



Independent School District #883

Regular School Board Meeting

April 17, 2024

Pursuant to due call and notice, the Rockford Board of Education met in a Regular School Board Meeting on Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at Corcoran City Hall. Chair Gordee called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Members Gordee, Kneeland, Johnson, Praska and Hillstrom were present. Also present was Superintendent Jeff Ridlehoover, Director of Finance and Operations Michael McNulty, REAMS Principal Brenda Nyhus, Teacher Polly Trandal, Teacher Rachel Yakesh, Director of Buildings and Grounds Jim Leuer, Band Director Jerald Ferdig, Choir Director Dakota Anderson, Technology Director Jeff Kienetz, and Administrative assistant Courtney Neibert. Member Edwards arrived at 6:31pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Kneeland seconded by Johnson to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion by Hillstrom, seconded by Kneeland to approve the consent items. Motion carried.

- **Minutes:**

March 18, 2024 Work Session

March 18, 2024 Regular Meeting

- **Personnel:**

Status	First Name	Last Name	Position	Date(s)
New Hire	Anna	Sarkinen	REAMS SpEd Paraprofessional	April 1, 2024
Resignation	Stephanie	Sauer	HS SpEd Teacher	June 5, 2024
New Hire	Stephen	Nelson	RMS/RHS SpEd Teacher	2024-2025
Leave	Kylene	Hammer	REAMS 2nd Grade	5/19/2024 - 6/5/2024-

- **Bills and Wire Transfers:**

March 2024 Disbursements Paid (listings attached):

Fund 01 General Fund	\$907,073.08
Fund 01 Payroll	\$560,876.56
Fund 02 Food Service	\$230,575.32
Fund 04 Community Services	\$ 20,578.65
Fund 06 Building Construction	\$ 209,663.80
Fund 07 Debt Redemption	\$ 0
Fund 21 Student Activities	\$ 12,286.09
Fund 45 OPEB Trust	\$ 0
 Total All Funds	 \$ 1,941,053.50

- **Open Enrollments:**

Resident Students Attending Other Schools

Grade	Non-Resident District	Number	Date Effective	Address Change/New Enrollment
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Non-Resident Students Attending Rockford

Grade	Resident District	Number	Date Effective	Address Change/New Enrollment
8	Princeton	477	4/8/2024	previously enrolled @ Rockford; didn't work out at new school
5	Buffalo	877	9/5/2023	family move, wanted to stay enrolled @ Rockford Schools
2	Buffalo	877	9/5/2023	family move, wanted to stay enrolled @ Rockford Schools
3	Osseo	279	9/5/2023	NEW ENROLLMENT; older sibling previously enrolled at Rockford
3	Anoka Hennepin	11	9/5/2023	NEW ENROLLMENT
10	Anoka Hennepin	11	9/5/2023	NEW ENROLLMENT
5	Buffalo	877	4/1/2024	family move, wanted to stay enrolled @ Rockford Schools
K	Buffalo	877	9/5/2023	NEW ENROLLMENT

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Dr. Jeff Ridlehoover presented an update on the schools.
- The Board presented the City of Corcoran with a plaque of appreciation for their partnership with the Rockford Area School District.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND GROWTH

- **REAMS Principal's Update:** REAMS Principal Brenda Nyhus presented on topics including the 2nd grade concert, a visit from Author Margi Preus, kindness lessons, artists in residence, grandparent's day, arts and academics night, spring field trips, and the all school song.
- **Band & Choir Trip Recap:** Band Director Jerald Ferdig and Choir director Dakota Anderson presented a recap of the recent band and choir trip to the board.

HEALTHY AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

- **Hr Department Update:** Director of Business Operations Mike McNulty presented an Hr department update on topics including the HSA/FSA vendor transition, employee handbook, seniority lists, and upcoming goals and projects.
- **Staff Recognition Program:** The board was presented with the staff recognition program for approval and selected the award selection committee members.

Motion by Edwards seconded by Kneeland to approve the staff recognition program as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Members Praska, Johnson and Hillstrom were selected to serve on the committee.

STEWARDSHIP OF RESOURCES

- **Buildings and Grounds Report:** Director of Buildings and Grounds James Leuer presented on topics including the gymnastics gym brick wall, REAMS roofing project, 1000 hearts projects, HS baseball field, RAAA sports collaboration, and REAMS cleaning plan.
- **Discussion on potential technology levy:** The board continued to discuss a potential technology levy.

CULTURE OF COLLECTIVE PURPOSE

- **Learning and Innovation Report - 24-25 RAS Literacy Plan:** District Literacy Co-Leads Polly Trandahl and Rachel Yakesh presented on the implications/impact of the MDE READ Act with topics including the purpose of the literacy plan, a statement of goals and objectives, a statement of the process to assess, communication plan, intervention and enrichment supports, and the science of reading instructional pedagogy plans.
- **Handbook - Final Reading:** the board was presented the following handbooks for a first reading. RAS Parent and Student Handbook, RAS Staff Handbook, Galaxy Parent and Staff Handbooks, Early Childhood Parent and Staff Handbooks, and RAs Board Handbook.
- **Policy Update - Second Reading:** the board was presented with policy 406 for a second read.

Motion by Johnson seconded by Gordee to approve policy 406 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNITY, SCHOOL AND FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

Kneeland motioned, seconded by Praska, to approve the following resolution as presented:

- **Resolution of Acknowledgement of Contributions/Donations**

WHEREAS Minnesota Statute 123B.02 permits school boards to “receive, for the benefit of the district, bequests, donations, or gifts for any proper purpose and apply the same to the purpose designated. On that behalf, the board may act as trustee of any trust created for the benefit of the district, and for the benefit of pupils thereof.”

