

ROME COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 2
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Rome School Board Room
February 21, 2017
7:00 p.m.

1. The Rome Board of Education Meeting of February 21, 2017, was called to order by President Prosisie with the roll call at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call:	Steve Down:	Present	Terry Prosisie:	Present
	Donna Fally:	Present	Wes Schumm:	Present
	Greg Martinez:	Present	Kelly Tinsley:	Present
	Amanda McKee:	Present		

Also in attendance were teachers Zach Cash, Angie Courtright, and Christa Rexing, board candidate John Burkett, Superintendent Erik Estill, and Recording Secretary Mary Beth Voss.

3. A motion was made by Amanda McKee and seconded by Wes Schumm to approve the January 17, 2017, Board Meeting Minutes.

The motion was approved.

4. A motion was made by Kelly Tinsley and seconded by Steve Down to approve the Financial Report as presented.

Vote:	Kelly Tinsley:	Yes	Wes Schumm:	Yes
	Donna Fally:	Yes	Greg Martinez:	Yes
	Terry Prosisie:	Yes	Steve Down:	Yes
	Amanda McKee:	Yes		

The motion was approved.

5. A motion was made by Greg Martinez and seconded by Donna Fally to approve the bills in the amount of \$73,284.54.

Vote:	Steve Down:	Yes	Donna Fally:	Yes
	Wes Schumm:	Yes	Terry Prosisie:	Yes
	Kelly Tinsley:	Yes	Amanda McKee:	Yes
	Greg Martinez:	Yes		

The motion was approved.

6. A motion was made by Steve Down and seconded by Amanda McKee to approve the repayment of the Revolving Fund in the amount of \$1,095.99.

Vote:	Terry Prosisie:	Yes	Amanda McKee:	Yes
	Steve Down:	Yes	Wes Schumm:	Yes
	Donna Fally:	Ye	Kelly Tinsley:	Yes
	Greg Martinez:	Yes		

The motion was approved.

7. Recognition and Comments from Employees and Public

None.

8. Unfinished Business

None.

9. New Business

a. Superintendent Estill shared price quotes with board members that he received from T. Ham Sign, Inc. for the preparation and installation of the “board-quote signs” for the building hallways. Considering the expense, Mr. Estill recommended the project be put on hold for a future date and board members agreed.

b. A motion was made by Wes Schumm and seconded by Greg Martinez to amend the 2016-2017 Official School Calendar.

Vote: Donna Fally:	Yes	Greg Martinez:	Yes
Kelly Tinsley:	Yes	Steve Down:	Yes
Amanda McKee:	Yes		
Terry Prosis:	Yes		

The motion was approved.

c. A motion was made by Amanda McKee and seconded by Kelly Tinsley to approve the resignation of Holly Shirley and Mallory Crouse as Cheerleading Co-Coaches.

Vote: Amanda McKee:	Yes	Wes Schumm:	Yes
Kelly Tinsley:	Yes	Terry Prosis:	Yes
Donna Fally:	Yes	Greg Martinez:	Yes
Steve Down:	Yes		

The motion was approved.

d. Superintendent Estill informed board members of impending budgetary needs for the 2017-2018 school year stating the need for two additional teachers. He updated members on the lack of payments received from the State of Illinois. The district has received no categorical payments for this fiscal year and only just received the final payment for fiscal year 2016. He stated that the district is owed approximately \$118,000 from the State as of this date which, in itself, increases the district’s deficit spending to approximately \$407,000, with the potential for a much greater amount by the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. Estill stated that there is no way to know when or if the district will receive the money it is owed and there is concern that some of the General State Aid payments may not be distributed this fiscal year. Mr. Estill stated he is looking into every option for which to reduce our deficit spending as directed by the board. He offered an option to reclassify the principal’s current

position and explained the process and benefit of reclassification. He stated that the cost savings of that alone would pay for the necessary additional teaching staff for 2017-2018 with one of those positions offered to Principal Tkaczenko. Mr. Estill stated he is willing to work in a dual capacity as superintendent and principal, short term, with no additional salary. It is hoped that, at best, the district could reinstate a principal position within the next 2 to 3 years, depending on the district's finances.

Board members discussed the reclassification of the principal's position and agreed that Mr. Estill should move forward with the process to reclassify the position. President Prosisie stated that this is not an easy decision for the board nor do they take this matter lightly. He stated that the decision to reclassify the principal's position would certainly be difficult on the principal, but on the superintendent as well, since he would be taking on numerous additional responsibilities. Mr. Prosisie made it clear that the reclassification of the position is based strictly on finances and that the board feels it is a sound financial decision for the district at this time. He stated that the board is committed to maintaining small class sizes as long as fiscally possible and to do so it must take the steps necessary to reduce deficit spending and maintain fund balances.

A motion was made by Amanda McKee and seconded by Steve Down to authorize the superintendent to begin the process to reclassify the current position of the principal.

Vote: Greg Martinez:	Yes	Kelly Tinsley:	Yes
Wes Schumm:	Yes	Donna Fally:	Yes
Steve Down:	Yes	Terry Prosisie:	Yes
Amanda McKee:	Yes		

The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Amanda McKee and seconded by Wes Schumm to set a special meeting for Tuesday, February 28, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. to reclassify the principal's position.

The motion was approved.

e. A motion was made by Amanda McKee and seconded by Kelly Tinsley to adjourn to closed session to discuss a letter from the Rome Education Association and the superintendent's evaluation at 7:51 p.m.

The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Donna Fally and seconded by Steve Down to return to open session at 8:32 p.m.

The motion was approved

10. Superintendent's Report

a. Update on Teacher In-Service of February 17.

Superintendent Estill informed the board that teachers and staff received recertification in

CPR. The instruction for recertification was provided by Jeff Coleman from Southern Illinois EMS Academy. This in-service day was originally scheduled on January 13, however, school was cancelled due to an ice storm.

b. Ad Hoc Committee Begins Process to Hire New Special Education Director

Superintendent Estill informed the board he is a member on the committee who will be reviewing applications and interviewing applicants for the new Special Education Director position which will be vacant due to the retirement of current director, Kim Byers. Applications are being accepted through March 10, and the individual employed will serve as Associate Director until Mrs. Byers leaves the position in October.

c. PSIC Risk Control Report

Superintendent Estill updated members on the hazard survey recommendations listed on a report received from Prairie State Insurance Cooperative on January 30, 2017. A recommendation was made concerning the playground surfaces and the need for the depth of surfacing to be deeper. The recommendation was addressed and will require on-going monitoring.

d. Student and Staff Recognition

Superintendent Estill congratulated the 5th and 6th grade Team Quest students for placing 6th out of 39 teams and the 7th and 8th grade Team Quest students for placing 6th out of 50 teams in the sectionals held recently at Kaskaskia College. He congratulated the volleyball team for receiving consolation championship at the Summersville Tournament.

d. Miscellaneous Items.

1. Superintendent Estill informed members that Jewett Roofing would be on the premises this coming Saturday to being work on the gymnasium roof.
 2. Superintendent Estill informed members that Mrs. Crouse began her maternity leave and that Hannah Piercy is in place as a substitute teacher. Hannah did an excellent job serving under the AmeriCorps Program at Rome and her employment to teach through the remainder of this year will be recommended at the March board meeting.
11. A motion was made by Amanda McKee and seconded by Greg Martinez to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

The motion was approved.

_____	_____
President	Date
_____	_____
Secretary	Date