



Rocket Express

September 26, 2011

The Rockwood Area Board of School Directors met in special session on Monday, September 26, 2011 at 7:30 P.M. The minutes of the committee meeting on 8/15/11, the regular meeting on 8/15/11, and the special meeting on 8/25/11 were approved. The agenda, agenda items, and additional agenda items were approved.

The financial and treasurer reports and bills were approved as presented

The board approved the revision to policy number 113 (Special Education) of the Rockwood Area School District policy manual.

The board approved the revision to policy number 113.1 (Discipline of Students with Disabilities) of the Rockwood Area School District policy manual.

The board approved the revision to policy number 113.3 (Screening and Evaluations for Students with Disabilities) of the Rockwood Area School District policy manual.

The board approved the following amendment to the elementary and secondary faculty handbooks regarding employee absences: **Delete** – Staff Absences: All professional and classified employees of RASD are required to present a physician's note to the building administrator after three consecutive or 10 cumulative days of absence. **Replace with:** The Board reserves the right to require any employee claiming sick leave pay to submit sufficient proof, including a physician's certification, of the employee's illness or disability.

The final transportation rates and routes for the 2011-2012 school year were approved.

The board voted to adopt the resolution for participation in the BuyBoard National Cooperative Purchasing Program sponsored by the National School Board Association.

The board voted not to appoint a voting delegate for the PSBA Legislative Policy Council meeting on October 20, 2011 in Hershey.

The agreement with ACRP for the Alternative Education Program for the 2011-2012 school year at a cost of \$65.00 per day was approved.

The board approved the purchase of a convection steamer from the cafeteria account.

The board voted to adopt the resolution and required documentation for the re-financing of the 2004 State Public School Building Authority bond for the Somerset County Technology Center.

The board approved the first reading of policy number 113.4 (Confidentiality of Special Education Student Information) of the Rockwood Area School District policy manual.

The board accepted and approved the quote from MEI Systems for a visitor entry control system.

The board voted to allow the rifle coach to pursue grant funding only for the purpose of constructing a rifle range in the red section with final approval of a project to occur at a later date if funding is available.

The board approved Deb Lyons as a substitute bus driver for Rockwood Transportation, pending completion of all paperwork.

Beth Myers was approved as a full-time personal care aide.

John Olesky was approved as the girls' varsity basketball coach for the 2011-2012 school year.

Jack Illar was approved as the head track coach for the 2011-2012 school year.

Carter Bower was approved as an assistant track coach for the 2011-2012 school year.

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

Chelsea Hay	Elementary Education
Victoria Castro	Elementary/Special Education
Elizabeth Heist	Music K-12
Barbara Fath	Elementary Education
Katie Vann	English 7-12
Billie Jo Miller	Art Education K-12
Kelsie Smith	Health & Phys. Ed

Blake Pletcher was added to the custodial substitute list, pending completion of all paperwork.

The board accepted the resignation of Nicole Johnson as assistant cheerleading coach.

Fran Brancato was approved as an assistant varsity football coach (salary to be reimbursed by the Rockwood Football Boosters).

The following conference request was approved:

- Student Assistance Program – Harassment – 11/1/11 – Latrobe, PA – Jay Best, Catherine Fischer, and Amanda Custer

The following field trip requests were approved:

1. Antietam National Battlefield – Sharpsburg, MD – 10/4/11, 10/5/11 – Jay Best and 70 students
2. SADD Regional Conference – Seven Springs Mountain Resort – 10/31/11 – Alana Letizia and 4 students (paid by SADD club funds).
3. Kindergarten graduation – The Hayloft, Rockwood, PA – 5/30/11 – Jon Hale and 66 students.
4. Elementary Ski Club – Seven Springs Mountain Resort – 1/5/12, 1/19/12, 2/2/12, 2/16/12 – Catherine Fischer and elementary ski club members – no cost to district (paid by elementary ski club).
5. Faranda Farms – Holsopple, PA – 10/14/11 – Tammy Minnick, Josh Bowlin, Jaime Gross and 63 students.
6. Idlewild and Story Book Forest – Ligonier, PA – May 2012 – Susan Slope, Cathy Phillippi, Heidi Johnson and 70 students.
7. Laurel Caverns – Farmington, PA – 5/18/112 – Jenna Sembower, Carter Bower, Beth Miller and 60 students.
8. Benedum Center (The Nutcracker) – Pittsburgh, PA – 12/2/11 – Doug Spiri and 55 students.
9. District 6 Songfest – Chestnut Ridge School District – 5/4/12 – Doug Spiri and 4 students
10. Johnstown Children's Museum, Incline Plane – Johnstown, PA – May 2012 – Tricia Juran, Denise Miller, Mindy Sarver and 60 students.
11. Somerset Historical Center – Somerset, PA – May 2012 – Christy Hay, Becky McKinley and 42 students.
12. Gettysburg Battlefield – Gettysburg, PA – 5/21/12 – Jessica Knepper, Deb Phillippi, Ben Baker and 70 students.
13. Washington DC Trip – 5/17/12 – Jack Illar, Devin Schrock and 52 students – no cost to district (paid by sixth grade class).
14. Somerset County Scrabble Tournament – Somerset, PA – 4/27/12 – Janet Dotson, Becky McKinley and 12 students.

