



Rocket Express

January 20, 2015

The Rockwood Area Board of School Directors met in regular session on Tuesday, January 20, 2015.

The minutes of the committee meeting on 11/18/14, the regular meeting on 11/18/14, and the reorganization meeting on 12/4/14 were approved.

The agenda, agenda items, and additional agenda items that were added during the committee meeting, were approved.

The financial and treasurer reports, bills, and budgetary transfers were approved.

Board Recognition:

The following students of the month for December were recognized by the Board:

Grace Bower
Samuel Marko
Mya Hagans
Jacqlyn Knox
Keri Pritts
Amanda Brancato

The following students of the month for January were recognized by the Board:

Madison Yachere
Greta Mort
Joseph O'Brien
Alexis Kalp
Richard Hockenberry
Brittney Clawson

School Board members were recognized as part of School Director Recognition Month. Mark Bower distributed certificates to each Board member, honoring them for volunteering their time and talents for the betterment of public education in our community.

Public Comment:

Steve Chausse from Johnson Controls gave a power point presentation on the Act 39 Guaranteed Savings Program available to municipalities and school districts. The Board will review and discuss the signing of a memorandum of understanding at the February meeting. This memorandum of understanding allows Johnson Controls to evaluate the facility to determine if a possible energy savings project exists for the district.

Old Business:

The Board voted in favor of ratifying the adjudication in the student disciplinary matter on 12/4/14.

New Business:

The Board voted in favor of authorizing the removal of old books from the elementary library inventory.

The Board approved and accepted the grant from First Book Advisory Board in the amount of \$1,000.00.

The Board approved and accepted the Direct Certification Technology Upgrade grant from the Center for Schools and Communities in the amount of \$750.00.

The Board voted in favor of acknowledging the appointment of the following deputy tax collectors for the district's municipalities as required by Act 164 of 2014:

Black Township	Shirley Walter
Middlecreek Township	Kelsey Pletcher
Milford Township	Bridget Latuch
New Centerville Borough	Ryan Schrock
Rockwood Borough	April Hutchison
Seven Springs Borough	Frank Kovak
Upper Turkeyfoot Township	Carissa Shipley

The Board voted in favor of authorizing the Rockwood Spanish students to host exchange students from Mexico and to approve all activities while they are here.

The Board approved junior high fun night at the Ice Mine in Connellsville on 2/20/15.

The Board voted in favor to abolish the Rockwood Area School District football program and authorize the administration to develop a cooperative agreement with Berlin Brothersvalley School District.

The Board approved the revisions to the high school course selection guides for the 2015-2016 school year.

The Board approved homebound instruction for a secondary student.

The Board voted in favor of adopting the Act 1 of Special Session of 2006 resolution electing not to increase taxes above the index.

The Board approved the Single Audit Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014.

Committee Reports:

The Board approved Wallace Miller as a bona-fide volunteer track coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board voted in favor of accepting the resignation of Courtney Bowman as a bona-fide volunteer varsity volleyball coach.

The Board voted in favor of accepting the resignation of Kelsey Pletcher as a bona-fide volunteer junior varsity volleyball coach.

The Board voted in favor of accepting the resignation of Julie Johnson as a bona-fide volunteer junior high volleyball coach.

The Board voted in favor of accepting the resignation of Chris Herwig as a bona-fide volunteer assistants boys' varsity soccer coach and authorize his involvement on a voluntary basis as needed.

The Board approved the following bona-fide volunteers for the district musical pending completion of all paperwork:

Elyse Branam
Faith Hemminger

Susan Branam
Eileen Younkin

Christy Hay

The Board approved the following procedure for the payment of background clearances:

- All new employees pay for the initial round of required clearances.
- All full-time employees (over 30 hours per week) pay for all future clearances.
- District pays for future clearances for part-time employees.
- District pays for future clearances for coaches (excluding full-time employees who coach).
- District will reimburse volunteers for the cost of the Child Abuse and Pa. Criminal History clearances after verification of 10 hours of volunteer work in the district. The cost of the FBI clearance will be the responsibility of the volunteer (if needed.)
- District substitutes will pay for all required clearances.

The Board voted in favor of employing Roger King as a full-time custodian, pending completion of all paperwork

The Board approved Tim Vought as a bona-fide volunteer rifle coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board voted in favor of accepting the resignation of Melissa Putman as a bona-fide volunteer assistant director of the school musical.

The Board approved Robin Younkin as a bona-fide volunteer assistant director for the school musical, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board approved Mary Jo Picklo as a bona-fide volunteer assistant for speech club.

