

**ROCK ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 41  
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING**

**July 28, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Rock Island School District was held Tuesday, July 28, 2009 in the Library at Rock Island High School. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. President William Cleaver called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Members Present: Dr. Jim Bishop, Mr. Bill Cleaver, Ms. Linda Dothard, Mr. Earl Strupp and Mr. Jim Veasey

Members Absent: Mr. Dave Rockwell and Mr. Jerry Tutskey

Staff Present: Mr. Jim Andrews, Ms. Kay Ingham, Mr. Ken Jaeke, Mr. Rick Loy, Dr. Mike Oberhaus and Mr. Bill Osborne

**Approval of Board of Education Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Earl Strupp and seconded by Mr. Jim Veasey to approve the minutes of the regular meetings of June 9, 2009 and special meetings of June 16 and 23 and July 14, 2009 as presented. All members voting "Aye," the President declared the motion carried.

**Reports from Board Members**

Ms. Dothard reported on her attendance at the Illinois Liquid Asset Fund meeting. Mr. Strupp and Mr. Cleaver reported on their attendance at the New Teacher Orientation. Dr. Bishop reported on his voluntary participation in the Christina Smile dental clinic held in Rock Island where 120 students were served. Mr. Veasey attended the Head Start Policy Council meeting and provided a report to all Board members.

**Updates from the Superintendent**

Mr. Rick Loy reported on the Christina Smile volunteer dental clinic. Dr. Oberhaus heads this program with many employees from Head Start and the Administration Center volunteering. The district has received a large grant from the federal government for Lights on for Learning. The district has received about \$700,000 in grants this year for this wonderful program. This summer we partnered with the City of Rock Island and Park Board for a "Learn to Swim" program at no cost for two weeks of swimming instruction.

We have preliminary scores from the PSAE with a significant gain in Reading and Math. Last week was formal registration for our students with a lot still coming in. Longfellow's enrollment will go up from about 190 to 250 students. Eugene Field has increased as well from 209 to about 350 students. Rock Island Center for Math & Science will be housed at Horace Mann and Audubon with a cap of 515 students. It is presently at 496 students. This Thursday is the first day of the extra staff development days. Friday is our typical opening day inservice for all staff at Rock Island High School. Monday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> is the first day for students.

**Citizens Addressing the Board of Education**

Dylan Bibbs, 1317 – 14 ½ Street, Rock Island, addressed the Board regarding the new policy of not carrying purses in the classrooms. She asked the Board to reconsider this policy as it affects many students at Rock Island High School.

India Howlett 1604 – 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Rock Island, addressed the Board regarding the new policy of not carrying purses in the classrooms. She asked the Board to reconsider this policy since in many cases students are not allowed to access their lockers during class time.

Kay Ingham and Robert Mason addressed the reasons for enforcing this policy and stated that it will continue to be reviewed throughout the school year.

**Action on Routine Matters**

- Approve Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Earl Strupp and seconded by Ms. Linda Dothard to approve the agenda as presented. A voice vote was called showing all members present voting “Aye.” No “Nay” votes being cast, the President declared the motion carried.

- Blanket Motion

It was moved by Mr. Jim Veasey, seconded by Dr. Jim Bishop and unanimously carried by a roll call vote that the following items be approved as a blanket motion:

- VI. That the Board of Education approve the purchase of Math Trailblazers materials from Kendall/Hunt for \$70,527.74. The requested purchase will complete the purchase of manipulative kits, wall charts and game kits for the pilot of Math Trailblazers.
- VII. D. That the Board of Education approve the Western Illinois University Externally Funded Assistantship Agreement as presented.
- VII. F. That the Board of Education approve the July Fund Raiser requests as presented.
- VIII. C. That the Board of Education approve the transfer of funds from the School Store Sub-Account to the General Sub-Account and the Student Council Sub-Account at Denkmann Elementary School as presented.
- VIII. D. That the Board of Education approve the changes in the Longfellow Activity Sub-Accounts as presented.
- VIII. E. That the Board of Education approve the purchase of non-fiction and fiction leveled books from Scholastic Books in the amount of \$14,568.84 for Longfellow Elementary School.