15. 2011 Elementary Reading Competition – Altoona, PA – 11/17/11, May 2012 – Devin Schrock, Deb Phillippi and 50 students.
16. Chorus Festival List for the 2011-2012 school year.
17. Somerset County Technology Center – 10/6/11 – Catherine Fischer and 62 students.

The following Use of School Facility requests were approved:

1. Rockwood PTO/6th Grade – Rockwood elementary gymnasium – 11/16/11 through 11/18/11, 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM; 11/17/11, 6:00 – 8:30 PM – community event to raise funds for the 6th grade field trip.
2. Rockwood PTO – Rockwood elementary chorus room – 10/24/11 through 10/28/11 during school hours – Scholastic book fair.
3. Rockwood PTO – Rockwood elementary chorus room – 3/5/12 through 3/9/12 during school hours – Scholastic book fair.
4. Rockwood PTO – Rockwood elementary classrooms, cafeteria, library – 9/13/11, 10/11/11, 11/8/11, 12/13/11, 1/10/12, 2/14/12, 3/13/12, 4/10/12, 5/8/12, 5:00 – 8:00 PM – family reading night and PTO meetings.
5. Rockwood girls' volleyball – Rockwood high school gymnasium – 10/1/11, 10/8/11, 10/15/11, 9:00 – 10:00 AM; 10/22/11, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – volleyball clinic.
6. Junior high speech team – Rockwood high school classrooms, auditorium, cafeteria, band room, chorus room, kitchen – 10/26/11, 2:30 – 9:00 PM – host a junior high speech competition.
7. County wide in-service for business teachers – Rockwood high school rooms 117 and 121 – 10/10/11, 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM – in – service training and development.
8. Junior high speech team – Rockwood high school classrooms, auditorium, cafeteria, band room, chorus room, kitchen – 10/4/11, 2:30 – 9:00 PM – host a junior high speech competition.
9. Rockwood Young Farmers – Rockwood high school room 211 – Thursday evenings, November through March, 7:00 – 10:00 PM – Young Farmer meetings.
10. Student Congress – Rockwood high school classrooms and auditorium – 10/12/11, 3:30 – 6:15 PM – Student Congress debate.
11. Rockwood Alumni Volleyball – Elem Gym – Thursday evenings 9/22/11 through the end of the school year – 7:30pm to 10:00pm – Pick up volleyball.

The following club & class activity request was approved:

- Spanish and French clubs – Cookie dough sale – 9/21/11 through 9/30/11 – raise funds for classroom activities, cultural trips and experiences

The board voted to approve the spouse of former employee to purchase health care insurance through the district until Medicare eligibility at no cost to the district.

Tim Vought was approved as a mentor teacher for Nicolas Buterbaugh.

The board voted to approve the elementary advisors for the 2011-2012 school year and to table approval of the drama advisor and assistant drama advisor.

Superintendent's Report:

Mark Bower informed the Board that the IU is conducting a teleconference at the Altoona office on 11/1/11 at 7:00 regarding the new evaluation systems.

Mark Bower informed the Board that the victim restitution form has been submitted to the Probation Office for the vandalism that occurred at the school. The district has a quote in the amount of \$1,715.00 for sandblasting the vandalized areas and will be contacting the company.

Mark Bower thanked the faculty and staff for a very good start to the school year.

Mark Bower recognized Jon Hale for his work with the elementary library project and for painting the elementary playground.

Mark Bower informed the Board that all of the old chemicals have been removed from the building. This was accomplished at no cost to the district as a result of a grant written by Misty DeMetro.

Mark Bower updated the Board on changes made to the strategic plan as part of the mid-point review. No major changes were made. Additional activities were added that support the district's approved goals and several duplicate strategies were deleted.

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