



# **Rocket Express**

## **November 15, 2022**

The Rockwood Area Board of School Directors held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 15, 2022.

The minutes of the committee meeting on 10/18/2022 and the regular meeting on 10/18/2022 were approved.

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

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:

Lena K. White  
Leah E. Foreman  
Nathan D. Show  
Jeremiah R. Tomcanin  
Benjamin E. Romesburg  
Bena E. Croushore

### **Public Comment:**

Martha Mitchell, a representative of PAX Academic Exchange, introduced herself to the Board and gave an overview of the Foreign Exchange Program in recognition of National International Education Month. She expressed her gratitude towards the Board, staff, host families, and community members for their continued support of the program over the past years. The exchange students introduced themselves and presented flags from the countries they represent.

### **Old Business:**

The Board approved the final annual financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022.

### **New Business:**

The Board established the date for the annual reorganization meeting as Tuesday, December 6, 2022, at 7:30 P.M.

The Board approved the Affiliation Agreement for Field Practica, Pre-Clinical and Student Teaching between the University of Pittsburgh-Johnstown and Rockwood Area School District, for a term not to exceed five years.

The Board adopted the Act 1 Resolution electing not to increase the tax rate above the index for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

The Board adopted the Act 57 Resolution of 2022, requiring the Request for Waiver of Additional Charges Form for the late payment of real estate taxes.

The Board approved the annual senior class trip to Lewes, DE and Assateague Island, MD, with tentative dates of May 26, 2023, through May 29, 2023.

The Board approved a donation, up to \$500.00, to the Rockwood Choral Boosters.

The Board approved the requirement for all new substitute teachers to participate in a one-day, paid orientation/job shadowing experience prior to completing their first assignment.

The Board approved the tentative high school speech team schedule of events for the 2022-2023 school year.

The Board approved homebound instruction for a 10<sup>th</sup> grade student, not to exceed four hours per week for six weeks.

The Board authorized the Administration to plan the Staff Appreciation Dinner for May 2023, with a date to be determined.

The Board approved the EITC funded “Engineering is Elementary” Proposal for the 2022-2023 school year.

The Board approved Roni Langley-Burkardt as a district van driver for Rockwood Transportation, Inc., pending completion of all paperwork.

### **Committee Reports:**

The Board approved tenure status for the following individuals:

Carlee Glessner

Kari Hostetter

The Board approved Jim Wagner as a mentor teacher for Connor Pielmeier for the 2022-2023 school year.

The Board voted in favor to add Ryan Schmuck to the substitute school nurse list (Type 06) for the 2022-2023 school year, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board approved the following individuals as unpaid position volunteers, pending completion of all paperwork:

Michele Beener	Eileen Hostetter
Ashley Pletcher	Brianne Logue

The Board approved an FMLA medical leave for the following employee (referenced by employee identification number) for the 2022-2023 school year for any days on which the employee had or may have had the inability to report to work for medical reasons and upon full usage of the employee's district allotted sick time. Employee ID #34.

The Board accepted the resignation of Shaye Beeman as Secondary Art Teacher effective November 30, 2022, and to advertise for the position at a date to be determined.

The Board tabled the consideration to approve the Employee Compensation Plan for the School Police Officer, Jeffrey Doman, until the December 2022 reorganization meeting.

The Board approved the reassignment of funds when a board member is serving in the capacity of a paid position. In lieu of a board member being compensated for their services, the Board approved the district business office to reassign the funds allocated for the service/position into a designated program.

The Board accepted the resignation of Grace Meyers as the bona-fide volunteer assistant junior high girls' soccer coach and to advertise for the position.

