

**RIVERTON COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #14**  
**Board of Education**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**May 10, 2010**  
**Regular Meeting**

The Regular Meeting of the Riverton Community Unit School District #14 Board of Education was held on Monday, May 10, 2010, at the district office. President Nonneman called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Board members present: Kim Baskett, Pam Cuffle, Mike Klebe, Debbie Moore, Paul Nonneman, Larry Patterson. Absent: Scott McClure. Others present: Tom Mulligan, Nancy Galligan, Kelly Fraase, Fred Lamkey, Chris Koerwitz, Bill Geiger, Bill Lamkey, Mike Gum. Guests: Lisa Seymour, Julie Klebe, Julie Timm, Beth Held, Jamie Selinger, Heather Ethell.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. PATTERSON TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES; TO APPROVE THE TREASURER'S REPORT, THE REVENUE REPORT, AND THE EXPENDITURE REPORT; TO APPROVE THE PREVAILING WAGE ORDINANCE AS PRESENTED; MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MRS. MOORE, AND ON A ROLL CALL VOTE: BASKETT, YES; CUFFLE, YES; KLEBE, YES; MOORE, YES; NONNEMAN, YES; PATTERSON, YES. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MRS. CUFFLE TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS FOR MAY; MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. PATTERSON, AND ON A ROLL CALL VOTE: BASKETT, YES; CUFFLE, YES; KLEBE, YES; MOORE, YES; NONNEMAN, YES; PATTERSON, YES. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

**Communications:**

*Julie Klebe:* Mrs. Klebe asked the Board to consider holding meetings at the school buildings as parking at the district office is very difficult at times. President Nonneman told Mrs. Klebe that the Board had discussed this issue in the past.

The Board acknowledged receipt of a letter from Phil Pinney complimenting the high school for recently hosting the Illinois Masonic Academic Bowl. A special thanks was offered to Mr. Lamkey and Mr. Gum for their assistance with academic bowl.

*Reading Coaches – Julie Timm, Beth Held, Heather Ethell, Jamie Selinger:* Julie Timm, Beth Held, Heather Ethell, and Jamie Selinger presented an overview of the MAP scores (reading scores for grades K-10) and reviewed with the Board the percentage increases/decreases represented by the scores. All results were positive. The reading coaches further elaborated on comprehensive reading strategies that include predicting, summarizing, connecting, questioning, inferring, and imaging, and how those strategies are used in teaching students to become more effective readers. The coaches reported that an instructional calendar has been developed for the 2010-2011 school year, which includes training for administrators. Dr. Mulligan said that there would be funding available next year through ARRA that would possibly allow for further training from Gretchen Courtney Associates. Dr. Mulligan stressed that any money spent for this is grant money that cannot be spent on anything else such as salaries. The AARA grant is very restrictive on how money can be used.

**Administrative Team Reports:**

*Mrs. Binengar:* No report submitted. Mrs. Binengar is on maternity leave and will return in late May.

Mrs. Fraase: Report submitted. Mrs. Fraase said that there still needs to be further staffing plans made at the elementary school. Dr. Mulligan said that he believes that the state will continue to fund the Pre-K program, but we cannot commit to continuing that program until we have a definite answer. He added that the elementary school is currently writing the Pre-K grant as required.

Mr. Lamkey: Report submitted. Mrs. Cuffle complimented Mr. Lamkey on the middle school open house.

Mr. Koerwitz: Report submitted. Mr. Koerwitz said that the transition from his current position to that of Athletic Director is moving along; he is learning and going forward with a lot of help from Fred Lamkey, Bill Lamkey, and Rick Wagahoff.

Mr. Lamkey: Report submitted. Mr. Lamkey said that with regard to the part-time math position that was rified in April, it now appears that algebra numbers are great enough to warrant adding that position back. He added that that position is a critical starting place for students in algebra. Ms. Baskett expressed a concern about the schedule for final exams as there is a break in the days the testing is taking place. Mr. Lamkey said he would look at that when scheduling for the 2010-2011 school year. President Nonneman commended Mrs. Kennedy (high school science teacher) for the award she received from the State Journal-Register. Brief discussion took place with regard to the high school Spanish curriculum. Mr. Lamkey said that students will be tested to see how their knowledge compares with others in the nation. A question was asked about adding another foreign language to the curriculum. Mr. Lamkey said that other foreign languages may certainly be taken through Virtual High School courses.

Mr. Gum: Report submitted. Mr. Gum said that consideration is being given to changing the rotation for musicals, madrigals, plays, etc. He said that there has been discussion about possibly adding an advanced choir class (possibly chamber choir) on the years with no madrigal class. If that change is made, he said that there would most likely be some sort of dinner event planned in December that would include a performance that will be based on the strengths of the students in the program.

Mr. Wagahoff: Report submitted. With regard for a location for wrestling practice, Dr. Mulligan said that he has been working with the elementary school building and feels that they can definitely make that building work for that program. He added that Coach Bee is excited about that option.

Mr. Geiger: Report submitted. Mr. Geiger told the Board that two bids were received for the district's security projects; both Seico and George Alarm submitted those bids. Seico submitted the lowest, responsible bid at \$44,004. Mr. Geiger presented a hand-out of tools that could be auctioned off from the high school IT classroom. At the June meeting, he will provide the Board with a final list of items that could be auctioned before moving forward with a "sealed bid" sale.

