



Rocket Express

November 15, 2010

The Rockwood Area Board of School Directors met in regular session on Monday, November 15, 2010. The minutes of the committee meeting on 10/18/10 and the regular meeting on 10/18/10 were approved. The agenda, agenda items, and additional agenda items were also approved.

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

The following **students of the month** were recognized by the Board:

- Jesse Foy
- Breanna Shultz
- Alleksi Engleka
- Sam Gary
- Christy Pletcher
- Joshua Judy

Public Comment:

- Alleksi Engleka, Kayla Rugg, and Rebecca Zur, representing the 9th grade class, gave a power-point presentation on a donkey basketball fund-raiser that they would like to have on April 19, 2011.

Old Business:

- The board discussed the possible sale of the Kingwood Elementary School. Joel Cook, Jeff Seese, and Charles Kordich presented a proposal to the Board to purchase the Kingwood Elementary School in the amount of \$132,000.00, upon completion of several inspections and approval of a loan, with other details to be worked out with the Board. The board met in executive session for the possible sale of real estate. Upon reconvening the meeting, the interested buyers increased their proposal to \$140,000.00.

The board approved the following resolution for the proposed purchase of the Kingwood elementary school: The Board of School Directors of the Rockwood Area School District authorized the execution of an agreement of sale and a sale subject to the required Court approvals of the Kingwood Elementary School real property located at 5957 Kingwood Road, Markleton, Pennsylvania, 15551.

The prospective purchasers are Joel D. Cook, Jeffrey E. Seese and Charles E. Kordich and Jamie L. Kordich, his wife.

The purchase price is \$140,000.00 and the use identified by the prospective purchasers is the establishment of a retirement home.

The terms of the agreement of sale shall be identified to the previous agreement of sale dated June 25, 2010, except for the purchase price identified above, the splitting of the

real estate transfer taxes, and the agreement that the sale on behalf of the prospective purchasers is contingent not only on the Court approval as aforementioned, but of the prospective purchasers obtaining a conventional mortgage and appropriate regulatory approvals from the Department of Labor and Industry and sewage officials.

In the event the conditions are not obtained, including the rejection of a conventional mortgage in an amount equal to or less than \$100,000.00, the prospective purchasers shall be entitled to be returned a prorated amount of their down payment. The amount of down payment returned shall be the amount less the District's out-of-pocket expenses in seeking Court authorization.

The Solicitor is authorized to prepare the necessary agreement of sale for execution and the petition for approval of the private sale to the Court of Common Pleas, including all notices and advertisements.

- The board voted to amend the following policies:
 - number 006 (Meetings)
 - number 113 (Special Education).
 - number 113.1 (Discipline of Students with Disabilities) .
 - number 114 (Gifted Education)
 - number 140 (Charter Schools)

New Business:

- The board approved the first reading of policy number 103.1 (Non-Discrimination- Qualified Students with Disabilities)
- The first reading of policy number 113.2 (Behavior Support) was approved.
- The board approved the first reading of policy number 113.3 (Screening and Evaluations for Students with Disabilities)
- The board approved the request from the math department to remove old calculators from the district inventory as needed and as approved by the administration.
- The annual senior trip to Cedar Point and Kalahari Resort from May 28, 2011 through May 29, 2011 was approved.
- The board approved setting the date for the annual reorganization meeting on Monday, December 6, 2010 at 7:30 P.M. with a committee meeting to begin at 6:30 P.M. and to advertise this meeting as required.
- Mark Bower and Brian Coughenour gave a presentation on the annual financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010. Brian Coughenour presented the following financial information to the Board from the annual financial report:

Total Revenue	10,952,779
Total Expenditures	9,782,828
Fund Balance	2,338,952

Brian also presented a history of the cash surpluses and ending fund balances for the district over the last three years. These figures were as follows:

Cash Surpluses	
2009-2010	1,169,951
2008-2009	960,766
2007-2008	362,113

Fund Balances	
2009-2010	2,338,952
2008-2009	1,163,787
2007-2008	184,164

The cash surplus for the 2009-2010 fiscal year came from the following sources:

Tax Increase	200,000
Kingwood Savings	125,000
Tech Center Refund	102,000
Excess Tax Revenue	100,000
Transportation Savings	75,000
ACRP Takeover	75,000
Teacher Retirement Savings	348,000

Mark Bower presented the Board with a chart and graph showing the revenues, expenditures, cash surplus/(deficit), and ending fund balances for the district over the past 15 years.

Mark and Brian also informed the Board of the following issues that the district will be facing in the future:

- Loss of one-time revenue sources
- PSERS spike
- Loss of stimulus funds
- Impact of poor economy
- Uncertainty in state budget
- Insurance increases
- Additional staffing needs
- Maintenance issues
- Payoff of emergency loan

The board approved the final annual financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010.

- The board discussed the facility and program needs assessment. Mark Bower distributed the needs assessment as prepared by the administration. He explained that it was a working document and asked the Board to review the information and provide input into the document by the January meeting. The assessment was broken down into the following categories:
 - Physical Plant Needs
 - Outdoor Facility Needs
 - Staffing Needs
 - Program-Supplies-Equipment Needs
 - Technology Needs

These categories were further broken down into the following sub-categories:

- Immediate Needs
- Future/Potential Needs
- Wish List Needs

- Mark Bower gave a presentation on the district PSSA results. The district was proficient in all areas of the test except 5th grade reading. The district is also performing above the state minimum on the SAT test.

Education/Personnel:

- Kristi Jacobson was approved as a student teacher with Barb Pelesky from 1/18/11 through 5/16/11.
- The following individual was added to the district substitute list pending completion of all paperwork:

Julie Pyle Elementary Education

- The board authorized the administration to advertise for substitute custodians.
- The board discussed custodial shift changes. Mark Bower discussed with the Board the possibility of shifting one of the midnight custodians to a 5:30-2:00 shift during the times when the boilers do not need to be fired. The boilers are usually fired from September through May. This would result in some areas that would not get cleaned, a portion of which would have to be covered by other custodians. After discussion, the board decided to keep the current schedule for the custodians.
- John Emert was approved as a volunteer softball coach, pending completion of all paperwork.
- The resignation of Kristen Engle, as assistant softball coach, was accepted. The Board decided not to advertise for an assistant softball coach and to discuss her replacement with the current coaching staff.
- The following **field trip** requests were approved:
 - Fallingwater – Mill Run, PA – Spring 2011 – Pat Weston and 25 students
 - PA FBLA State Leadership Conference – Hershey, PA – 4/3/11 through 4/6/11 – Amber Walker and up to 14
- The following **use of school facility** request was approved:
 - Child Evangelism Fellowship of Somerset/Fayette County – Rockwood elementary library – Thursdays, 3:15 – 4:30 PM – Good News Club.
- The following **club & class activity** requests were approved:
 - National Honor Society – pizza & hoagie sale – date to be determined – to raise funds for field trips, induction and graduation.
 - Class of 2014 – Donkey Basketball Game – April 19, 2011 – raise funds for Soph-Senior dance and Senior Class trip.

Superintendent's Report:

- Mark Bower informed the Board that CSX has donated \$1,000.00 to the Adopt-A-Fence campaign.
- Mark Bower informed the Board that Trane will present information on an Act 77 energy study at the January meeting.

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