

Approved: June 2, 2014

RILEY COUNTY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 378
REGULAR
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
HELD IN THE
RILEY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
MONDAY, MAY 19, 2014

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Kerry Thurlow called the USD 378 Board of Education's regular meeting to order on Monday, May 19, 2014, at 7 p.m. in the Riley County High School library following the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following members were present:

Kerry Thurlow
Ross Wahl
David Higgins
Jennifer Wilson
Randy Glenn
Dan Thomson

The following member was absent:

Shane Allen

Others present:

Brad Starnes, Superintendent
Jenae Suderman, Board Clerk
Sandy Glessner, Board Treasurer
Teresa Grant, Riley County Grade School Principal
Antoinette Root, Riley County High School Principal

See attached list for additional guests

A. Approval of agenda

Jennifer Wilson moved the board approve the agenda as presented. Second by Randy Glenn. Motion passed with six "yes" votes cast.

B. Approval of minutes

Jennifer Wilson moved the board approve the Board of Education minutes for the May 5, 2014, regular meeting. Second by David Higgins. Motion passed with six "yes" votes cast.

C. Approval of financial reports

Dan Thomson moved the board accept the following financial reports: May bills, Visa bill, RCGS building report, RCHS building report. Second by Jennifer Wilson. Motion passed with six “yes” votes cast.

II. PATRON COMMUNICATION

A. Hearing of students

None.

B. Hearing of visitors

1. Garry Goff, on behalf of the USD 378 bus drivers, voiced their support for current Transportation Director Larry Wendland.
2. Anita Bassett voiced her disapproval of a letter to the editor in the Riley Countian, and encouraged positive information in the newspaper.
3. Rusty Barry voiced his concerns with negative community members and board members; support for Larry Wendland; and support for the district utilizing local businesses for service.

C. Principal’s reports

Principals Teresa Grant and Antoinette Root gave reports on past and upcoming events at their buildings.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Long range facilities planning: 7-12 curriculum

1. Brad Starnes contacted several districts about their 7-12 configurations/schedules and presented research from those who responded, including Rock Creek, Clay Center, and Concordia.
2. Carol Adams, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning at Manhattan USD 383, reported on:
 - a. Where students in grades 7-12 are located and what their district considered when making this decision
 - b. Benefits to staff and students when coordinating grades 7-12
 - c. Middle school electives their district offers
 - d. Benefits of their partnership with post-secondary institutions
3. Jennifer Wilson presented her discussions with teachers Danny Grater and Bob Whearty—the teachers had brainstormed class options if 7-12 grades were in close proximity. She also discussed VE-II funding benefits.
4. The board directed the middle school and high school principals to develop a class schedule for combining 7-12 and separating 7-8. These will be presented at the June 16 meeting.

5. At the June 2 meeting, the board will discuss what input to gather from patrons at future community meetings.

B. Policy: IIBGB

Jennifer Wilson moved the board approve the third and final reading of policy IIBGB: Online learning opportunities. Second by Dan Thomson. Motion passed with six “yes” votes cast.

C. Innovative schools

Brad Starnes reported that he solicited interest from teachers to be on an innovative school task force. He also reported that he has been talking to post-secondary schools about coordinating resources.

D. Capital Outlay resolution

1. Brad Starnes again explained to the board about a tax levy resolution that would allow more budget flexibility within the Capital Outlay fund. This could include the purchase of computer software, performance uniforms, and asbestos control, to name a few. The resolution was made possible through a recently signed bill.
2. The board decided to make this an action item for the next meeting.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Brad Starnes discussed insurance committee meetings, summer maintenance plans, modular update, radon mitigation, website update, and policy committee meetings.

At 8:49 p.m., Ross Wahl moved the board go into executive session with the Principals and Superintendent for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, following a 5-minute recess. Second by Dan Thomson. Motion passed with six “yes” votes cast. Returned at 9:08 p.m. No action was taken.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Preventative maintenance contract

Dan Thomson moved the board accept the Thermal Comfort Air preventative maintenance contract for \$11,672. Second by Jennifer Wilson. Motion passed with five “yes” votes and one “no” vote (Kerry Thurlow, abstain) cast.

B. Band uniforms

Brad Starnes informed the board of an upcoming bid for 40-50 new band uniforms; approximate cost \$25,000. The uniforms were last updated in the 1980s.

