

**Rockdale School District 84**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
715 Meadow Avenue Rockdale, Illinois, Wednesday, July 20, 2022.  
Regular Meeting in the Media Center at 6:00 p.m.**

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**Call to Order Regular Meeting:**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Rockdale School District 84 was held on Wednesday, August 27, 2022 beginning at 6:00PM.

**Members Present**

Angela Stadler

Ahmed Aich-Sandino

Geralyn Wyke

Jolene Chamblee

Nick Macholz

Gerry Phillips

**Members Absent**

**Steve Chamblee**

**Also Present**

Dr. Michael Merritt

Jeff Peterson

Irene Las

**Approximately 2 Guests**

**Board President Angie Stadler called to order the regular open session at 6:00PM.**

Roll Call was taken and a quorum was established.

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

Mrs. Stadler asked all present to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

**Adopt Agenda:**

Member Wyke made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented.

Member J. Chamblee seconded the motion.

**The motion was carried with all members voting 'aye'.**

**Closed Session: N/A**

**Public Comment: None**

**Receive and Welcome Visitors:**

**Staff: S. Mooney, C. Puckett**

**Students: None**

**Parents: None**

**Guests: None**

**Consent Agenda:**

Member Wyke made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented

Member Macholz seconded the motion.

**The motion was carried with all members voting 'aye'.**

- 5:01 Approval of Regular Meeting and Closed Meeting Minutes for June 8, 2022 and the minutes from the Special Board Meeting June 14, 2022.
- 5:02 Approval of Financial Report: Treasurer's Report, List of Bills, Check Registry by Type, Funds Balance, and Imprest Account.

**Superintendent Report:**

Member Wyke made a motion to approve the Communication Report as presented.

Member Aich seconded the motion.

**The motion was carried with all members voting 'aye'.**

**Dr. Merritt shared with the board the following information:**

**4.01 2022-2023 Draft Budget**

IL School Law and ISBE requires each School Board to adopt or approve an annual budget and submit that budget to ISBE within 30 days of adoption, no later than Oct 31. The school district's accounting records, budgets and financial reports are organized and reported on a fund basis, also known as fund accounting. The budget is constructed based on accounting within nine different funds, which are outlined in the table linked [here](#). The estimated revenue is \$5,016,683, with estimated expenditures is \$4,832,908, resulting in an estimated surplus of \$183,775. We are estimating a surplus in seven of the nine funds in which we have a revenue allotted to, the other two funds (Capital Projects and Fire Prevention) we do not currently have any revenue projected for those funds. It is important to note this is a **tentative budget**. Also important note, a significant revenue stream for us has been the Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax (CPPRT). We have estimated CPPRT to be \$1.4M in revenue, which is a conservative estimate based on the fact that we received 3.4M last year. We should know a more detailed estimate by mid-August.

**4.02 IDPH & ISBE Joint Operational COVID-19 Guidance**

It was recommended by Dr. Merritt to dissolve the partnership with Shield IL to provide weekly COVID-19 saliva-based testing. This recommendation was based on current guidance from various education attorneys, a review of Will County Covid metrics, alignment with other neighboring district practices, and continuing with the district's approach through the spring to reduce some of our COVID mitigation measures. Of course, with all things COVID, this decision and implementation is a fluid procedure as we will continue to monitor further local DPH, ISBE, and legal guidance.

**4.03 Old Second Government/Municipal Public Funds Banking Resolution**

Old Second Bank needs the Board of Education to approve their Governmental-Municipal-Public Funds Banking Resolution advised Dr. Merritt. It provides check signing ability for Board approved bills in case there is an instance where either Board President Angie Stadler or Treasurer Geralyn Wyke may not be able to sign checks. Dr. Merritt is recommending the Board approve this agreement. To ensure transparency with each of the four funds, I am asking for four different approvals through Board Action.