- VIII. F. That the Board of Education approve the purchase of 20 MacBook laptop computers from apple computer at a cost of \$21,300.00.
- VIII. H. That the Board of Education acknowledge the following Donations:  
**Cosette & Ted Thoms** - \$10,000 for technology at Eugene Field  
**Potter Family Foundation** - \$2,000.00 for technology at Eugene Field
- VIII. I. That the Board of Education approve the Investment Report for Quarter Ended June 30, 2009.
- VIII. J. That the Board of Education authorize Bills for Payment dated June 30, 2009 (\$3,764,476.39) and July 15, 2009 (\$4,460,930.33).
- IX. A. That the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's Contract for Mr. Rick Loy through June 30, 2010 with a salary of \$177,304.00.
- IX. B. That the Board of Education approve the following Administrative Appointment:  
**Robert McGarry** - Asst. Principal/Academies/Salary \$79,760.43
- IX. C. That the Board of Education approve the following Certified Appointments:  
**Maria Meza-Klein** - Spanish/R.I.H.S./Salary \$38,666.00  
**Susan Knipe** - Family & Consumer Science/R.I.H.S./Salary \$47,000.00  
**Sarah Miers** - English/R.I.H.S./Salary \$34,670.00  
**Thomas Foss** - Science/R.I.H.S./Salary \$40,221.00  
**Wade Weber** - Industrial Arts (Auto CAD)/R.I.H.S./Salary \$42,113.00  
**James Thompson** - Science/Washington Jr. High School/Salary \$34,670.00  
**Anthony McConnell** - Social Studies (.376)/R.I.H.S./Salary \$13,035.92 (based on 182 - .376 days with a base salary of \$34,670.00)  
**Alecia Scharback** - Vocal Music (half-time)/Rock Island Primary Academy/Salary \$16,544.08 (based on 160 days with a base salary of \$37,888.00) *pending certification*
- IX. D. That the Board of Education approve the rehiring of the following Certified Employee:  
**Katherine Creger** - Physical Education (.81)/R.I.H.S./Salary \$29,717.94

### Operations - Scorecard Update

Cabinet members provided an update on the District Scorecard. *A copy of the presentation is kept on file with the official minutes at the Administration Center.*

**Operations - Board Policies**

Mr. Andrews reviewed the revisions to Board Policies 5:35 and 5:185.

**A motion was made by Mr. Earl Strupp and seconded by Mr. Jim Veasey to approve the revisions to Board Policies 5:35 *Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act* and 5:185 *Family and Medical Leave* as presented. A voice vote was called showing all members present voting "Aye." No "Nay" votes being cast, the President declared the motion carried.**

**Operations - Athletic Tickets & Advertising Proposal**

Athletic Director Bob Swanson presented information on the Athletic Admission Tickets & Advertising. Mr. Swanson asked that the Board of Education approve the jr. high revenue enhancement plan and high school enhancement plan and agree to enter into a contract with Score Tables by Design to keep the athletic staff and students in place.

**A motion was made by Mr. Jim Veasey and seconded by Mr. Earl Strupp to approve the revised Athletic Tickets and Advertising proposal as presented. A roll call vote was called showing all members present voting "Aye." No "Nay" votes being cast, the President declared the motion carried.**

**Operations - Rock Island High School Student Handbook**

Ms. Dothard reviewed the handbook and opposes the fact that ladies cannot carry purses. She believes that it is a phone and texting issue, not a purse issue. She believes this should have been brought to the Board prior to approving the discipline code handbook. She asked if there has been a problem with purses.

Ms. Ingham responded that this issue has been discussed at length by the committee, which includes many representatives from the high school. There has been many issues involving the use of cell phones and other electronic devices at the high school, including devices carried in purses and book bags. This has created much distraction in the classroom and interrupts student learning. In researching what other school districts do, the committee found that such a policy exists at Moline, United Township and Pleasant Valley high schools.

Mr. Mason stated that there was no written referrals in the past because this was not a written policy at the school.

Ms. Dothard asked Ms. Ingham and Mr. Mason to put together a team of students and parents to focus on this issue only. Mr. Mason stated that this was his intent.

