

**RICE LAKE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
30 PHIPPS AVENUE  
RICE LAKE, WI 54868**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR SESSION  
Monday, August 14, 2023  
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

**MINUTES**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Board of Education of the Rice Lake Area School District met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 14, 2023 in the Board Room of the Rice Lake Area School District Administration Building, 30 Phipps Avenue, Rice Lake, Wisconsin, with Keven Jensen, President presiding.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Present - Board Members: Steve Bowman, Don Cuskey, Phil Henkel, Keven Jensen, Dianne Koser, Bert Richard, Nellie Scheurer, Miriam Vavra  
Absent- Doug Kucko  
Others Present- Randy Drost, District Administrator  
Student Representatives: NA
- III. **NOTICE OF POSTING:** President, Keven Jensen announced the Board hereby finds communication and public notice of the open meeting, as required by section 19.84 of the Wisconsin Statutes, had been properly given by the presiding officer's designee, Randy Drost. Such a notice and agenda to the official newspaper, the Rice Lake Chronotype, to the Eau Claire Leader-Telegram, and to radio stations WJMC and WAQE, indicating the date, time, and place of the meeting and such notice was given more than 24 hours prior to the meeting.
- IV. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- V. **APPEARANCES:** No appearances were made.
- VI. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES [action]:** Phil Henkel and Miriam Vavra motioned to approve the regular session meeting minutes from Monday, July 10, 2023 and the special session and closed session meeting minutes from Monday, July 24, 2023. All present voting yes. Motion approved.
- VII. **CONSENT AGENDA [action]:** Don Cuskey and Bert Richard motioned to approve the consent agenda. Keven Jensen, Steve Bowman, Miriam Vavra, Dianne Koser, Phil Henkel, Bert Richard and Don Cuskey voting yes. Nellie Scheurer abstained. Doug Kucko absent. Motion approved.
  - A. Monthly Budget and Cash Reconciliation Report**
  - B. Monthly Board Bills**
  - C. Employment Resignations:**
    1. Jennifer Titera, Social Emotional Coach at Haugen/Hilltop/Tainter Elem., effective August 11, 2023
    2. Jenny Fjelstad, Reset Room Teacher at Tainter Elem., effective June 6, 2023
    3. Brian Thompson, Custodian at RLMS, effective August 9, 2023
    4. Jerud Udelhofen, Warrior Room Supervisor at RLMS, effective August 11, 2023
    5. Chad Preble, Academic Support Aide at RLHS, effective August 10, 2023

6. Tabitha Dennis, Special Education Teacher at RLHS, effective June 6, 2024
7. Ericka Gesler, Full-time Teacher Substitute at RLHS, effective June 6, 2024
8. Elisha Kupper, Third Grade Teacher at Tainter Elem., effective June 6, 2024
9. Brendan Bauer, Assistant Soccer Coach at RLHS
10. Michael Brown, Girls' Basketball Coach at RLMS
11. Rhona Schuebel, Science Olympiad Advisor at RLMS

**D. Employment Recommendations:**

1. Ericka Gesler, Full-time Teacher Substitute at RLHS for the 2023-2024 school year
2. Alexis Docter, English Intern at RLHS for the first semester of the 2023-2024 school year
3. Payton Sevals, Physical Education/Health Intern at RLMS for the first semester of the 2023-2024 school year
4. Dan Haughian, Seventh Grade Health Teacher at RLMS, overload assignment for the first semester of the 2023-2024 school year *\*This increase in time would be an addition to the 2023-2024 staffing report*
5. Tate Nordback, Paraprofessional at RLHS
6. Meagan Kutzler, Paraprofessional at RLMS
7. Ariel Runge, Paraprofessional/Shuttle Driver at RLMS
8. Kristine Barfknecht, Noon/Playground Aide at Hilltop Elem.
9. Lori Zesiger, Lead Cook at Tainter Elem.
10. Jen Helstad, National Honor Society Advisor at RLHS
11. Jenifer Mason, Boys' Soccer Varsity Assistant Coach at RLHS
12. Andrew Kallio, Girls' Tennis Assistant Coach at RLHS
13. Payton Sevals, JV2 Volleyball Coach at RLHS
14. Brooklyn Scheurer, Volleyball Varsity Assistant Coach at RLHS
15. Mackenzie Narins, Cross Country Assistant Coach at RLMS

**VIII. REPORTS:**

**A. 2022-2023 Seclusion and Physical Restraint Data Reporting-Randy Drost:** District Administrator Randy Drost reviewed the 2022-2023 Seclusion and Physical Restraint Data.

