



# **Rocket Express**

## **October 15, 2013**

The Rockwood Area Board of School Directors met in regular session on Tuesday, October 15, 2013. The minutes of the committee meeting on 9/17/13, and the regular meeting on 9/17/13, were approved. The agenda, agenda items, and additional agenda items were accepted.

The board approved the financial and treasurer reports, bills, and budgetary transfers as presented.

### Board Recognition:

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

Natalie King  
Porter O'Neil  
Tyler Walker  
Angela Seifert  
Hannah Gastley  
Aniya Gray

The Board recognized Richard Stoner for his eight years of dedicated service as school director for the Rockwood Area School District and Mark Bower presented Mr. Stoner with a certificate.

### Public Comment:

Brooks Bartlett addressed the Board on the musical ability and courtesy of our students at the recent Jazz in the Meadow concert. He informed the Board that we have a nice group of talented students with a lot of musical ability. He presented a check in the amount of \$500.00 to be placed in the band fund.

Rebecca Zur and Jacob Bower presented a slide show on the recent trip to France. They thanked the Board for their support and encouraged the Board to support the trip in the future. It is a memory that they will never forget.

Cathy Tims addressed the Board and asked for their assistance in controlling the speed limit on Piedmont Road. The Board informed Mrs. Tims that they have no jurisdiction on a township or state highway and encouraged her to contact our local representatives for further assistance.

### Old Business:

The board approved the following revisions to the Rockwood Area School District policy manual:

317 Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures – Administrative Employees  
417 Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures – Professional Employees  
517 Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures – Classified Employees

The board approved amending the faculty and staff employee handbooks to reflect the revisions in policy numbers 317, 417, and 517.

The board discussed the dates established and approved for the Mexico trip at the September 17, 2013, Board meeting. Upon discussion, the Board decided to keep the dates of 5/2/14, through 5/10/14, as originally approved at the September 17, 2013, Board meeting.

The board discussed the purchase of an outdoor public announcement system. Upon discussion, the board voted to table a decision until the November meeting, at which time the administration will have a recommendation for the Board that includes all costs and equipment needed, including installation costs and warranty information.

New Business:

The board approved the submission of the annual financial report by the 10/31/13, deadline and to present the report for financial approval at the November meeting.

Mark Phillippi appointed Richard Stoner to serve on the Comprehensive Planning Team.

The board approved the removal of old football equipment from the district inventory.

The board approved the implementation of an all-student-athlete strength and conditioning program, to advertise for the position, and to authorize the administration to monitor participation in the program and report periodically to the Board to determine continuation or elimination of the program.

The board approved the following agenda items:

- a) Approved the forensic/speech schedule for the 2013-2014 school year.
- b) Approved the FBLA schedule for the 2013-2014 school year.
- c) Approved the chorus schedule for the 2013-2014 school year.
- d) Approved the quiz team schedule for the 2013-2014 school year.
- e) Approved the band festival schedule for the 2013-2014 school year.

Homebound instruction for a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student was approved.

Education/Personnel:

Richard Stoner was approved as a volunteer assistant athletic coach, pending completion of all paperwork and coaching duties will be determined at the discretion of the head coach.

The board accepted the resignation of John Emert as softball coach and approved advertising for an assistant coach.

The board employed Chad Lytle as softball coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

The board accepted the resignation of Elyse Branam as varsity cheerleading coach and approved advertising for the position.

The board accepted the resignation of Susie Branam as assistant varsity cheerleading coach and approved advertising for the position.

The board authorized April Kretchman to apply for and proceed to become a Nationally Certified Teacher at a cost of \$500.00.

The resignation of Devin Schrock as elementary yearbook designer was accepted.

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

Courtney Bowman	Type 06
Rebecca Boyer	Type 06

Cecilia Klein was approved as a junior varsity girls' basketball coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

The board adjusted salaries for the following football coaches established at the September 17, 2013, meeting:

Chad Lytle  
Fran Brancato

The following **conference requests** were approved:

1. Student Assistance Program Training – St. Vincent College – 11/14/13 – Amanda Custer, Catherine Fisher, Jon Hale, Sue Slope, Tammy Minnick, Beth Miller and Jay Best (required by State).
2. PHEAA Financial Aid Seminar – Uniontown, PA – 11/8/13 – Catherine Fisher –highly recommended by administration.
3. College in High School Update Meeting – Pittsburgh, PA – 10/31/13 – Greg King (mandatory to maintain College in High School status).
4. PA Council of Teachers of Mathematics – Seven Springs – 11/7/13 through 11/8/13 – Sarah Pletcher, Greg King, April Kretchman and Alana Letizia – no cost to district (paid for by MSP Ramp Grant funding ) – highly recommended by administration.
5. Sustainable Energy Teacher Training – Richland, PA – 10/30/13 – Joe Kush – highly recommended by administration.

The board approved the following **field trip requests**, as presented, **except number 3 and number 8, which were tabled until the November meeting for further clarification.**

1. SADD Regional Conference – Seven Springs – 11/13/13 – Alana Letizia and 4 students – no cost to the district (paid by activity fund).
2. TATU/BUSTED Training – Berlin, PA – February 2014 – Alana Letizia and 5 students – no cost to the district (paid by activity fund).
3. **High School Highlights Banquet – Somerset, PA – 5/7/14 – Lee Hetrick and 2 students - Tabled**
4. WVU School of Journalism in High School – Morgantown, WV - March 2014 – Lee Hetrick and 20 students.
5. Sue Barton Forum – Johnstown, PA - 11/6/13 – Kristen Kuzemchak and 2 to 5 students.
6. SCTC Tour – Somerset, PA – 10/16/13 – Catherine Fischer and 64 students.
7. Career Field Trip – Johnstown, PA – TBA - Catherine Fischer and 30 students – no cost to the district (paid by grant).
8. **High School Highlights – Somerset, PA – May 2014 - Lee Hetrick and 2 students – Tabled**
9. Awards Banquet & Workshop – Morgantown, WV – April 2014 – Lee Hetrick and 20 students.

