

**RICE LAKE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
30 PHIPPS AVENUE
RICE LAKE, WI 54868**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR SESSION
Monday, February 26, 2024
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

MINUTES

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** The Board of Education of the Rice Lake Area School District met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 26, 2024 in the Board Room of the Rice Lake Area School District Administration Building, 30 Phipps Avenue, Rice Lake, Wisconsin, with Keven Jensen, President presiding.
- II. ROLL CALL:** Present - Board Members: Steve Bowman, Don Cuskey, Phil Henkel, Keven Jensen, Dianne Koser, Doug Kucko, Bert Richard (by phone), Nellie Scheurer, Miriam Vavra
Absent- NA
Others Present- Randy Drost, District Administrator
Student Representatives: Daniel Broker, Aubrey Musil
- III. NOTICE OF POSTING:** President, Keven Jensen announced the Board hereby finds communication and public notice of the open meeting, as required by section 19.84 of the Wisconsin Statutes, had been properly given by the presiding officer's designee, Randy Drost. Such a notice and agenda to the official newspaper, the Rice Lake Chronotype, to the Eau Claire Leader-Telegram, and to radio stations WJMC and WAQE, indicating the date, time, and place of the meeting and such notice was given more than 24 hours prior to the meeting.
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- V. APPEARANCES:** No appearances were made.
- VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES [action]:** Miriam Vavra and Doug Kucko motioned to approve the regular session and closed session meeting minutes from Monday, February 12, 2024. All present voting yes. Motion approved.
- VII. CONSENT AGENDA [action]:** Don Cuskey and Miriam Vavra motioned to approve the consent agenda. All present voting yes. Motion approved.
- A. Employment Resignations:**
1. Jennifer Kazekeewicz, Full-time substitute teacher at RLMS, effective February 23, 2024
 2. Barbara Smith, Food Service-Kitchen Assistant 2 at RLMS, for retirement purposes, 10 years of service, effective June 5, 2024
- B. Employment Recommendations:**
1. James Mireau, Maintenance II
 2. Charles Wiesner, Custodian at RLMS
 3. Luke Boehnlein, Co-Assistant Track Coach at RLHS
 4. Chelsea Becker, Co- Assistant Track Coach at RLHS

VIII. COMMENDATIONS:

- A. RLASD Student Recognition:** Building principals and staff commended the following students and identified their areas of achievement for the month of February 2024.

Student	School	Grade	Parent(s)
Natalie O'Meara	Tainter Elementary	1	Colin O'Meara
Lottie Brenizer	Tainter Elementary	1	Scott and Brandelle Brenizer
Emma Anderson	RLHS	9	Patrick and Kristi Anderson
Ximena Garcia-Rodriguez	Hilltop Elementary	1	Gabriel Garcia and Hilda Rodriguez-Hernandez
Harleigh Brust	Haugen Elementary	1	Joshua and Brittany Brust
Maicee Nelms	RLMS	7	Matthew and Jessica Nelms

IX. REPORTS:

- A. River Doc Nature Conservancy Update-Cate Lucas:** Naturalist Educator and Program Director Cate Lucas provided an update on the various educational uses of the River Doc Nature Conservancy.
- B. National School Breakfast Week (March 4-8, 2024)-Keven Jensen [action]:** The Board reviewed a proclamation for National School Breakfast Week (March 4-8, 2024). Doug Kucko and Steve Bowman motioned to approve March 4-8, 2024 as National School Breakfast Week. All present voting yes. Motion approved.
- C. 2024-2025 CESA #11 Shared Services Contract-Randy Drost [action]:** District Administrator Randy Drost reviewed the recommended CESA #11 shared services for the 2024-2025 school year. Miriam Vavra and Phil Henkel motioned to approve the 2024-2025 CESA #11 shared services contract as recommended. All present voting yes. Motion approved.
- D. BOE Curriculum Committee Meeting Update-Dianne Koser:** The BOE Curriculum Committee met on Tuesday, January 23, 2024 and Tuesday, February 20, 2024. At the January meeting, the committee discussed the new personal financial literacy graduation requirement and received an update on the middle school success and careers course.
- At the February meeting, the committee received an update on the Achievement Gap Reduction Grant and discussed handwriting instruction. Dianne Koser provided an update from the meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 19, 2024.
- E. BOE Public Relations Committee Meeting Update-Bert Richard:** The BOE Public Relations Committee met on Monday, February 12, 2024. The committee received an update from Technology Integration and Communication Specialist Erin Johnson and discussed public relations within the district and community. Bert Richard provided an update from the meeting.
- F. BOE Buildings and Grounds Committee Meeting Update-Keven Jensen:** The BOE Buildings and Grounds Committee met on Monday, February 19, 2024. The committee reviewed turf bids, discussed the administration building second floor, and reviewed the aquatics and recreation center leases. The committee also received an update on the conservancy as well as the land swap and Haugen fencing. Keven Jensen provided an update from the meeting.
- Athletic Field Replacement Bid [action]:** The Board reviewed athletic field replacement bids. Don Cuskey and Doug Kucko motioned to approve the athletic

field replacement bid from Sprinturf, LLC. All present voting yes. Motion approved.