**4.04 Unicare Building Maintenance, Inc. Cleaning Services**

Dr. Merritt shared that he appreciates Chuck Puckett for his continued work in reviewing and selecting an organization to replace the previous cleaning service, YESCAS. Through his vetting of various organizations, we found Unicare BMI to be the most responsible to support our evening cleaning needs. The superintendent continued to advise that he did make a mistake in his communication provided in the Executive Summary that this organization had already been Board approved, as it has not. He noted that the agreement has the effective dates of Aug 15 through Nov 15, as we can only approve these agreements in 90-day increments due to the language of the non-certified CBA. Dr. Merritt is recommending the Board approve the agreement, pending review and guidance from the district attorney firm.

#### 4.05 Staff Meet and Greet

The superintendent has been meeting with staff members throughout the summer.

#### 4.06 August Home Visits

He also plans to visit our Rockdale families with Principal Peterson, These are scheduled to take place on Aug 2, 3, 4

#### 4.07 An Evening with Dr. Merritt

Dr. Merritt shared that the primary purpose of the event is to offer the community an opportunity to meet him and learn about his experiences and leadership. He plans to also offer an opportunity for guests to ask questions. He took a moment to welcome each of you to attend if you would like.

#### 4.08 IASB Trust Edge Training Saturday, August 6, 2022, 8:30-4:00

New partnership between the IASB and Trust Edge Leadership Institute. This Workshop is aimed at building high-performing teams through clarifying expectations, improving relationships, reducing interpersonal conflict, as well as methods for appreciating others advised the Superintendent. He continued to advise that participation in the event earns 5 points towards your Board Leader Recognition Program.

#### 4.09 IASB Starting Right and The Board and Its Superintendent: Developing a Productive Relationship

Dr. Merritt reminded the board to respond to his email to schedule a date and time to meet individually

Member Wyke made a motion to approve the Principal's Report/Executive Summary as presented.

Member Phillips seconded the motion.

**The motion was carried with all members voting 'aye'.**

### Principal's Report:

#### Executive Summary

#### Agenda Point:

- Celebrations
  - Happenings @ Rockdale, Summer version!
  - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1AxOfVHEebhM70KDV6RG05UrD4azaoylA/view?usp=sharing> (video)
- Registration update for the 2022-23 school year

- Special shoutout to Mrs. Las and Mrs. Flores for their tremendous efforts in launching registration in mid-May and diligent, above and beyond work staying caught up with this vital piece to begin the school year.
- As of June BOE meeting, over 100 students registered.
- Currently, 190 have completed online registration with 59 students whose parents we have had no contact with even after multiple attempts, and 5 new students that are not registered to date.
- Recap on Summer Bridge Program
  - Special thanks to Miss Nordstrom, Mr. Meister, Ms. Walls, Ms. Willis, Mr. Domenico, and Mrs. Reyes for assisting with the teaching of our Summer Bridge students for the 3 week program centered on foundational needs in the areas of Math and Reading.
  - A big shoutout to Ms. Kirk for her tremendous efforts in serving as Summer Bridge Coordinator!
  - Average daily attendance for our Summer Bridge students was 22 students. We had students attending who were from Kindergarten thru 7th Grade who attended from 8:15-11:30 am, Monday thru Thursday.
  - The last week of Summer Bridge, students participated in dress up theme days and received a freeze pop on the last day of Summer Bridge as a token of appreciation for their hard work.
  - Pre and post tests were administered to our Summer Bridge students and some groups saw positive gains from 8-15.4% from their foundational skill pretest scores over the course of the 11 days. A few students saw slightly lower growth due to factors such as inconsistent attendance, etc.
- Staff Recognition update
  - Longevity Years of Service
    - Honor our Rockdale staff for years of dedicated service to the school.
    - Staff who have 10 or 15 years of service will receive a framed certificate, along with a service pin.
    - Staff who have 20 or 25 years of service will receive a framed certificate, a service pin, and a plaque.
  - Awards of Excellence
    - Another way to recognize one certified staff member, one support staff member, and potentially one community member for their dedicated service to Rockdale School over the past year.
    - February 1, 2023, a Google form would be sent out to all parents and staff members to fill out should they be so inclined.
    - February 28, 2023, the Google form would be closed.
    - March would be analyzing the data and selecting the winners for each of the three categories based on the most responses.
    - At the April BOE meeting, we would have a small reception and the winners would be recognized at the BOE meeting.

