



Rocket Express

June 20, 2011

The Rockwood Area Board of School Directors met in regular session on Monday, June 20, 2011, at 7:30 P.M. in the Administrative Office of the Rockwood Area School District. The minutes of the committee meeting on 5/16/11, the regular meeting on 5/16/11, and the special meeting on 6/8/11 were approved.

The agenda, agenda items and additional agenda items were approved.

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

The board accepted the quote from John Mosholder Masonry in the amount of \$1,400.00 for the re-pointing of the existing chimney.

The board voted to reject the roof maintenance agreement from Weatherproofing Technologies, Inc. in the amount of \$3,242.00 for sections B, C, and D.

The cooperative sports agreement with Turkeyfoot was approved.

The board voted to accept the bid from Walter Cyran Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$21,441.00 for the completion of the bleacher project.

The board tabled the discussion and possible action on an on-line curriculum program at a cost of \$7,500.00.

A motion was made to approve a final general fund budget for the 2011-2012 school year with total expenditures of \$10,775,432.00 and a millage rate of 21.89 mills on real estate:

Mark Phillippi expressed his concern about the financial stability of the district in the future. He feels that it is important to make the necessary adjustments now to ensure financial stability in two or three years.

Brian Coughenour informed the Board that \$1,000,000.00 of the current fund balance has been assigned to address future contractual obligations, such as collective bargaining salary agreements, future increases in retirement contributions, and several areas of maintenance concerns that may need addressed in the future. In addition, this money has been set aside to ensure financial stability due to the uncertainty in future state budgets. He believes that the administration and Board are looking forward for the financial stability of the district.

Upon discussion, the board voted to approve a final general fund budget for the 2011-2012 school year with total expenditures of \$10,775,432.00 and a millage rate of 21.89 mills on real estate.

The board authorized the administration to advertise for a Kubota tractor/mower with alternate bids for a snow blower, plow, and a sweeper/broom.

The board authorized the administration to make budgetary transfers for the 2010-2011 fiscal year in order to avoid line item and categorical over-expenditures resulting from audit re-classifications.

The removal of old textbooks from the district inventory was approved.

The board approved the consulting agreement with the KSL Group for e-rate services for the 2012-2013 funding year in the amount of \$3,750.00.

The changes to the elementary and secondary student handbooks were approved as amended.

The changes to the elementary and secondary faculty handbooks as amended were approved.

The board approved the changes to the support staff employee handbook to include the cell phone policy and the employee absence provision.

The tax collector exoneration lists for 2010 were approved.

Discussion and possible action on the approval of a contract with Rytex for technology services for the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 school years died for the lack of a motion.

The board approved tenure status for the following professional employees of the Rockwood Area School District:

Misty Demetro
Christy Hay
Jessica Knepper

The board approved a maternity leave and a Family Medical Leave for Heidi Johnson beginning at the start of the 2011-2012 school year.

The following agenda items were approved:

- Approve Elyse Branam as an unpaid assistant for girls' soccer for the 2011-2012 school year, pending completion of all paperwork.
- Accepted the retirement of Harry Fitzpatrick as a custodian effective 8/15/11.
- Accepted the resignation of Heidi Johnson as assistant girls basketball coach.
- Approved Nicole Hetrick as the reading competition advisor.

The board voted to deny the request from a paraprofessional for additional pay for additional duties.

The board voted to approve the extension of two part-time paraprofessionals' hours.

The board approved a 2% salary increase for support staff employees based upon their annual evaluations.

The administration was given authorization to advertise for vacant coaching positions for the 2011-2012 school.

The board accepted the retirement of Earl Albright as a custodian effective 9/11/11.

Rob Yench was employed as the technology coordinator at a salary of \$52,000.00 plus benefits and Dan Younkin as the technology technician at a salary of \$24,000.00 plus benefits under the terms contained in the support staff employee handbook.

The following conference requests were approved:

1. LETRS Module I Training – Altoona, PA – 6/21/11 – Becky McKinley – Recommended by the administration.
2. School Based ACCESS Program Training – Pittsburgh, PA – date to be announced – Amanda Custer and Mary Gosnell– Required meeting.

3. 2011 PA Community Transition Conference – State College, PA – 7/20/11 through 7/22/11 – Joyce Meese – Recommended by administration and Joyce is willing to pay for her own hotel room.
4. Amanda Custer - Somerset county Nurse's Association meetings for the 2011-2012 school year.

The following use of school facility request was approved:

1. AYSO U10/11 – Rockwood high school gymnasium entrance – 7/16/11, 6:00 – 8:00 AM – pizza and hoagie delivery and pick-up.

The following club & class activity request was approved:

1. Class of 2014 – Cookbook Sale – Fall of 2011 – raise funds for class activities.

Superintendent Report:

Mark Bower thanked the Board for authorizing the use of the additional substitute custodian hours for paraprofessionals to paint the classrooms. They are getting a lot of work accomplished and improving the appearance of the facility. This is something the district may want to consider in future years.

Mark Bower informed the Board that many policies will be considered at the next Board meeting.

The board voted to accept a private donation to the elementary library that will be handled through the Education Foundation.

Mark Bower informed the Board that Greg Shaulis will be at the committee meeting in July at 7:00 P.M. to discuss the installation of a batting cage.

Mark Bower commended the Board for their insight in the budgeting process over the last several years. As a result, the district does not have to furlough staff and is not raising taxes.

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