool and an all-day 3 and 4 year old preschool wraparound program have earned a 4-star rating with its next review scheduled for June 2021.

Ms. Jacobs thanked the Beyond the Rock Program for facilitating this year's virtual open houses.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Bid Recommendation – District-Wide Firewall Protection

Assistant Superintendent of Finance Mike Cuneo presented bids received for the UPS (uninterruptible power supply) appliances and district-wide network and device firewall.

Upon recommendation of Dr. Shibler, motion was made by Kelley Freridge, supported by Jake Himmelsbach, to award the bid to Arbor Solutions in the total amount of \$292,303.60 as presented. The purchase will be made using CARES Act funds. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

President Postema adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Reichenbach

Rockford Public Schools Board of Education

Minutes approved at March 22, 2021 meeting