- Extra curricular update
  - No baseball/softball camp in late July
  - Collaborating with the Village, Mr. Cooling, regarding field upgrades, additions, etc. to CB Diamond
    - Baseball cage estimated cost is \$5400 and the fencing company is willing to install the posts free of charge for the school.
    - Fence cost to secure cage is estimated to be \$3790
    - The batting cage would be located next to the Rockdale Police Impound lot and is monitored by security cameras.
    - Looking to secure sponsors to offset the cost.
    - The village has secured quotes to replace the left field to center field fence along with the service gate.

[Looking for sponsorships to help offset the cost of this.](#)
- YMCA
  - YMCA will not be offering bus service to our Rockdale students for the upcoming 22-23 school year. This means that our parents who rely on this service for after school care for some of our students would not have this option available to them.
  - Mr. Peterson and Dr. Merritt discussed this matter and came to the final conclusion. Rockdale School will house the YMCA after school program onsite. There will not be YMCA before school care.
    - Mr. Peterson had a discussion with Ms. Hall, YMCA rep, and will be working out the details.
    - Currently and per Ms. Hall, only 6 students have signed up for the program at the YMCA facility, but 9 students participated in the program during the 21-22 school year.
    - The YMCA will staff Rockdale School with 2 staff members to supervise the students attending the YMCA after school program. Parents are to pick their child(ren) up by 6 pm and the service is not in session on 12:30 pm dismissal or no school days.
    - Mr. Peterson has determined that the YMCA after school program would be housed in the cafeteria. The YMCA would have access to the gym, pending no Rockdale School sports teams are practicing at the time and/or games, and to the playgrounds on the Rockdale School property. Students who are attending the YMCA after school program may not attend home games unless their parents have signed them out of the YMCA program for the day.
    - Should the cafeteria be needed for a Rockdale School related function, an alternate location will be provided to the YMCA after school program for the day.
    - The YMCA would complete the Rockdale Building/Facilities Usage form that is consistent with past practice. The YMCA will be responsible for any damages to the building that may occur during the after school program.

- Mr. Peterson will be facilitating an in person visit, pending BOE approval, with the YMCA representatives to review the space and expectations.
  - Pending BOE approval, it would be communicated out to the Rockdale learning community.
- Great American Big Wheel Race
  - A great community opportunity presented to Mr. Peterson and Rockdale School by Mr. Colarelli, ExxonMobil.
  - The sponsorship requirement has been taken care of by Mr. Colarelli and ExxonMobil.
  - Event is Sunday, July 31st.
  - <https://ucp-cds.org/events/the-great-american-big-wheel-race/>

#### **Upcoming events:**

- July 19th-AED/CPR certification for our coaches and administration
- August 15 & 16-Teacher Institute
- August 17-First Day of School, full day
- August 23-Rockdale PTO meeting, 3:45 pm
- August 25-Curriculum Night, 6:00-7:30 pm
- September 5-No School (Labor Day)
- September 6-Rockdale PTO meeting, 3:45 pm
- September 9-SIP day, 12:30 pm student dismissal
- September 16-Rockdale PTO movie night
- September 23-Rockdale PTO movie night (rain date)

**Closed Session: N/A**

#### **Board Discussion Items:**

##### **6.01 Draft Budget - Fire Prevention and Bond**

#### **CAPITAL PROJECTS & FIRE PREVENTION:**

Looking to potentially include a revenue stream into both Capital Projects and Fire Prevention, also known as Health, Life, Safety. In consultation with our attorney, if we plan to use some of our fund balances for Building and Grounds Projects, it is best establish that in our proposed budget for transparency purposes. Dr. Merritt advised that he won't know an estimate number until we get further into Facilities plans in August, He continued to share that we did not include dollars in the Fire Prevention fund due to the levy. Since we did not, the only source of revenue we can include in that fund is from CPPRT. Our attorneys advised we do not need to include dollars in that fund, as funds from O & M can be used for those improvements. However, if we have items on our 10-year HLS survey that we plan to complete, we could use funds from Fire Prevention to fund those projects.

