

The “Morning” After

December 20, 2022

Monday, December 19, 2022, President G. Allen Crist called the Truth in Taxation hearing of the River Ridge Community Unit School District #210 to order at 6:45 PM. Board Members G. Allen Crist, Barb Schaible, Raymie Diestelmeier and Diane Haring answered roll call. President Crist announced a quorum was established. Member Walters entered at 6:50 PM. Amy Finn and Don McLane were absent. Also present: Superintendent Colleen Fox, Principal Mike Foltz, Principal Laura Kuzniar, MS/HS Guidance Counselor Brenda Potter and Elem. Guidance Counselor Kristy Leitzen, two representatives for the RREA, Tom Nack, Jacob Ambrosia and Adam Wurster; TIF District and three students.

Superintendent Fox gave a presentation explaining the Tax Levy.

Monday, December 19, 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, Barb Schaible, Raymie Diestelmeier, Diane Haring and Lisa Walters answered roll call. President Crist announced a quorum was established. Amy Finn and Don McLane were absent. Also present: Superintendent Colleen Fox, Principal Mike Foltz, Principal Laura Kuzniar, MS/HS Guidance Counselor Brenda Potter and Elem. Guidance Counselor Kristy Leitzen, two representatives for the RREA, Tom Nack, Jacob Ambrosia and Adam Wurster; TIF District and three students.

After approval of the December Agenda, which includes the consent agenda and consensus items, the Board took the following action:

Approved regular and executive session minutes from the November 21, 2022 board meeting and destruction of the executive session audio minutes from April 19, 2021.

Reviewed and accepted the Treasurer, Investment and Activity reports. The Board authorized and approved the payment of \$844,828.59 for bills and payroll.

Mrs. Potter and Mrs. Leitzen reported on test scores with River Ridge receiving a “Commendable Rating”.

Superintendent Fox reported on the CTE Board of Control Meeting, Monday, December 5, 2022. She stated that 2023 meeting dates were set and that the chili cook-off were a huge success with 17 entries.

Board Member and Other Pertinent Reports:

Dec 20th – Elementary Winter Concert 6 PM

Dec 21st – End of Q2; 1:30 Dismissal

Dec 22nd – Jan. 2nd No School

Jan 3rd – Teacher Inservice

Jan 4th – School resumes

Jan 13th – SIP Day 1:30 Dismissal

Jan 16th – No School, ML King Day

Jan 18th – Spelling Bee, Library at 1:00 PM

Eleven students have been selected for Elementary All-State Chorus which will take place in January. Congratulations to Megan Bradt, Matthew Butcher, Layna Kretschmer, Dixi Palas, Heather Bradbury, Gabbie Gonzalez, Aniah Havens, Ava Huett, Luke Holcomb, Daly Niccum and Johanna Rosenbach.

HS NHS students are tutoring elementary students. This is a great experience for all parties involved. Thank you to Mr. Dickerson and Mr. Walters for their coordination efforts.

Preparation for the March/April testing period is being made by stressing the importance of these exams and creating some more opportunities for practice.

Supt. Fox reported - Maintenance Grant was denied for the new bus garage but, resubmitted to cover HVAC replacement and repairs for FY23 and approved. Price of milk will increase to \$.40/carton starting in January, due to the price increase after the start of school. She and Mr. Foltz attended the graduation ceremony at NWA for one of our students that graduated on December 16th.

TIFF was tabled until the January meeting waiting on revised documentation.

After discussion of the levy the Resolution for Adopting the 2022 Tax Levies the Board approved the resolution for the 2022 Tax Levy at \$ 7,658,000 with an increase of \$ 312,177.

Approved School board policy updates and revisions as presented.

Approved the Handbook changes due to new laws starting 1/1/23.

Approved Creative Writing as an elective for the 2023-2024 school year.

Bus Bids were tabled until the January meeting.

Hired Kenneth "Irv" Geisz as a custodian.

Approved Deb Ebensberger's retirement with a 4.4 retirement incentive at the end of the 2024-2025 school year.

Hired Ben Crist as a temporary custodian from 12/19/22 – 1/13/23.

Subject for approval at the next regular meeting of the Board which is scheduled for 7:00 PM on Tuesday, January 17, 2023.