

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

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR SESSION
Monday, October 23, 2023
BOARD OF EDUCATION/ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

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, October 23, 2023 in the Board Room of the 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, Doug Kucko, Bert Richard, Nellie Scheurer, Miriam Vavra
Absent- NA
Others Present- Randy Drost, District Administrator; Ayla Zuzek, Student Representative; Daniel Broker, Student Representative
- 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. COMMENDATIONS:**
- A. RLASD Student Recognition:** Building principals and staff commended the following students and identified their areas of achievement for the month of October 2023.

Student	School	Grade	Parent(s)
Alek Kotel	RLHS	11	Steve Kotel
Merin Jacobs	RLHS	9	Jessica and Peter Jacobs
Sutton Crotteau	Hilltop Elem.	4	Treye and Katie Crotteau
Skylar Goldman	Tainter Elem.	4	David and Cora Goldman, Peg Sorenson
Boedy Erickson	RLMS	7	Ryan and Tina Erickson

- VI. APPEARANCES:**
- Patti Anderson made a public appearance.
 - Abbey Fischer made a public appearance.
- VII. 2023-2024 Tax Levy and 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 Tax Comparison:** Randy Drost reviewed the equalized valuation, the district's share and the levy amount by each township and municipality.
- VIII. ADOPTION OF THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET [action]:** Keven Jensen stated the resolution for adoption of budget:

WHEREAS, a proposed budget has been prepared to provide for the operation and maintenance of the schools of the district and to provide for retirement of its indebtedness;

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held and public comment received on the proposed budget for the July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, fiscal year as required by Wisconsin Statute 65.90 (4);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a General Fund 10 expenditure budget of \$35,887,926, Special Education Fund 27 budget of \$5,731,540, Non-Referendum Debt Service Fund 38 budget of \$431,185, Referendum Debt Service Fund 39 budget of \$1,458,725, Food Service Fund 50 budget of \$1,258,300, and a Community Service Fund 80 Budget of \$4,574,108 totaling \$49,341,784 in expenditures in all funds be adopted.

Steve Bowman and Phil Henkel motioned to approve the adoption of the 2023-2024 school budget. All present voting yes. Motion approved.

- IX. ADOPTION OF 2023-2024 TAX LEVY RESOLUTION [action]:** Keven Jensen stated, WHEREAS, after due and careful consideration, it has been found that the amount of \$12,887,196, in addition to all other school revenues, will be necessary to maintain the general operation of the Rice Lake Area School District, and \$1,926,806, for the retirement of bonds and long-term loans, and for the development of community service programming \$4,399,108, making a total of \$19,213,110, for the period beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the amount of \$19,213,110 be spread upon the tax rolls of the City of Rice Lake, Village of Haugen, and the Towns of Barron, Bear Lake, Cedar Lake, Doyle, Oak Grove, Rice Lake, Stanford, Stanley, and Sumner in Barron County; Birchwood, Long Lake, and Sarona in Washburn County; and such area as comprises the Rice Lake Area School District.

Miriam Vavra and Doug Kucko motioned to approve the adoption of the 2023-2024 tax levy resolution. All present voting yes. Motion carried.

- X. RESOLUTIONS FOR PUBLIC DEPOSITORIES [action]:** WHEREAS, Wisconsin Statutes 120.44 and 120.12 (7) require the school board of a unified school district to designate public depositories;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board designates any banking institution or savings and loan association located within the school district, and the local Governmental Pooled Investment Fund as qualified public depositories for the school district under Chapter 34 of the Wisconsin Statutes and requires that all deposits in banking institutions or savings and loan associations over \$500,000.00 be collateralized.

Miriam Vavra and Steve Bowman motioned to approve the resolution for designating public depositories. All present voting yes. Motion carried.

- XI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES [action]:** Phil Henkel and Doug Kucko motioned to approve the regular session meeting minutes from Monday, October 9, 2023. All present voting yes. Motion approved.

- XII. CONSENT AGENDA [action]:** Doug Kucko and Miriam Vavra motioned to approve the consent agenda. All present voting yes. Motion approved.

