

RIVER FOREST COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

Tuesday, November 10, 2015
School Board Meeting, 7:00 PM
Minutes

RFHS Auditorium in the Round, 3300 Indiana Street, Hobart, IN 46342

1.0 Call to Order – 7:05 p.m.

- 1.01 Roll Call – James Halcomb was absent. All other board members were present along with Superintendent Steven Disney, Assistant Superintendent James Thorne, and School Board Attorney Dan Whitten
- 1.02 Pledge of Allegiance – Marshall Gilliana
- 1.03 Requested Visitor Participation - none
- 1.04 Consideration to approve Agenda for November 10, 2015 – Mrs. Martin moved to approve the Agenda for November 10, 2015. Mrs. Trezak seconded and the motion carried.

2.0 Consent Agenda

- 2.01 Minutes – October 13, 2015
- 2.02 Financial Reports, Payroll Claims, Vendor Claims - \$1,300,996.52
- 2.03 Programs
- 2.04 Resignations/Non-Renewals/Retirement
 - 2.04.01 Bus Driver - effective November 6, 2015 – Marsha Niksich
 - 2.04.02 Alternative School Teacher – effective November 6, 2015 – Bryan Daulton
- 2.05 Employment and Transfers
 - 2.05.01 HS Assistant Wrestling Coach – Luke Shaw
 - 2.05.02 MS Wrestling Coach – Gary Hardesty
 - 2.05.03 HS Assistant Boys’ Basketball Coach (JV) – Sam Toporski
 - 2.05.04 Teacher of Record for Dual Credit classes at RFHS – Kirk Whiting
 - 2.05.05 Half Time Paraprofessional at Evans – Melanie Buckman
 - 2.05.06 Bus Driver – November 4, 2015 – Felicia Rodriguez

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2.06 Leave Requests

2.06.01 Kevin Trezak – Fall Professionals Conference – 11/22 & 23, 2015 - Indianapolis

2.07 Use of Facilities

2.08 Donations

2.08.01 American International Group, Inc. (Valic) - \$2,950.00 to RF Uniforms

2.08.02 Precision Control Systems - \$1,000.00 to RF Uniforms

2.08.03 To the HS Band: Holton Student Model Trombone valued at approximately \$300 from Tina Lyons; Bach Mellophone valued at approximately \$400 from Teddi Burt; Alto Saxophone valued at approximately \$200 by Teddi Burt

Dr. Disney commented that the teacher of record for the two Dual Credit classes, Kirk Whiting, will work through PNC with Mr. Weitzel, observing his class and reviewing lesson plans and reporting back to the university on a regular basis. This is a requirement by PNC for the students currently enrolled in the dual credit to be able to earn dual credit. Mr. Weitzel will work on training to meet this requirement this year.

Mrs. Trezak moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Martin seconded and the motion carried.

3.0 Old Business - None

4.0 New Business/Discussion/Action Items - None

5.0 Other Business Items/Curriculum & Instruction - None

6.0 Informational Agenda Items

6.01 Board Communication - none

6.02 Superintendent/Building Reports – Dr. Disney reported that there is a complete mess in the state with ISTEP testing. The general assembly and the Governor were warned about this by State Superintendent Ritz. The test has been changed, it's completely new and it doesn't compare apples to apples. Dr. Thorne reported that we've put out a letter to parents explaining the situation. They should have received it either in the mail or at

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parent-teacher conferences. On our website we will be putting links to sites for state testing and email addresses to people responsible for doing this with the testing.

Dr. Disney said that our senior leaders have spent time at Meister and Evans elementary schools. It was a phenomenal experience to see the little kids looking up to the older ones like they were rock stars. It was a positive experience for both the young and older kids.

Dr. Disney said he also visited Meister during their Grandparents' Day. There were grandparents in attendance ranging from 40 to 93 years old. It was well organized and attended. He said we need to get as many grandparents in our schools as possible – they're special.

Mr. Horka began his building report talking about the honor roll breakfast. Thirty middle school students had straight A's. He decided to treat them to donuts from Strack & Van Til instead of Dunkin but didn't realize that he would have to box them himself. As he fumbled around trying to pack three boxes of donuts a line was forming behind him and one gentleman in particular was getting antsy, complaining that he was going to be late, that they needed to open a second line, etc., and the man finally asked, "Are you buying donuts for the whole school?" Mr. Horka replied, "No, only for my middle school students who made the honor roll." This was followed by shouts of "Go Ingots" from workers in the deli, meat department, and floral department who overheard his reply. Forty percent (141 out of 350) of the middle school students were either on the A or A/B honor roll. Thirty-nine percent (167 out of 440) high school students made either A or A/B honor roll.

The guidance department reported to Mr. Horka that over thirty River Forest juniors and seniors attended College Go week at Purdue Calumet. Over ninety colleges were represented.

PBIS at the middle school is working well. We are seeing a change in student behavior. Kids are doing the right things. This is a lifestyle motto and the kids are buying into it.

Fall Sports Awards night had a large turnout.

The middle school Spell Bowl team is headed to the state competition in Lafayette. They came in right at the cut off. The high school made the state Spell Bowl as well.

Mrs. Ayers reported that Jory Mathews wrote a grant to pay for the Lego Club and there will be a demonstration of the skills the students have learned at the next board meeting. The students are starting a recycling program tomorrow in the RF cafeteria and we hope this will trickle down to the elementary schools in the future.

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Mr. Horka reported that there is a blood drive competition tomorrow between River Forest and Lake Station schools and the losing superintendent and principal have to take a pie in the face.

The Veterans' Day assembly is tomorrow and we've collected pictures of family members of students and staff who are in or have been in the service and created a movie with music that says their name, who they are related to, where they've served, etc. The assembly starts at 9:30 and lasts about 40 minutes and everyone is invited to attend.

Mr. Gilliana thanked the administration for all their hard work. He said this is probably the best administrative team we've ever had here.

- 6.03 Adjournment – There being no further business to come before the board, Mr. Mefford moved to adjourn and Mrs. Martin seconded. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

H. Marshall Gilliana II, President

Michelle Martin, Secretary

David Mefford, Member

Linda Trezak, Member