C. Budget year end funds

Brad Starnes informed the board that the district has \$850,000 available left to spend of the 2013-14 budget, and presented suggestions on how to spend it. Sandy Glessner asked for direction from the board by mid-June.

VIII. PERSONNEL

*All these positions/contracts offered are contingent upon the person recommended to be hired passing the BOE directed background check.

A. Executive session

1. At 9:29 p.m., Dan Thomson moved the board go into executive session with the superintendent for 20 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Second by David Higgins. Motion passed with “six” yes votes cast. Returned at 9:51 p.m. No action was taken.
2. At 9:51 p.m., Dan Thomson moved the board and superintendent re-enter executive session for 15 minutes. Second by Jennifer Wilson. Returned at 10:10 p.m. No action was taken.

B. Agenda change

1. Jennifer Wilson moved the board amend the agenda to include an action item for hiring a transportation director. Second by Ross Wahl. Motion passed with six “yes” votes cast.
2. Ross Wahl moved the board approve the contract for Transportation Director Frank Clark, per Brad Starnes’ recommendation. Second by Dan Thomson. Motion passed with five “yes” votes and one “no” vote (Randy Glenn) cast.
3. Dan Thomson said the intent of this new position is to offset some duties currently taken on by Brad Starnes. He stressed the importance of rewarding loyal employees, and said work will be done to reassign loyal employees and retain them in the district.

C. Resignations

1. Jennifer Wilson moved the board accept the resignation of RCHS English/Debate/Forensics Teacher Kale Katt. Second by Dan Thomson. Motion passed with “six” yes votes cast. Ross Wahl wished him well in his future career.
2. Dan Thomson moved the board accept the resignation of RCHS Assistant Volleyball Coach Lindsey Kelly. Second by Ross Wahl. Motion passed with “six” yes votes cast.
3. Dan Thomson moved the board accept the resignation of RCMS Assistant Football Coach Jeff Roeser. Second by Ross Wahl. Motion passed with “six” yes votes cast.

D. Contracts

1. Ross Wahl moved the board approve a contract for RCHS Spanish Teacher Kezia Huseman per Antoinette Root's recommendation. Second by Jennifer Wilson. Motion passed with "six" yes votes cast.
2. Jennifer Wilson moved the board approve the contract for a district paint crew for this summer as listed, per Brad Starnes' recommendation. Second by Ross Wahl. Motion passed with "six" yes votes cast.

IX. CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD

- A. Kerry Thurlow informed the board of her correspondence with Nathan Shoemaker.
- B. Dan Thomson: thanked Kale Katt for his service to the school; stressed again the need for railings in the RCHS south gym; and thanked the district's athletic directors for working with ESPN.
- C. Jennifer Wilson asked for blinds to be put up at the RCHS library; and commended RCHS in its coordination with students at KSU in the Ecuador teaching program.
- D. Randy Glenn asked questions regarding the amount of details in the minutes.
- E. Brad Starnes announced a board-hosted barbeque for district staff at noon on May 22, and a retirement reception for teachers at 6:30 p.m. June 2.
- F. Ross Wahl suggested the board take action on the tabled modular bid from the May 5 meeting.
 1. Jennifer Wilson moved the board amend the agenda to include the rejection of the modular bids that were opened at the May 5, 2014, board meeting. Second by Dan Thomson. Motion passed with "six" yes votes cast.
 2. David Higgins moved the board reject the modular bids that were opened at the May 5, 2014, board meeting. Second by Randy Glenn. Motion passed with "six" yes votes cast.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

Kerry Thurlow announced the next regular meeting will be at 7:00 p.m., Monday, June 2, 2014, in the Riley County High School library. This will be preceded by IBB negotiations at 5:30 p.m. at the same location.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:25 p.m., Dan Thomson moved the board adjourn the meeting. Second by David Higgins. Motion passed with six "yes" votes cast.

Kerry Thurlow, President

Jenae Suderman, Board Clerk

**Guests at the USD 378 Riley County regular Board of Education meeting
May 19, 2014***

Garry Goff
Melissa Wahl
Marilyn Johnson
Danny Grater
Jared Larson
Carol Adams
Anita Duren Bassett
Dory Wendland
Carl Anderson
Janice Camerlinck
Cheryl VanBebber
Sarah Reasoner
Andy Thurlow
Chris Tawney
Robert Echols
Alicia Scofield
Harold Oliver
Robert Boyd
Curt Porter
VaLynda Porter

* Some names were illegible and/or some individuals did not sign in