**B. 2023-2024 Warriors on Wisconsin (W.O.W.) Program Student Informational Booklet-first reading-Mark Beise:** The Board reviewed a draft of the 2023-2024 Warriors on Wisconsin Program Student Informational Booklet.

**C. Student Academic Standards for 2023-2024-Marsha Scherz [action]:** Director of Instruction and Learning Marsha Scherz provided an update on the 2023-2024 Student Academic Standards.

Phil Henkel and Nellie Scheurer motioned to approve the 2023-2024 Student Academic Standards as presented. All present voting yes. Motion approved.

**D. Continuous Improvement Plan Update-Randy Drost:** District Administrator Randy Drost provided an update on the Continuous Improvement Plan and reviewed the Rice Lake Area School District Scorecard.

- E. Board approval for Head Start initiated termination of contract to provide 4K services in the Rice Lake Area School District-Randy Drost [action]:** District Administrator Randy Drost provided an update on the termination of the 4K partnership agreement between Rice Lake Head Start and the Rice Lake Area School District.

Bert Richard and Phil Henkel motioned to approve the termination of the 4K partnership agreement between Rice Lake Head Start and the Rice Lake Area School District. All present voting yes. Motion approved.

- F. BOE District Administrator Observation Committee Meeting Update-Steve Bowman:** The BOE District Administrator Observation Committee met on Monday, August 14, 2023. The committee reviewed and discussed the District Administrator Evaluation Matrix. Steve Bowman provided an update from the meeting.

- G. BOE Finance Committee Meeting Update-Steve Bowman:** The BOE Finance Committee met on Wednesday, August 9, 2023. The committee discussed Fund 46 approval, the Technology Education Program, OPEB, and reviewed and approved the monthly bills. Steve Bowman provided an update from the meeting.

- **Fund 46 Approval [action]:** Bert Richard and Dianne Koser motioned to approve the creation of Fund 46. All present voting yes. Motion approved.

- H. BOE Compensation Committee Meeting Update-Steve Bowman:** The BOE Compensation Committee met on Monday, July 24, 2023. The committee reviewed the co-curricular and extra-curricular pay schedules as well as reviewed lifeguards, substitutes and seasonal casual staff. The committee also discussed non-monetary compensation and met in closed session to discuss individual employee contracts. Steve Bowman provided an update from the meeting.

- **Contracted Staff Compensation [action]**
- **2023-2024 Co-curricular/Extra-curricular Compensation [action]**
- **2023-2024 Lifeguards, Substitutes, Seasonal Casual Staff Compensation [action]**

Miriam Vavra and Don Cuskey motioned to approve the contracted staff compensation, the co-curricular and extra-curricular compensation, and the lifeguard, substitute, seasonal casual staff compensation. Steve Bowman, Miriam Vavra, Dianne Koser, Nellie Scheurer, Phil Henkel, Bert Richard and Don Cuskey voting yes. Keven Jensen abstained. Doug Kucko absent. Motion approved.

- I. BOE Curriculum Committee Meeting Update-Dianne Koser:** The BOE Curriculum Committee met on Tuesday, July 18, 2023. The committee received an update on social studies textbooks, reviewed a library long-range plan, and reviewed the Rice Lake Area School District proposed standards for 2023-2024. Dianne Koser provided an update from the meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 19, 2023.

- **Three-year Library Long Range Plan [action]:** Miriam Vavra and Nellie Scheurer motioned to approve the three-year library long range plan as reviewed. All present voting yes. Motion approved.