- **Rice Lake Aquatics and Recreation Center, Inc.:** The Board did not discuss this item as the lease agreements are not ready for review by the Board of Education.

G. BOE Policy and Legislative Advocacy Committee Meeting Update:

- **Second reading-Keven Jensen [action]:** The following policies were reviewed by the full Board of Education on Monday, February 12, 2024. Don Cuskey and Doug Kucko motioned to approve the policies as reviewed. All present voting yes. Motion approved.
 - Policy #320, General Organizational Plan (revise)
 - Policy #321, School Calendar (revise)
 - Policy #322, School Day (review)
 - Policy #323, School Ceremonies and Observances (revise)
 - Policy #323.1, Special Observance Days (revise)
 - Rule #323.1, Special Observance Days (recommend delete)
 - Policy #323.2, Pledge of Allegiance (revise)
 - Policy #723.4, Emergency School Closings (revise)
 - Rule #723.4, Inclement Weather Procedures (recommend delete)
- **First Reading-Keven Jensen:** The BOE Policy and Legislative Advocacy Committee met on Thursday, February 15, 2024. The committee is recommending the following policies go to the full Board as a first reading.
 - Policy #187, Public Participation at Board of Education Meetings (revise)
 - Policy #410, Student Policies Goals (recommend delete)
 - Policy #423, Admission of Non-Resident Students (Other than Open Enrollment Students) (revise)
 - Policy #424, Admission of Students 21 Years of Age or Older (revise)
 - Policy #427, Homeless Education (revise)
 - Rule #427, Homeless Education Procedures (revise)
 - Policy #433, Assignment of Students to Teacher/Classes (recommend delete)
 - Policy #434, Student Arrival/Dismissal Precautions (review)
 - Rule #434, Guidelines for Student Arrival/Dismissal (revise)
 - Policy #440, Student Rights and Responsibilities (review)
 - Policy #441, Student Grievances (recommend delete)
 - Policy #442.5, Care of School Property by Students (recommend delete)
 - Policy #443, Married Students/School Age Parents (recommend delete)
 - Policy #446.2, Suspension (revise)
 - Policy #450, Student Health and Welfare (recommend delete)
 - Policy #457, Student Safety (recommend delete)
 - Policy #457.1, Supervision of Students (recommend delete)
 - Policy #458, Student Assistance Program (recommend delete)
 - Policy #491, Student Photographs (recommend delete)

Steve Bowman motioned to table policy #187 to go back to the committee and asked that the committee review the City of Rice Lake's policy for guidelines. No second motion. Motion failed.

X. INFORMATION:

- A. Handbook Committee Meeting Minutes-February 6, 2024:** The Board reviewed the draft Handbook Committee meeting minutes from February 6, 2024.

B. WASB Public Policy Correspondent Update-Phil Henkel: Phil Henkel provided an update from the Legislative Update blog.

C. Upcoming Meeting Schedule: The Board reviewed a schedule of upcoming meetings/events.

XI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS ON PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES: RLHS Student Representatives Daniel Broker and Aubrey Musil shared the following:

- A winter sports playoff update
- This weekend the Robotics Team will be competing at the state competition in Green Bay.
- The RLHS will have a March Madness bracket with staff and students participating.
- Two gymnasts will be competing in the state competition on Saturday.

XII. DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS:

- **Upcoming District Events:** District Administrator Randy Drost shared the following information:
 - This evening is the high school band and choir festival concert.
 - Thursday evening is Elementary Family Literacy Night from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Tainter Elementary.
 - Saturday starts the Youth in Art Month with student artwork displayed at Northwoods Technical College. There is an open house on Saturday from 9:00-11:00 a.m.
 - Next week Tuesday and Thursday will be elementary parent/teacher conferences.
 - Middle School parent/teacher conferences are coming up on Thursday, March 21st.
 - Please keep an eye on the district website and social media for upcoming events.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION: Doug Kucko and Don Cuskey motioned to move into Closed Session. By roll call vote, all present voting yes. Motion approved. The meeting was moved into Closed Session at 8:41 p.m.

XIV. OPEN SESSION: Miriam Vavra and Doug Kucko motioned to reconvene into Open Session. All present voting yes. Approved. The meeting was moved into open session at 9:42 p.m.

XV. MEETING ADJOURNED: Dianne Koser and Nellie Scheurer motioned to adjourn the meeting. All present voting yes. Motion Approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Miriam Vavra, Clerk