**A motion was made by Mr. Jim Veasey and seconded by Dr. Jim Bishop to approve the revised student handbook for Rock Island High School as presented. A roll call vote was called showing the following members present voting "Aye:" Dr. Jim Bishop, Mr. Jim Veasey, Mr. Earl Strupp and Mr. Bill Cleaver. Ms. Linda Dothard voted "Nay." The President declared the motion carried.**

**Business/Finance – 2009-10 Budget Presentation**

Dr. Mike Oberhaus presented the 2009-10 Budget, which will be placed on file for 30 days with a public hearing on September 8, 2009. *A copy of the presentation is kept on file with the official minutes at the Administration Center.*

**Business/Finance – Building Excellence Update**

Ben Hott presented the Building Excellence update. Dr. Oberhaus presented the financial status of the projects. *A copy of the presentation is kept on file with the official minutes at the Administration Center.*

**Business/Finance – Contracts for Services**

- Playground at Rock Island Primary Academy

**A motion was made by Mr. Earl Strupp and seconded by Ms. Linda Dothard to award a contract to Play & Park SuperMax #61080 in the amount of \$22,718.00 for playground equipment at the Rock Island Primary Academy. A roll call vote was called showing all members present voting "Aye." No "Nay" votes being cast, the President declared the motion carried.**

**Executive Session**

**A motion was made by Mr. Earl Strupp and seconded by Mr. Jim Veasey to move to Executive Session to discuss personnel. A roll call vote was called showing all members present voting "Aye." No "Nay" votes being cast, the President declared the motion carried.**

Sheena Dooley, Education Reporter for the Quad City Times, objected to the motion to go into executive session. She quoted a ruling from the Open Meetings Act that denies the right to discuss contracts in closed session. President Cleaver quoted the rules from 5-ILCS-140 contemplates that a public body can go to executive session to discuss employment of personnel of a public body.

**Mr. Bill Cleaver declared the meeting in Executive Session at 8:55 p.m.**

**Open Session**

The Board of Education returned to open session at 9:10 p.m.

**Business/Finance – Contracts for Services**

- Carmine Draude

**A motion was made by Mr. Earl Strupp and seconded by Mr. Jim Veasey to approve the Contract for Services for Carmine Draude at a cost of \$40,500.00 for consulting services to the administrative team at Rock Island High School. A roll call vote was called showing all members present voting "Aye." No "Nay" votes being cast, the President declared the motion carried.**

- Carol Loy

**A motion was made by Mr. Earl Strupp and seconded by Dr. Jim Bishop to approve the Contract for Services for Carol Loy at a cost not to exceed \$30,000.00 as a consultant for curriculum at the Rock Island Center for Math & Science.**

Mr. Andrews stated that Ms. Tobey-Brown approached him to hire a curriculum consultant for the transition and training at the new Rock Island Center for Math & Science. Mr. Andrews spoke to Bill Osborne and Ken Jaeke and both suggested Carol Loy for the position. She has developed into the elementary math "guru" and would be a perfect fit to complete this assignment.

Ms. Dothard stated that this has received a lot of press coverage and she has listened to all concerns. She believes this to be a continuation of what Carol has been doing in the district over the past two years. This contract is in the best interest of all our children. She stated that this decision has nothing to do with Carol being the superintendent's wife. She stated that we would have hired her regardless of her connection to Mr. Loy.

**A roll call vote was called showing all members present voting "Aye." No "Nay" votes being cast, the President declared the motion carried.**

- Dee McLeod-McCann

**A motion was made by Mr. Jim Veasey and seconded by Mr. Jim Bishop to approve the Contract for Services for Dee McLeod-McCann at a cost not to exceed \$35,000.00 as a librarian at Edison and Washington Jr. High Schools. A roll call vote was called showing all members present voting "Aye." No "Nay" votes being cast, the President declared the motion carried.**

- Nora Rodriguez

**A motion was made by Mr. Jim Veasey and seconded by Mr. Earl Strupp to approve the Contract for Services for Nora Rodriguez at a cost not to exceed \$35,000.00 as the HOSTS Program Coordinator at the Rock Island Primary Academy. A roll call vote was called showing all members present voting "Aye." No "Nay" votes being cast, the President declared the motion carried.**

JTM Concepts

**A motion was made by Mr. Earl Strupp and seconded by Mr. Jim Veasey to approve the Contract for Services for JTM Concepts for the Classroom<sup>3</sup> project grant. A roll call vote was called showing all members present voting "Aye." No "Nay" votes being cast, the President declared the motion carried.**

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Earl Strupp and seconded by Mr. Jim Veasey to adjourn the meeting. All members voting "Aye," the President declared the meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

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Mr. William Cleaver, President

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Dr. Michael Oberhaus, Clerk