**J. BOE Policy and Legislative Advocacy Committee Meeting Update-second reading-Keven Jensen [action]:** The Board of Education reviewed the following policies as a first reading on Monday, July 10, 2023. Dianne Koser and Bert Richard motioned to approve the following policies as reviewed. All present voting yes. Motion approved.

- Policy #810, School-Community Relations Goals (revise)
- Policy #811, Freedom of Speech/Expression (revise)
- Policy #812, Parent/Guardian Involvement (revise)
- Policy #820, Public Information Program (recommend delete)
- Policy #821, School Meetings (review)
- Policy #822, News Media Relations (review)
- Rule #822, News Media Relations Guidelines (review)
- Policy #822.1, Press Coverage at Board of Education Meetings (review)
- Policy #830.1, Memorials and Funerals (revise)
- Policy #832, Loitering or Causing Disturbances (review)
- Policy #871, Public Complaints about Personnel (revise)
- Rule #871, Procedures for Handling Complaints about Personnel (revise)
- Policy #872, Public Complaints about Educational Materials (recommend delete)
- Policy #880, Relations with Community/Governmental Organizations (recommend delete)
- Policy #881, Relations with School-Community Associations (recommend delete)
- Policy #882, Relations with Law Enforcement Agencies (revise)
- Policy #883, Relations with Fire Department (revise)
- Policy #890, Relations with Educational Agencies (review)
- Policy #893.1, Student Teachers and Interns (review)
- Policy #896, Relations with Area, State, Regional, and National Associations (review)

**First Reading-Keven Jensen:** The BOE Policy and Legislative Advocacy Committee met on Tuesday, July 25, 2023. Keven Jensen provided an update from the meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 5, 2023. The committee reviewed the following policies and recommended the policies go to the full Board as a first reading:

- Policy #710, Support Services Goals (review)
- Policy #721, Buildings and Grounds Inspection (review)
- Policy #723.4, Emergency School Closings (revise)
- Rule #723.4, Inclement Weather Procedures (revise)
- Policy #730, Buildings and Grounds Management (review)
- Policy #731, Buildings and Grounds Security (review)
- Policy #731.3, Building Key/Access Card Control (review)
- Rule #731.3, Building Key/Access Card Control (review)
- Exhibit #731.3, Building Key/Access Card Request Form (review)
- Policy #732, Building and Grounds Maintenance (review)
- Policy #732.1, Capital Outlay (review)
- Policy #733, Energy Conservation (review)
- Policy #740, Materials Resource Management (review)

- Policy #742, Use of School Equipment off School Premises (review)
- Exhibit #742, District Equipment Release Form (review)
- Policy #743, Waste Management and Recycling (revise)
- Policy #752, Use of District-Owned Vehicles (review)
- Policy #780, Insurance Management (review)

**IX. INFORMATION:**

**A. WASB Public Policy Correspondent Update:** Phil Henkel provided an update from the Legislative Update blog.

**B. Upcoming Meeting Schedule:** The Board reviewed a schedule of upcoming meetings/events.

**X. DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS:**

- **Upcoming District Events:** District Administrator Randy Drost shared the following information:
  - On Wednesday, August 16, the student initiated group, Warriors for Christ, is hosting Unite Night beginning at 6:00 p.m. and is open to everyone.
  - All fall sports have now started.

**XI. CLOSED SESSION:** Miriam Vavra and Steve Bowman motioned to move into Closed Session. By roll call vote, all present voting yes. Motion approved. The meeting was moved into Closed Session at 8:07 p.m.

**XII. OPEN SESSION:** Miriam Vavra and Phil Henkel motioned to reconvene into Open Session. All present voting yes. Approved. The meeting was moved into open session at 8:36 p.m.

- **ACTION:** No action was taken.

**XIII. MEETING ADJOURNED:** Bert Richard and Miriam Vavra motioned to adjourn the meeting. All present voting yes. Motion Approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Miriam Vavra, Clerk