**BOND:**

Steve Laken - Busey Bank

District was looking to do a loan for renovation, 1.5M,

Ray Fricke, attorney out of Chicago, recommended QZAB, 0% bond to us.

It was great for Busey because it would give them a taxable rate that they could

utilize for credit and the district would yield .01. To do this the district has to put

in 100,000 per year for 15 years (1.5M) which can be paid off at anytime, no penalty

There is \$1,171,989 in there now and to pay off you would need \$328,000

**Board/Action Items:**

**Action item: A motion to Approve 2022-2023 Draft Budget**

Member Wyke made a motion to Approve 2022-2023 Draft Budget

Member Aich seconded the motion.

**The motion was carried with all members voting 'aye'.**

**Comments:**

**Action item: A motion to Approve dissolution of partnership with IL Shield Testing to conduct weekly COVID testing**

Member Phillips made a motion to Approve dissolution of partnership with IL Shield Testing to conduct weekly COVID testing

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Member J. Chamblee seconded the motion.

**The motion was carried with all members voting 'aye'.**

**Comments:**



**Action item: A motion to Approve Old Second Bank Government/Municipal/Public Funds Banking Resolution for the Investment Account**

Member Wyke made a motion to Approve Old Second Bank Government/Municipal/Public Funds Banking Resolution for the Investment Account

Member Aich seconded the motion.

**The motion was carried with all members voting 'aye'.**

**Comments:**

**Action item: A motion to Approve Old Second Bank Government/Municipal/Public Funds Banking Resolution for the General Checking Account**

Member Wyke made a motion to Approve Old Second Bank Government/Municipal/Public Funds Banking Resolution for the General Checking Account

Member Macholz seconded the motion.

**The motion was carried with all members voting 'aye'.**

**Comments:**

**Action item: A motion to Approve Old Second Bank Government/Municipal/Public Funds Banking Resolution for the Imprest Account**

Member Wyke made a motion to Approve Old Second Bank Government/Municipal/Public Funds Banking Resolution for the Imprest Account

Member Macholz seconded the motion.

**The motion was carried with all members voting 'aye'.**

**Comments:**

**Action item: A motion to Approve Old Second Bank Government/Municipal/Public Funds Banking Resolution for the Student Activity Account**

Member Wyke made a motion to Approve Old Second Bank Government/Municipal/Public Funds Banking Resolution for the Student Activity Account

Member J. Chamblee seconded the motion.  
**The motion was carried with all members voting 'aye'.**

**Comments:**

**Action item: A motion to Approve Unicare Building Maintenance, Inc. (Unicare BMI) Cleaning Services Agreement through November 15, 2022**

Member Phillips made a motion to Approve Unicare Building Maintenance, Inc. (Unicare BMI) Cleaning Services Agreement through November 15, 2022

Member Macholz seconded the motion.  
**The motion was carried with all members voting 'aye'.**

**Comments:**

**The Board of Education (BOE) supports Dr. Merritt's request to engage in the ratification process and onboarding of new hires between the dates of July 20, 2022 and August 17, 2022.**

**Board Comments:**

**Board Member J. Chamblee** - I look forward to working with you and getting everything ready for the new school year.

**Board Vice President S. Chamblee** - **N/A - Absent**

**Board Member Macholz** - **N/A**

**Board Member Phillips** - **N/A**

**Board Treasurer Wyke** - Looking forward to working with you.

**Board President Stadler** - Welcome, the first board meeting went well. Looking forward to working with you and all that comes along with it.

**Adjournment:**

Member J. Chamblee made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Member Macholz seconded the motion.

**The motion was carried on a voice vote.**

**Meeting was adjourned at 7:18PM**

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**Angela Stadler**  
**President, Board of Education**

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**Ahmed Aich-Sandino**  
**Secretary, Board of Education**

**Next Board Meeting:**

**August 17, 2022 at 6:00P in the Media Center - Regular Meeting**