

The “Morning” After

February 24, 2022

Wednesday, February 23, 2022, President G. Allen Crist called the regular meeting of the River Ridge Community Unit School District #210 Board of Education to order at 7:00 PM. Board Members G. Allen Crist, Amy Finn, Barb Schaible, Raymie Diestelmeier and Diane Haring answered roll call. President Crist announced a quorum was established. Member Don McLane and Lisa Walters were absent. Also present: Superintendent Colleen Fox, Principal Laura Kuzniar, Principal Mike Foltz, a member of the RREA and two parents.

Approved the February agenda as presented.

Presentation from the audience, parent voiced her Covid concerns that the district had dropped the mask mandates.

Approved the minutes of the January 18, 2022, Regular and Executive Session Board Meeting and destruction of audio executive session minutes from June 15, 2020.

Reviewed and accepted the Treasurer, Investment and Activity reports. Approved and authorized payment of \$761,598.01 for bills and payroll.

Superintendent Fox reviewed the Jo Daviess Carroll Career Technical Education Academy Board of Control minutes from February 7, 2022. No bids have been received for the lighting project, Little Learners Academy next year enrollment, 19 preschoolers, 15 school age and 23 for the summer.

President Crist gave an overview of COVID to the board.

Administrators News:

- February 28th – Snack Theatre 6PM
- March 4th - End of 3rd quarter
- March 5th – Solo Ensemble Competition
- March 9th - 10th Parent-Teacher Conferences 3-7 PM (1:30 dismissals each day)
- March 11th - No School
- Preschool screenings were Feb. 17th & 18th. 20 children screened in a mix of in person and zoom meetings. A big thank you to Pam Tindell, who came in to help. Additionally, Tami Ditsworth, Peggy Dieken, Jessa Mekeel and Cheryl Knauer pulled together to complete the process.
- IAR testing grades 3-5 is scheduled March 21-April 15, 2022. Mrs. Leitzen is coordinating testing this year. Grades 6-8 is scheduled March 13-April 1, 2022. Mrs. Potter is coordinating testing this year.
- PSAT/SAT testing will be April 13, 2022
- Congratulations to Quinten Atutis, 8th grade on winning the Regional Spelling Bee and advancing to the National Competition in Washington DC.
- After winning the opening round of regionals our Girls' basketball team was upset in round 2. They finished with an impressive 25-5 record. Well done ladies. Our boys' basketball team lost to East Dubuque on Saturday, February 19th and finished the season with a 9-13 record.
- The Speech Team had an all-time successful season this year advancing to sectionals. Bethany Diederich was 1st place regional champion in the IHSA Speech Prose event and place 2nd in Dramatic Interpretation. Logan Johnson placed 4th in Impromptu Speaking.
- FFA News – Two students passed the section level committee for their State FFA Degree. Vet Science team placed third in the section. The Poultry team placed first. FFA Banquet is March 16, 2022. 8th grade STEM completed their high school lunch waste collection with the following results: Food Waste 89.8 lbs, Liquid Waste 21.6 lbs, Cardboard Waste 11.2 lbs and Plastic Waste 9.3 lbs.

Superintendent Fox reported on Negotiations, NWSE OT reimbursement to Orangeville, Public Act 102-0543 Reporting student gender identity and sexual orientation, grant opportunity through Pramantha Group used to upgrade security equipment, well repair, depth filter needing to be replaced and information on gate repair was provided.

Approved participation in the TRS Supplemental Savings Plan at no cost to the district.

Approved the calendar for the 2022-2023 school year.

Directed Superintendent Fox to prepare the FY23 budget.

Extended Principal Mike Foltz's contract an additional year with salary to be determined after teacher contract negotiations are complete.

Extended Principal Laura Kuzniar's contract an additional year with salary to be determined after teacher contract negotiations are complete.

Extended Superintendent Colleen Fox's contract an additional year with salary to be determined after teacher contract negotiations are complete.

Tabled the gym floor repair to the March meeting.

Accepted Val Berning's resignation as a paraprofessional effective February 11, 2022.

Employed Deb Boden as a full time paraprofessional for the remainder of the FY22 school year.

Employed Brenda Allen as a full time custodian for the remainder of the FY22 school year.

Approved Brenda Potter's retirement with a 4.4 retirement incentive at the end of the 2023-2024 school year.

After executive session the board took the following action:

Approved Superintendent Fox to post for a full time social worker.

Subject for approval at the next regular meeting of the Board, March 21, 2022