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the School Board of Rockford Area Schools, Independent School District 883 that the School Board accepts, with appreciation, the contributions detailed below.

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Fund</i>
Derrick Monroe	3 55 gallon metal barrels for RHS Wood Shop & Metal Shop	General Fund Donation
Anonymous Donation	Kleenex for RMS	General Fund Donation
Feltl and Company (Mitchell Edwards)	3 boxes of copy paper	General Fund Donation
Ronald Jorgenson Family Trust (Tanya D'Amico, Trustee)	\$100.00	RHS FFA Fund Donation
Ronald Jorgenson Family Trust (Tanya D'Amico, Trustee)	\$100.00	RHS FFA Fund Donation
Michael & Jodi Hreha	\$40.00	RHS FFA Fund Donation
RAAA Volleyball	\$4,386.00	RCC Fund (for purchase of a set of volleyball standards and net)
Rockford Education Foundation	\$1,550.00	General Fund (REAMS 2nd grade songwriting)
Rockford Education Foundation	\$265.23	General Fund (RHS Online Learning Tool for Math)
Rockford Education Foundation	\$979.40	General Fund (RMS-CES Author Visit and Books)
Rockford Education Foundation	\$225.12	General Fund (RHS Supplies for IB Biology Projects)
Rockford Education Foundation	\$154.05	General Fund (RHS CNA Supplies)
Rockford Education Foundation	\$826.00	General Fund (REAMS 2nd grade Stages Theater Fieldtrip)
Rockford Education Foundation	\$293.76	General Fund (RHS Supplies for Rockee's Closet)
Delaney family	REAMS Supplies: Jenga & Headbands games, toothpicks & pipe cleaners; RMS Supplies: Book display stands, digital magnetic book shelves & Command poster strips	General Fund Donation
Abi Ketcher family	RMS Supplies: Scissors	General Fund Donation
Braaten Family	REAMS Supplies: Craft Paper, Black file folders	General Fund Donation

Harrison Besser family	REAMS Supplies: 10 Who Was books	General Fund Donation
Luke Vajgrt family	RMS Supplies: Large box of pre-sharpened #2 pencils	General Fund Donation
Addie & Braden White family	RMS Supplies: Boxes of colored pencils, box of pencils and language poster	General Fund Donation
Liam Anderson family	RMS Supplies: 2 packs of 50 colored pencils	General Fund Donation
Adam Sonbol family	REAMS Supplies: Magnetic Place Value Blocks	General Fund Donation
Paula Cohen & Skyler Anderson	REAMS Supplies: 6 Black Storage Crates, 3 Hole Punch, Magnetic Staple Puller, 26 Clipboards, and 44 Drawer Plastic Storage	General Fund Donation
Vesovic Family	RMS Supplies: Informational Science Book & Book Markers	General Fund Donation
Karyn Anderson & Brookelynn Steckel	REAMS Supplies: STEM Building Toys, Finger Flashlights, ABC Cookie Game, Number and Alphabet clips, Sensory Fidget Tubes, Phonics toolkit, paper towels, paperplates	General Fund Donation
Ashley Grinager	REAMS Supplies: Mr. Sketch Markers, Colored popsicle sticks	General Fund Donation
Renee LaPlume	RMS Supplies: 90 piece carpet markers floor dots	General Fund Donation
Eli Jensen family	RMS Supplies: Animal Battles Book Collection	General Fund Donation
Valeria Khruleva & Alexandra Ellina	RMS Supplies: 2 120 count Crayola Colored Pencils	General Fund Donation
Bohjanen Family	REAMS Supplies: City of Ember book series	General Fund Donation
Bronczyk Family	REAMS Supplies: Binder clips, toothpicks, bingo counters, pipe cleaners, classroom snacks	General Fund Donation

On a roll call vote, the following voted in favor: Gordee, Kneeland, Johnson, Praska and Hillstrom. And the following voted against: None. Edwards abstained.

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

- **Upcoming Meetings:**

- Operations Committee Meeting: Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 8:00 am virtually via Google Meet. Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/gae-hkfd-cyn> Or dial: (US) +1 551- 900-1042? PIN: 965 501 385?#.
- Finance Committee Meeting: Thursday, May 16, 2024 at 8:00 am in the District Office Board Room.
- Work Session of the Board of Education: Monday, May 20, 2024 at 5:30 pm in the District Office Board Room.
- Regular Meeting of the Board of Education: Monday, May 20, 2024 at 6:30 pm in the District Office Board Room.

- **Board Committee Updates:**

- Gordee - MSBA Board Chats, Board Prep call, AMSD meeting.
- Edwards - Board Prep, Communications Committee Meeting.
- Kneeland - Nourishing Hope, Safe Routes to School, City Council meeting.
- Hillstrom - MSBA coffee and conversation, MSBA webinars, Policy Committee meeting, MAWSECO meeting, Handbook meeting.
- Praska - Policy Committee meeting, Communications Committee Meeting.
- Johnson - MAWSECO, Handbook meeting, Policy Committee Meeting.

- **Closed Session - Negotiations Strategy Motion by Johnson seconded by Gordee to enter into closed session to discuss negotiations strategies pursuant to Minnesota Statute**

section 13D.03. Motion passed unanimously. The Board entered into closed session for negotiations strategies at 8:25 pm.

Johnson motioned to return to open session. Gordee seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Returned to open session at 8:55 pm.

Praska motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m. Gordee seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

*Courtney Neibert
Recorder*

*Jamie Hillstrom
Clerk*