



Rocket Express

January 16, 2012

The Rockwood Area Board of School Directors met in regular session on Monday, January 16, 2012.

The minutes of the committee meeting on 11/21/11, the regular meeting on 11/21/11, and the reorganization meeting on 12/6/11 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.

Board Recognition:

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

Allison Foreman
Keri Pritts
Tylee McDevitt
Alexsi Engleka
Shannon Knopsnyder
Ashley Lytle
Kolette Hostetter
Haley Lawrence
Kayla Phillippi
Jacob Bower
Sam Gary
Benjamin Miller

Mark Bower presented certificates to each Board member as part of school director recognition month and thanked each member for the service and dedication in serving as a volunteer for the students and the community.

New Business:

The board discussed computer/internet access of Board members for the distribution of Board briefs and other informational materials. Upon discussion, most of the members of the Board would still prefer a paper copy of items to be sent to them. The district will have the technology department explore the possibility of creating a shared file for this type of information that could be accessed by any member that would choose to do so.

The board discussed the installation of motion lights around the red section. They discussed the possibility of installing motion lights at various locations around the red section, audible sirens for inside the facility, and permanent lighting around the building. The technology department is also exploring the possibility of wireless cameras for the district in the future.

The board discussed the Single Audit Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011. Upon discussion, the board voted to approve the Single Audit Report for the Rockwood Area School District for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011.

The board discussed the use of the red wing. Upon discussion, the board voted to authorize the administration to obtain quotes on the cost to remove the red section.

The board authorized the administration to obtain the services of an engineer to look at the costs associated with the demolition of the red section, various replacement options, and the development of a Request for Proposal (RFP) to be used to obtain quotes from other engineering firms.

Mark Bower gave a power point presentation to the Board on the current structure of the science department and the administration recommendation on a transition period to implement a new structure over the next several years. He distributed the junior high and senior high course selection guides to Board members for review. Mary Gosnell and Misty Demchak discussed the various changes that are included in each handbook.

The board voted to approve the junior high and senior high course selection guides for the 2012-2013 school year with the inclusion of the science expo classes.

Education/Personnel:

The following individuals were added to the district substitute list, pending completion of all paperwork:

Kelly Nicholson	Type 06
Nicole Pelesky	Health/Phys. Ed.
Rachel Leister	English
Stephanie Beer	Social Studies

A paternity leave of absence for Douglas Spiri for a period of 15 days using accumulated sick leave was approved.

Earl Coleman Jr. was added to the custodial substitute list pending completion of all paperwork.

The board voted to accept the resignation of Nicole Hetrick as assistant coach for the Rockwood speech team and to employ Jill Morgan as the assistant speech coach at a pro-rated salary.

The board voted to employ Travis Robison as golf coach.

The Board took no action on the request for an unpaid leave for Jennifer Pletcher until approval to return to work from her doctor.

The following **conference requests** were approved:

1. Making a Difference: Education Practices That Work – Hershey, PA – 2/29/12 through 3/2/12 – Jessica Knepper
2. Improving Schools Conference – Pittsburgh, PA – 1/29/12 through 2/1/12 – Irene Kovach – no cost to district – paid by Title I funds (Highly recommended by administration).
3. IU 08 Gifted Network – Altoona, PA – 1/25/12
4. PYFA Mid-winter Conference – Bedford, PA – 2/7/12 – Gary Weimer

The following **field trip requests** were approved:

1. TATU/BUSTED Training – Berlin, PA – 2/23/12 – Alana Letizia and 5 students – no cost to district – paid by SADD.
2. Rockwood Mill Shoppes – Rockwood, PA – 2/6/12 – Ben Baker, Jessica Knepper, Deb Phillippi and 72 students – est. cost to district - \$1,125.00.

The following use of **school facility requests** were approved:

1. Rockwood elementary Student Council – Rockwood high school auditorium – 2/10/12, 6:00 – 8:30 pm; 2/11/12, entire day until 6:00 PM; 2/17/12, 6:00 -8:30 PM – elementary talent show.
2. Rockwood Alliance Church – Rockwood elementary gymnasium, cafeteria – 1/21/12, 4:00 – 7:00 PM – youth night.

3. Rockwood AYSO – Rockwood high school cafeteria – 1/19/12, 6:00 – 8:00 PM; 1/21/12, 9:00 – 11:00 AM; 2/7/12, 6:00 – 8:00 PM; 3/8/12, 6:00 – 8:00 PM – soccer sign ups.
4. Rockwood AYSO – Rockwood high school auditorium, cafeteria – 3/11/12, 1:00 – 4:00 PM; 3/25/12, 2:00 – 4:00 PM – coaches and parent meetings.

The following **club & class activity requests** were approved:

1. Student Council – School spirit clothing sale – 2/13/12 through 2/24/12 – raise funds for homecoming and other student council sponsored events.
2. FBLA – pizza & hoagie sale – 1/30/12 through 2/10/12 – raise funds for state and national competition.

Superintendent Report:

Mark Bower distributed the Appalachia IU 08 annual report for Board members to review.

Mark Bower informed the Board that charges have been filed with the state police on the individuals that recently broke into the red section of the building.

Mark Bower informed the Board that Angie and Jason Svonavec are interested in funding another project within the district. The ideas that have been discussed are the enhancement of the television production club and an adaptive gymnasium.

The Board was informed that the technology equipment has been installed.

General Board Member Discussion:

It was approved to place an advertisement on the district website and on the PennLink system for the used equipment that was removed from the technology education department.

The Board was informed that three individuals have been interviewed for the position of varsity soccer coach. A recommendation will be made to the Board for consideration in February.

The Board was informed that a resignation is expected from the softball coach, but officially has not been received. The administration is requesting permission to advertise for this position in order for a coach to be in place at the start of the season.

Mark Bower informed the Board that the archery equipment is in and a sample target and bow were available for the Board to see.

Mark Bower informed the Board that Brian and himself will be contacting Tremco to begin planning for the replacement of roof sections if the Board approves the expenditure of these funds in the 2012-2013 budget.

The Board briefs for last week were distributed to each Board member.

The board approved the request for two children of district employees to attend the Rockwood Area School District on a tuition free basis.

The board authorized the administration to research the utilization of para-professionals to cover lunch duty in order to provide additional instructional time for the professional employees to provide instruction to the students and to research if additional instructional time is needed for the para-professionals to achieve this goal.

The board authorized the administration to research the purchase of time clocks, the number of time clocks needed, and the location of the time clocks.

The board approved the following Board committees for the 2012 calendar year:

Outdoor Facilities Committee
Irvin Kimmel
Zach Gaskin
Richard Stoner
Noah Wareham
Mark Bower
Adam Rullo
Vernon Shumaker
Fran Brancato
Jeff Doman
Deb Sanner
Travis Robison
Rich Hoyman
Susan Wilson

Negotiations Committee
Ron Saler
Zach Gaskin
Allen Pletcher
Mark Phillippi
Mark Bower
Brian Coughenour

Legal Committee
Ron Saler
Clair Saylor
Mark Phillippi
James Harrold
Mark Bower

Building Facilities Committee
Irvin Kimmel
Clair Saylor
Noah Wareham
Jim Harrold
Mark Bower
Jon Hale
Sandy King
Vernon Shumaker

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