The Board voted in favor of employing Dan Weaver as a bona-fide volunteer boys' varsity soccer coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

Conference Requests:

The Board approved the following conference requests:

1. PDE Bureau of Special Education Annual Conference – Hershey, PA – 2/4/15 through 2/6/15 – Jessica Knepper
2. Reading Mini Lessons: Read, Think Succeed – Pittsburgh, PA - 3/15/15 – Beth Mapes
3. SAP Coordinators Meetings – Somerset, PA – 2 to 4 meetings per year – Patti Jo Opfar

Use of School Facility Requests:

The Board approved the following use of school facility requests:

1. National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, French Honor Society – Rockwood high school auditorium – 4/28/15, 6:00 – 9:00 PM – Induction ceremony.
2. Rockwood AYSO – Rockwood high school cafeteria – 12/13/14, 6:00 – 8:00 PM – monthly meeting.
3. Rockwood AYSO – Rockwood high school cafeteria, computer lab – 1/6/15, 1/8/15, 1/13/15, 1/15/15, 5:30 – 8:00 PM – registration meetings.
4. U12 Indoor Soccer – Rockwood elementary gymnasium – 1/11/15, 1/18/15, 1:00 – 4:00 PM – soccer practice.
5. Rockwood Golf Boosters – Rockwood high school cafeteria – 1/19/15, 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM – spaghetti dinner.
6. PA Department of Transportation – Rockwood high school library – 2/3/15, 6:00 – 8:00 PM – public official and public plans display.
7. Marching Band Boosters – Rockwood high school band room – 1/13/15, additional dates to be determined, 6:30 PM - ? – booster meetings.
8. PA West Soccer – Rockwood elementary gymnasium – 2/1/15, 4/25/15, 6:00 – 7:30 PM – soccer practice.
9. Rockwood PTO – Rockwood high school cafeteria – 2/25/15, 1:10 – 6:00 PM – pizza delivery.
10. Quiz Club – Rockwood high school classrooms, cafeteria – 3/28/15, 6:00 AM – 6:00 PM – scholastic quiz tournament.
11. Quiz Club – Rockwood high school classrooms, cafeteria – 4/11/15, 6:00 AM – 6:00 PM – scholastic quiz regional tournament.
12. Rockwood – Turkeyfoot French Boosters – Rockwood elementary cafeteria – 1/25/15, 5:00 – 7:00 PM – fundraiser planning meeting.
13. Rockwood – Turkeyfoot French Boosters – Rockwood high school cafeteria – 2/14/15, 4:00 – 11:00 PM – dance.

Club & Class Activity Requests:

The Board approved the following club & class activity request:

1. Rockwood FBLA – Marianna’s Fundraiser – 2/17/15 through 3/3/15 – raise funds for leadership conference.

Superintendent’s Report:

Mark Bower thanked Misty Demchak, the guidance department, Sharon Clapper and Mary Jane Sauder for an outstanding job on the senior projects. There were 12 business leaders from the area that served on the panels and they provided many positive remarks about our students and the district.

Mark Bower informed the Board that he nominated Sharon Clapper and she was chosen to be recognized as a top 100 business leader by the Central Pa. Business Organization.

Misty Demchak discussed the “Remembering Adam” program which involves random drug testing for students given authorization by the parents. The first year of the program is paid by a grant and the district must pick up the cost in subsequent years if the program is successful. The Board gave consensus to move forward with organizing the program.

The Rails to Trails Conservancy has approached the district about the possibility of using our athletic fields and cafeteria on 6/21/15 and 6/22/15 for approximately 300 bikers.

The Board voted in favor of allowing the Rails to Trails Conservancy to use the facilities on 6/21/15 and 6/22/15 and to ask them to cover the costs of all custodial help required for the event.

The Board discussed a proposal from Travis Robison to start a junior high golf team. Information is to be gathered and the item will be placed on the February agenda along with discussion on starting a junior high track team.

Mark Bower reviewed the proposed calendar for the 2015-2016 school year. Final approval will be made in March or April.

The Board reviewed estimates for paving from LTM for various areas around the building.

The Board voted in favor of authorizing the administration to contact Dan Rullo to prepare a request for proposal for paving at the district facility.

Mark Bower informed the Board that there are vacancies on the IU Board of Directors. Any interested Board member should contact him.

Mark Bower informed the Board that anyone filing to run for the Board must have their petition completed from 2/17/15 through 3/10/15. He thanked Board members for all of their support over the past several years and their dedication in moving the district forward. He encouraged current members to rerun.

Disclaimer: This document is only a summary of the above listed meeting and is not an official copy of the school board meeting minutes.