A. Employment Resignation:

1. Andrea Jevne, Long-term Substitute Teacher at RLMS, effective June 6, 2024
2. Jamie Voelker, Paraprofessional at RLMS, effective October 18, 2023

B. Employment Recommendations:

1. Andrea Jevne, Long-term Substitute Teacher at RLMS, for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year
2. Nancy Plourde, Cook-Kitchen Assistant 2 at Tainter Elementary

XIII. REPORTS:

- A. School and District Safety Plans-second reading-Randy Drost [action]:** The Board reviewed a draft of the school and district safety plans on Monday, October 9, 2023. Bert Richard and Doug Kucko motioned to approve the school and district safety plans as reviewed. All present voting yes. Motion approved.
- B. District Safety Committee Meeting Update-Randy Drost:** The District Safety Committee met on Tuesday, October 17, 2023. The committee received an update on the Critical Incident Mapping Data Grant and on athletic training personnel. The committee also discussed the new I Love U Guys safety program and future training. District Administrator Randy Drost provided an update from the meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2024.
- C. BOE Compensation Committee Meeting Update-Steve Bowman:** The BOE Compensation Committee met on Monday, October 9, 2023. The committee convened into closed session to discuss individual employee contracts. Steve Bowman provided an update from the meeting.
- D. BOE Curriculum Committee Meeting Update-Dianne Koser:** The BOE Curriculum Committee met on Tuesday, October 17, 2023. The committee received an update on middle school language arts and on new high school social studies courses. The committee also received updates on high school courses and school and district accountability report. Dianne Koser provided an update from the meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 28, 2023.

XIV. INFORMATION:

- A. School Drill Evaluation-Rice Lake High School, Rice Lake Middle School:** The Board reviewed school event drill evaluation reports from Rice Lake High School and Rice Lake Middle School.
- B. WASB Public Policy Correspondent Update:** Phil Henkel provided an update from the Legislative Update blog.
- C. Upcoming Meeting Schedule:** The Board reviewed a schedule of upcoming meetings/events. Don and Mary Cuskey have offered to host a holiday gathering for the Board of Education. A Doodle poll will go out to survey the Board for the best date.

XV. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS ON PROGRAMS AND

ACTIVITIES: Student Representatives Ayla Zuzek and Daniel Broker shared the following:

- The Homecoming bonfire was a success.
- The Rake and Run event is Saturday, October 28th.
- A blood drive is scheduled for Wednesday, December 13th.
- A winter formal is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, January 20th.
- A student bonfire is scheduled for the Friday evening before the winter formal.
- Football won the first round in playoffs last Friday.
- Soccer lost and is out of the run for playoffs.
- Cross Country-the girls team did not advance to state.
- Cross Country-Carter Kucko and Austin Prince advanced to state, which will be held this weekend.
- Volleyball will be entering round 2 at home this Thursday.
- Swimming will hold their conference meet this Saturday and sectionals the week after.
- Tennis #1 doubles, Natalie Nolin and Emily Mofle, entered the state tournament the first time as D1 tennis players, but lost in the first round.

- The senior class held a meeting today about ordering caps and gowns. A \$500 donation was made to the Hooch Family Benefit Fund for time and materials provided by Scott Kucko and his business.
- FFA will be going to the national convention next week. James Meyer is in the national FFA band and is competing in the national contest.
- FFA fruit sale started today.

XVI. DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS: District Administrator Randy Drost shared the following information:

- Upcoming District Events:
 - District has preliminary approval to get started on the conservancy building.
 - A Veterans Day Program will be held at Haugen Elementary and Rice Lake Middle School on Friday, November 10th.
 - On Monday, October 30th, as part of the middle school academic and career planning, the life link helicopter will be landing at the middle school. Students will have the opportunity to learn more about a career as a flight nurse, flight paramedic and a pilot.
 - Thursday, October 26th is the Empty Bowls Event at RLHS from 4:30-7:00 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. This is a fundraiser for the FORK Backpack Program.
 - Fall/Winter swimming lessons are starting on Saturday, November 4th.
 - There are now expanded hours at the Rice Lake Swimming Pool.
 - Mary Poppins musical is November 9-12th at Rice Lake High School. Tickets can be purchased at the door.
 - Work continues on the new pool project. They are currently working on concrete footings and walls.

XVII. CLOSED SESSION: Doug Kucko and Nellie Scheurer motioned to move into Closed Session. By roll call vote, all present voting yes. Motion approved. The meeting was moved into Closed Session at 7:57 p.m.

XVIII. OPEN SESSION: Steve Bowman and Doug Kucko motioned to reconvene into Open Session. All present voting yes. Approved. The meeting was moved into open session at 8:25 p.m.

- **ACTION:** Steve Bowman and Don Cuskey motioned to accept the district administrator's recommendation for contracted employees for the 2023-2024 school year. All present voting yes. Motion approved.

XIX. MEETING ADJOURNED: Phil Henkel and Steve Bowman motioned to adjourn the meeting. All present voting yes. Motion Approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Miriam Vavra, Clerk