



# **Rocket Express**

## **September 20, 2016**

The Rockwood Area Board of School Directors met in regular session on Tuesday, September 20, 2016

The minutes of the committee meeting on 8/16/16 and the regular meeting on 8/16/16 were approved.

The agenda, agenda items, and additional agenda items were approved.

The financial and treasurer reports and bills were approved.

### **Board Recognition:**

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

- Jack Pletcher
- Emma Ream
- Nolan Croushore
- Amber Cane
- Kaylie Miller
- Allison Foreman

### **Public Comment:**

Andrea Minor, Jay Best, and several students addressed the Board and thanked them for their support of the Spanish Exchange Program over the last four years. They showed a power-point presentation of their trip, and the students shared their most enjoyable moments from the trip.

Beth Mapes addressed the Board regarding the Pa. Mathematics Initiative workshop that she attended during the summer. The initiative is designed to help elementary school teachers deepen their content knowledge to facilitate their incorporation of the newly implemented Common Core Standards.

### **Old Business:**

The Board approved the second and final reading of the following revisions to the Rockwood Area School District policy manual:

- |     |                              |
|-----|------------------------------|
| 247 | Hazing                       |
| 609 | Investment of District Funds |

**New Business:**

The Board approved the contract with ACRP for alternative education for disruptive youth for the 2016-2017 school year, if services are needed.

The Board approved the chorus schedule of events for the 2016-2017 school year.

The Board approved the band schedule of events for the 2016-2017 school year.

The Board approved the FFA schedule of events for the 2016-2017 school year.

The Board approved the FBLA schedule of events for the 2016-2017 school year.

The Board approved the junior high forensics schedule of events for the 2016-2017 school year.

The Board voted in favor to remove old baseball, softball, and volleyball uniforms from the district inventory.

The Board approved participation in the Catalyst Connection Program and all activities associated with the program.

The Board approved Homebound instruction for a 12<sup>th</sup> grade student.

**Committee Reports:**

The Board approved Jason Atchison as a bona-fide volunteer coach for junior high volleyball pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board approved a medical leave of absence for Amanda O'Neill from 9/6/16 until a date to be determined in October, 2016.

The Board accepted the resignation of Julie Carlson as the bona-fide volunteer director of the musical and elementary drama head coach effective 9/2/16.

The Board accepted the resignation of Susan Branam as the bona-fide volunteer assistant director of the musical and approved to employ her as the bona-fide volunteer director of the musical and elementary drama head coach.

The Board voted in favor to employ Faith Hemminger as the bona-fide volunteer assistant director of the musical.

The Board approved Joshua Benford as a bona-fide unpaid volunteer assistant coach for soccer pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board voted in favor to add the following individuals to the district substitute list pending completion of all paperwork:

Jeremy Romesberg  
Teresa Mastillo

Social Studies/English  
Type 06

The Board voted in favor to employ Joanna King as a paraprofessional pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board accepted the resignation of Teryll Gribble as the bona-fide volunteer assistant girls' basketball coach and voted to advertise for the position.

### **Conference Requests:**

The following conference requests were approved by the Board:

1. Success in Algebra – Altoona, Pa. – 10/19/16 – April Kretchman
2. SAP Training – St. Vincent College – 9/26/16 through 9/28/16 – Kapeka Galazia
3. County Counselors Meetings – Somerset, Pa. – 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every month – Kapeka Galazia
4. Gifted Boot Camp – Altoona, Pa. – 10/6/16 – Christy Hay
5. MTSS Academic Implementer's Forum – Harrisburg, Pa. – 10/18/16 through 10/20/16 – Jon Hale, Kapeka Galazia, Melissa Gindlesperger, Mary Gosnell, Kelly Herrman
6. Explore New Manufacturing Student Video Contest Training – Cresson, Pa. – 10/4/16 – Joe Kush
7. Financial Aid Workshop – Johnstown, Pa. – 9/30/16 – PJ Opfar
8. County Counselor's meetings – Somerset, Pa. – 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every month – PJ Opfar

### **Field Trip Requests:**

The Board approved the following field trip requests:

