

RIVERTON COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #14
Board of Education
Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2009
Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Riverton Community Unit School District #14 Board of Education was held on Monday, November 9, 2009, at the district office. President Nonneman called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Board members present: Kim Baskett, Pam Cuffle, Mike Klebe, Scott McClure, Debbie Moore, Paul Nonneman, Larry Patterson. Others present: Tom Mulligan, Nancy Galligan, Stacey Binegar, Fred Lamkey, Chris Koerwitz, Bill Geiger, Bill Lamkey, Mike Gum, Rick Wagahoff. Guests: Jill Stephenitch, Jeff Koger, Jeff Jesberg, Lisa Seymour.

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

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

Communications:

There was no one present who wished to address the Board.

Administrative Team Reports:

Mrs. Binegar: Report submitted.

Mr. Lamkey: Report submitted.

Mr. Lamkey: Report submitted.

Mr. Gum: Report submitted. Mr. Gum reported to the Board that the Junior Seminar class seems to be having a positive affect on ACT and Work Key test results.

Mr. Wagahoff: Report submitted. Mr. Wagahoff told the Board that Mr. Toland received a very special honor in being named 2009 Illinois Coach of the Year for our region by the National Soccer Coach's Association of America. He also told the Board that there were 14 high school students at wrestling practice; we may look to start attending meets in January.

Mr. Koerwitz: Report submitted.

Mr. Geiger: Report submitted. Mr. Geiger told the Board that the elementary school playground is making headway. It will need to dry out before getting the final grade work done. He told them that everything for the QZAB bonds has been completed; we now just need secure a bank at this point in time. With regard to the QZAB bonds, Mr. Geiger said that a Building Committee meeting would be scheduled to review plans before making a recommendation to the full Board. Mr. Geiger said that FY would begin working on the football field immediately. They will fertilize, complete aeration, seeding, etc. at a cost of \$1,900. Dr. Mulligan said that as reasonable as that cost seems, we should consider working on the practice field as well.

Dr. Mulligan: Report submitted. Dr. Mulligan told the Board that the recent Compliance Visit by the Regional Superintendent of Schools' office went very well. A brief discussion took place with regard to the Gretchen Courtney Program. There was concern expressed that the implementation was too stressful on staff. Dr. Mulligan agreed that implementation may have been stressful, but commented that the bar has been raised for the level of expectation. He added that we are working very hard to increase student achievement.

Business:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. KLEBE TO APPROVE THE SPECIAL EDUCATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES AS PRESENTED; MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MRS. MOORE, AND ON A VOICE VOTE, THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

President Nonneman welcomed Jill Stephenitch, Jeff Koger, and Jeff Jesberg. He commented that they would be asked to answer questions from Board members with regard to conflicting dates for the madrigal dinner and the high school girls' basketball shootout.

Mr. Koger said that with regard to the shootout, scheduling is crucial as teams throughout the state have committed and the date is driven by so many factors such as other scheduled events, boys' games, tournaments, holidays, etc. He said this event was established eight years ago and was the perfect date for the girls' shootout. He said it is important to keep it in balance with the boys' schedules. Mr. Klebe said that the problem depends on ones' perspective. Mr. Klebe said that moving the date of the madrigal dinner back would cause conflicts with semester exams; moving it forward is not possible because of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Ms. Stephenitch said that last year there were some concerns to be dealt with. Accessing the kitchen last year was a problem, as was parking. Holding both events at the same time is not an ideal situation. Ms. Stephenitch told Board members that the madrigal performance makes up about 15% of a student's grade.

Mrs. Baskett told Ms. Stephenitch and Mr. Koger that she was interested in hearing from both sides directly about this conflict. Mr. Wagahoff said that he can certainly address Ms. Stephenitch's concerns. He said that he can specify parking areas for the shootout and can certainly move concessions to another location (freeing up the kitchen).

Similar concerns were expressed by remaining Board members; each addressed Ms. Stephenitch, Mr. Koger, Mr. Jesberg, and Mr. Wagahoff.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. KLEBE TO CHANGE THE DATE FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' BASKETBALL SHOOT-OUT AFTER FY 10; MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MRS. MOORE, AND ON A ROLL CALL VOTE: BASKETT, NO; CUFFLE, NO; KLEBE, YES;

MCCLURE, NO; MOORE, YES; NONNEMAN, NO; PATTERSON, NO. MOTION FAILED WITH 2 AYES AND 5 NOS.

Dr. Mulligan presented a hand-out to the Board on the proposed tax levy and explained how he arrives at the levy. He said that each year the levy is set high as he doesn't know what the district's assessed valuation will be until well after the levy has been approved. He added that under tax caps a district can only tax the increase in CPI (which is currently .1%) on existing construction; however, new construction is fully taxed.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. PATTERSON TO APPROVE THE TENTATIVE TAX LEVY AS PRESENTED AND SET THE TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING FOR MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2009, AT 6:00PM, AT THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MRS. CUFFLE, AND ON A VOICE VOTE, THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

Dr. Mulligan gave Board members a hand-out on the District's Strategic Objectives and Building-Level School Improvement Plans. At the elementary school, the focus is on PBIS and reading. Additionally, the goals at the middle school are centered on PBIS and reading; engagement is included in their goals as well. The main goal is to prevent students from falling into the academic and/or behavior "at risk" category. The high school goals include PBIS, reading, math, and engagement. Mr. Lamkey said that they are a little behind schedule right now with their goals, but added that he feels that they will be able to catch up. Mr. Klebe said that with regard to tracking students, it is important to remove "mobility" students and specifically look at "home-grown" students.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. MCCLURE TO APPROVE THE DISTRICT'S STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND BUILDING-LEVEL SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS AS PRESENTED; MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MRS. CUFFLE, AND ON A VOICE VOTE, THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. MCCLURE TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, DISCIPLINE, PERFORMANCE, OR DISMISSAL OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES; MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. PATTERSON, AND ON A ROLL CALL VOTE: BASKETT, YES; CUFFLE, YES; KLEBE, YES; MCCLURE, YES; MOORE, YES; NONNEMAN, YES; PATTERSON, YES. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES, AND THE MEETING MOVED INTO CLOSED SESSION AT 8:34PM.

A MOTION WAS MADE TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION; MOTION WAS SECONDED, AND ON A VOICE VOTE, THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES, AND THE MEETING MOVED BACK INTO OPEN SESSION.

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE PERSONNEL REPORT (WHICH INCLUDED BRIAN CUFFLE AS A VOLUNTEER GIRLS' BASKETBALL COACH AND ERIK RAIKES AS 6TH GRADE BOYS' BASKETBALL COACH); MOTION WAS SECONDED, AND ON A ROLL CALL VOTE: BASKETT, YES; CUFFLE, YES; KLEBE, YES; MCCLURE, YES; MOORE, YES; NONNEMAN, YES; PATTERSON, YES. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

Announcements and Discussion:

Dr. Mulligan reminded Board members of the upcoming IASB Annual Conference.

Adjournment:

A MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE; ON A VOICE VOTE, THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES, AND THE MEETING ADJOURNED.

Board President

Board Secretary