10. Johnstown Flood Museum – Johnstown, PA - 5/2/14 – Russell Daubert and 80 students .
11. Somerset Exchange Club – Somerset, PA – 12/11/13 – Catherine Fischer and 2 students.
12. Family Kitchen – Bedford, PA – TBA – ACM Teacher and 26 students – no cost to the district (paid by grant).
13. Try Math-a-Lot Tournament – Johnstown, PA – 5/7/14 – April Kretchman and 16 students.
14. Pirates Baseball Game – Pittsburgh, PA – 4/4/14 – Andrea Minor and 44 students – no cost to the district (paid by activity fund).
15. Henry Ford Museum & Ford Rouge – Dearborn, MI - 2/14/14 and 2/15/14 – Joe Kush and 30+ students – no cost to the district (paid by grant and activity fund).
16. Gateway Clipper – Pittsburgh, PA – 5/22/14 – Andrea Minor and 40 students – no cost to the district (paid by activity fund).
17. Gateway Clipper – Pittsburgh, PA – 5/14/14 – Farrah Thompson and 40 students – no cost to the district (paid by activity fund).
18. College Fair – Friedens, PA – April 2014 – Catherine Fischer and 55.
19. Reading Team Literary Contest – Pittsburgh, PA – 5/29/14 – Lee Hetrick and 25 students.
20. Pittsburgh, Musical – Pittsburgh, PA – 2/6/14 - Doug Spiri and 40 students.
21. County Envirothon – Trent, PA – 5/7/13 – Tim Vought and 15 students.
22. State Envirothon – Danville, PA – 5/20/14 and 5/21/14 – Tim Vought and 5 students.
23. Somerset County Courthouse – Somerset, PA - 2/7/14 and 2/8/14 – James Wagner and 62 students.
24. US Holocaust Memorial – Washington, DC – March 2014 – Jay Best and 55+ students.
25. UPJ Model UN – Johnstown, PA – 11/15/13 – James Wagner and 25 students.
26. Les Miserables – Pittsburgh, PA – 3/29/14 – Farrah Thompson and 18 students – no cost to the district (paid by activity fund).
27. Special Olympics – Hidden Valley, PA – 2/11/14 – Kurt Woolslayer and 20 students – no cost to the district (paid by activity fund).
28. Ski Trips – Seven Springs – 1/9/14, 1/23/14, 2/6/14 – Kurt Woolslayer, Catherine Fischer and 45 students – no cost to the district (paid by activity fund).
29. Snow Shoe Ski Trip – Snow Shoe, WV - 2/21/14 through 2/23/14 – Kurt Woolslayer and 30 students – no cost to the district – (paid by activity fund).
30. WJAC TV for Gifted Students – November 2013 – Sarah Pletcher and 7 students.

The following **Use of School Facility Requests** were approved:

1. 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Class – Rockwood elementary gymnasium – 11/25/13, 6:00 AM – 9:00 PM; 11/26/13, 7:00 AM – 3:30 PM – Christmas/Holiday store.
2. Rockwood Youth Wrestling Boosters – Rockwood elementary cafeteria – 10/29/13, 6:00 – 8:00 PM; 10/30/13, 6:00 – 8:00 PM – wrestling sign-ups.
3. Rockwood Youth Wrestling Boosters – Rockwood high school gymnasium, wrestling room, Ag. room – 11/4/13 through 4/1/14, 6:00 – 9:00 – wrestling practice and booster meetings.
4. Rockwood Youth Wrestling Boosters – Rockwood high school gymnasium, cafeteria, kitchen, gymnasium, concession stand – 1/17/14, 6:00 – 11:00 PM; 1/18/14, 6:00 AM – 11:00 PM – first & second year wrestling tournament.
5. Rockwood Youth Wrestling Boosters – Rockwood high school cafeteria, kitchen, gymnasium, concession stand – 2/21/14, 6:00 – 11:00 PM; 2/22/14, 6:00 AM – 11:00 PM – open wrestling tournament.
6. Rockwood AYSO – Rockwood high school cafeteria – 10/20/13, 11/17/13, 12/15/13, 1/19/14, 2/16/14; 2:00 PM – 7:00 PM – monthly meetings.

The following club & class activity request was approved:

1. French Honor Society – Yankee Candle Sale – 10/23/13 through 11/13/13 – raise funds for field trip.

Superintendent Report:

Mark Bower discussed the needs assessment and will provide a copy to each board member to prepare for upcoming budget discussions.

Mark Bower informed the Board that the senior trip will be three days this year and formal approval of the trip will be on the November agenda.

The staff appreciation dinner will be held on 5/6/14, at The Hayloft.

Mark Bower informed the Board that the county in-service was well attended.

The board authorized the district to plan a fall formal dance.

The board authorized the purchase of an oven for the cafeteria at a cost of \$13,300.00, and to include the purchase as a one-time expenditure in the district budget.

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