1. Red Ribbon Rally – Somerset, Pa. – 10/14/16 – Alana Letizia and 5 students
2. State SADD Conference – Seven Springs – 11/16/16 – Alana Letizia and 5 students
3. Pirates Reward Trip – Pittsburgh, Pa. – April or May 2017 – Andrea Minor, Greta Carroll, and 44 students
4. Spanish Gateway Clipper – Pittsburgh, Pa. – May 2017 – Andrea Minor and 44 students
5. French Gateway Clipper – Pittsburgh, Pa. – May 2017 – Greta Carroll and 44 students
6. Daily American High School Highlights Training – Somerset, Pa. – 9/20/16 – Nicole Hetrick and 2 students
7. Bike Trip – Rockwood, Pa. – 10/5/16, 10/6/16, 10/11/16, 10/12/16, 10/19/16, 10/20/16 – Nick Buterbaugh, Kristen Kuzemchak, and 150 students
8. Kindergarten Graduation – Hayloft, Rockwood, Pa. – next to last student day – Tammy Minnick, Josh Bowlin, and 42 students
9. Spring Elementary Reading Competition – Forest Hills Middle School – 4/1/17 – Jenna Wintersteen, Christy Hay, and 2 teams
10. Fall Elementary Reading Competition – Bellwood Antis High School – November 2016 – Jenna Wintersteen, Christy Hay, and 2 teams
11. Somerset County Scrabble Tournament – Somerset, Pa. – 5/5/17 – Janet Dotson, Beth Miller, and 12 students
12. Benedum Center (Nutcracker) – Pittsburgh, Pa. – 12/2/16 – Doug Spiri and 65 students
13. Nemaocolin Woodlands – Farmington, Pa. – May 2017 – Josh Bowlin, Tammy Minnick, and 42 students
14. Pittsburgh Zoo – Pittsburgh, Pa. – May 2017 – Sue Slope, Cathy Phillippi, and 51 students
15. Powdermill Nature Reserve – Rector, Pa. – May 2017 – Carter Bower, Jaime Gross, and 48 students

16. Ohiopyle State Park – Ohiopyle, Pa. – 5/12/17 – Denise Miller, Melissa Gindlesperger, and 48 students
17. Old Bedford Village – Bedford, Pa. – May 2017 – Mindy Sarver, Jenna Sembower, Shanna Wilson, and 63 students
18. Carnegie Science Center – Pittsburgh, Pa. – May 2017 – Jessica Knepper, Becky McKinley, Faith Hemminger, and 67 students
19. DC Trip – Washington, D.C. – 5/16/17 – Ben Baker, Elyse Cordaro, Kristen Mumau, and 62 students
20. Byham Theater – Pittsburgh, Pa. – 10/20/16 – Doug Spiri, Mary Jo Picklo, and 70 students
21. New York Maker Faire, Flight 93 Memorial, 911 Museum – Shanksville, New York – 10/1/16 through 10/2/16 – Joe Kush and 28 students
22. Pumpkin Chunkin Faranda Farms STEM Club Competition – Hollsopple, Pa. – 11/5/16 – Joe Kush and 8 students

### **Use of School Facility Requests:**

The Board approved the following use of school facility requests:

1. Friends of the Library – Rockwood elementary cafeteria – 10/4/16, 10/6/16, 10/11/16, 10/13/16, 10/18/16, 10/20/16; 5:00 P.M.-8:00 P.M. – Painting Party.
2. High Ridge 4-H Club – Rockwood high school cafeteria – First Tuesday of every month; 7:00 P.M.-8:30 P.M. – 4-H Meetings.
3. 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Class – Rockwood elementary gymnasium – 11/21/16; 5:00 P.M.-8:00 P.M.: 11/22/16, 11/23/16; 8:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M. – Christmas Store.
4. Pa. Game Commission – Rockwood high school and elementary cafeterias – 10/12/16, 10/13/16; 3:30 P.M.-7:00 P.M. – Hunter-trapper education class.
5. Bricks4Kidz – Rockwood elementary library – 10/11/16, 10/18/16, 10/25/16, 11/1/16, 11/8/16, 11/15/16, 3/7/17, 3/14/17, 3/21/17, 3/28/17, 4/4/17, 4/11/17; 3:30 P.M.-5:00 P.M. – Afterschool LEGO S.T.E.M. classes for grades K-6.

### **Club & Class Activity Requests:**

The Board approved the following club & class activity requests:

1. FFA – Country Meats beef stick sale – 9/15/16 through 5/15/17 – raise funds for FFA jackets.
2. Friends of the Library – Painting Party – 10/4/16, 10/6/16, 10/11/16, 10/13/16, 10/18/16, 10/20/16 – funding for an author and to purchase books.
3. National Honor Society – Gardner’s Candy Sale – 11/21/16 through 12/9/16 – Raise funds for volunteer projects throughout the year.
4. 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Class – Christmas Store – 11/21/16 through 11/23/16 – Raise funds for D.C. Trip.

### **Superintendent’s Report:**

Mark Bower updated the Board on the backpack program. The District is in year two of the program and serves approximately 100 students; with an increase of 25 students from the first year. The program has also been expanded into 7<sup>th</sup> grade this year.

Mark Bower updated the Board on the Raise.Me program and informed the Board that a student recently has been awarded over \$8,000.00 in micro scholarships. There have also been 20 colleges added to the list of eligible schools.

Mark Bower informed the Board that Sharon Clapper will be in the District on Thursday to start career planning activities for the year.

Mark Bower informed the Board that Somerset Planning has accumulated approximately \$13,000.00 for additional services for the months of July and August. The District has paid them approximately \$35,000.00 to date. Mark and Brian will be discussing the additional invoices with Somerset Planning and bring a recommendation back to the Board in October.

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