Dr. Mulligan: Report submitted. Dr. Mulligan presented a hand-out to the Board on "Race to the Top", which is a federally-funded program for school districts. He told the Board that we are again at a point where we have been asked to make a commitment on whether or not to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for that funding. Dr. Mulligan explained the requirements of participating in the program and added that if Illinois receives the funding, the district has 90 days to determine whether the funding levels are worth the effort of implementing federally-mandated changes. Dr. Mulligan recommends signing the "MOU" as districts that do not sign it are automatically eliminated from receiving any of the funding; he said that not signing would be irresponsible. Dr. Mulligan talked with the Board about changes in coverage for the Athletic Director's position. Mr. Koerwitz explained that there is a new software program to help with planning, scheduling events, etc. He said that utilizing the program will help keep parents informed, and it will also be good for coaches. Dr. Mulligan said that he believes that the changes being made are making the best use of our personnel.

President Nonneman addressed the Board at this point. He told the Board members that he believes that events that have happened at past Board meetings have attributed to cutting Mr. Wagahoff's position. He said that with regard to the high school incident that happened at this time last year with the straw, it appears that Mrs. Moore, Ms. Baskett, and Mr. Klebe have had a hard time putting that incident behind them. He added that another incident that seems to be driving decisions is the discussion of the girls' basketball shoot-out date and the conflict with the madrigal date. Mr. Nonneman continued ... he said that he feels that some members of the Board have tried to discredit him, but they were unsuccessful. He added that he feels that as a result, those three Board members specifically chose to cut Mr. Wagahoff's position. President Nonneman said that he will always work to protect students of the school district. He expressed his concern about the involvement and the cost of having the attorney involved in this controversy last fall. President Nonneman said in closing that he was simply expressing his opinion tonight because he believes that terminating Rick Wagahoff was about getting back at him.

Ms. Baskett addressed President Nonneman stating that he was making a lot of assumptions. She said her vote to cut the Athletic Director's position had nothing to do with him (Nonneman).

The meeting was moving in an awkward direction, and Mrs. Cuffle called a point of order, after which the meeting moved into "Business" items.

**Business:**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MRS. CUFFLE TO APPROVE THE STUDENT FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR AS PRESENTED AND AMENDED (INCREASING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT PARKING FEES TO \$20; IMPLEMENTING A \$50 FEE FOR DRIVER'S EDUCATION; CLARIFYING THAT ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETIC FEES WILL BE \$25 EACH AND THAT ALL HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC FEES WILL BE \$50 EACH); MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. PATTERSON, AND ON A ROLL CALL VOTE: BASKETT, YES; CUFFLE, YES; KLEBE, YES; MOORE, YES; NONNEMAN, YES; PATTERSON, YES. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MRS. MOORE TO APPROVE A BID FROM SEICO IN THE AMOUNT OF \$44,004 FOR SECURITY UPGRADES AS PRESENTED; MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. KLEBE, AND ON A ROLL CALL VOTE: BASKETT, YES; CUFFLE, YES; KLEBE, YES; MOORE, YES; NONNEMAN, YES; PATTERSON, YES. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. KLEBE TO APPROVE THE POSITION STATEMENT FOR THE SALES TAX REVENUE PROPOSITION AS PRESENTED; MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. PATTERSON, AND ON A ROLL CALL VOTE: BASKETT, YES; CUFFLE, YES; KLEBE, YES; MOORE, YES; NONNEMAN, YES; PATTERSON, YES. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. PATTERSON TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, DISCIPLINE, PERFORMANCE, OR DISMISSAL OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES AND TO DISCUSS NEGOTIATIONS; MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MRS. CUFFLE, AND ON A ROLL CALL VOTE: BASKETT, YES; CUFFLE, YES; KLEBE, YES; MOORE, YES; NONNEMAN, YES; PATTERSON, YES. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES, AND THE MEETING MOVED INTO CLOSED SESSION AT 8:42PM.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MRS. MOORE TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION; MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MRS. CUFFLE, AND ON A VOICE VOTE, THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES, AND THE MEETING MOVED BACK INTO OPEN SESSION AT 9:20PM.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. PATTERSON TO APPROVE THE PERSONNEL REPORT AS PRESENTED (EMPLOY KRISTIE KEPLER AS A 3/7 HIGH SCHOOL MATH TEACHER; EMPLOY ASHLEY PALLANTE AS AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TEACHER) AND TO DENY A REQUEST FROM LYNN KOPATZ TO UTILIZE THE RETIREMENT INCENTIVE IN CONJUNCTION WITH HER ANTICIPATED RETIREMENT; MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. KLEBE, AND ON A ROLL CALL VOTE: BASKETT, YES; CUFFLE, YES; KLEBE, YES; MOORE, YES; NONNEMAN, YES; PATTERSON, YES. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

**Announcements and Discussion:**

There was a general consensus that there should be no Board Dinner scheduled for this summer in light of the district's financial situation. Consideration will be given to holding a Board Dinner possibly every other year.

Mrs. Moore apologized to Julie Klebe for negative comments that may have been addressed toward her during the meeting. She added that the public is always welcome to attend Board meetings.

Dr. Mulligan handed out coach's evaluations for the Board's review.

**Adjournment:**

A MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY MR. PATTERSON; ON A VOICE VOTE, THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES, AND THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:24PM.

---

Board President

---

Board Secretary