The Board approved Jeremy Grimes as a bona-fide volunteer junior high assistant boys' basketball coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board approved Nathan Enos, Jr. as an unpaid bona-fide volunteer junior high boys' basketball coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board approved Nathan Formica as a bona-fide volunteer assistant varsity track coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board approved Jeremy Romesberg as the bona-fide volunteer head junior high softball coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board voted in favor to add Kay Engleka to the substitute custodian list for the 2022-2023 school year, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board approved Jim Miller as an unpaid bona-fide volunteer varsity boys' basketball coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board approved Makenzie Wheatley as an unpaid bona-fide volunteer varsity girls' basketball coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board approved Luke Foy as an unpaid bona-fide volunteer varsity boys' basketball coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board approved Eli Foy as an unpaid bona-fide volunteer varsity boys' basketball coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board approved Rebecca Foy as an unpaid bona-fide volunteer varsity boys' basketball coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board approved Andrew Latuch as an unpaid bona-fide volunteer varsity boys' basketball coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board approved Jill Latuch as an unpaid bona-fide volunteer varsity boys' basketball coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

The Board approved Nicholas Foreman as the bona-fide volunteer junior varsity boys' basketball coach, pending completion of all paperwork.

#### **Use of School Facility Requests:**

The Board approved the following use of school facility requests:

1. Rockwood Soccer Club – Rockwood elementary gymnasium – 10/30/22, 11/6/22, 11/13/22, 11/20/22; 4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M. – Girls' 14u indoor soccer practice.
2. CEF of Fayette/Somerset – Rockwood elementary classrooms – 1/12/23 through 4/27/23; 2:30 P.M. – 4:45 P.M. – Good News Club.

#### **Club & Class Activity Requests:**

The Board approved the following club & class activity request:

1. Elementary Student Council – Candy cane sale – 12/5/22 – 12/9/22 – Raise funds for elementary author day.

#### **Superintendent's Report:**

Mark Bower informed the Board that the restroom and locker room renovation project is currently on hold. The bid specifications need to be modified. We are hopeful to award the bid in January 2023.

Mark Bower advised the Board of a recent boiler issue. A complete re-tubing of boiler #1 will take place within a week or two. Boiler #2 is in service and operational.

Mark Bower updated the Board about field care maintenance. The district recently purchased a drop spreader and aerator. Grass seed will be put down on the field this fall, and it is anticipated that the field will be over seeded in the spring.

Mark Bower informed the Board that he and Misty Demchak will be participating in a preliminary SCTC delivery model discussion with other superintendents and principals on Wednesday, November 16, 2022.

Mark Bower advised the Board he discussed cooperative programs with the superintendent and principal of Berlin Brothersvalley School District regarding soccer and track. They plan to hold a discussion with their Board.

Mark Bower informed the Board he met with Rockwood Manufacturing, Mr. Kush, Mrs. Demchak, and Mrs. Opfar on November 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss the establishment of innovative programs that would support our students' education.

Mark Bower presented a children's book that was donated to the district's library by PSBA.

Mark Bower advised the Board that board briefs will not be sent again until Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Mark Bower wished the Board and their families a Happy Thanksgiving.

Jon Hale expressed his enthusiasm about the elementary Veterans Day assembly. He complimented teacher, Ben Baker, for his immense efforts in organizing the event. The students presented a great program, and the event was heavily attended by veterans.

Jon Hale announced the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Christmas store will be held in the elementary next week. He invited everyone to attend.

Jon Hale presented the Board with the Blue Ribbon Award and thanked them for their continuous support throughout the years.

Nick Buterbaugh informed the Board that the fall season for athletics has finished up and was very positive. He is proud that three teams were eligible to participate in D5 championships. He also discussed student participation with spring sports and is hopeful the number of athletes will increase after the beginning of the year.

Megan Hetrick advised the Board of ongoing issues and concerns with support staff. However, elementary staff members have been extremely supportive with helping to cover where needed. She's very appreciative of their efforts.

Megan Hetrick advised that the Life Skills class will be selling muffins, coffee, and hot chocolate at the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Christmas store.

Megan Hetrick announced the Life Skills Christmas party will be held December 9<sup>th</sup>.

Misty Demchak expressed her excitement about the incredible high school Veterans Day program. She recognized teacher, Jim Wagner, for doing a remarkable job organizing the event. The assembly included a video presentation from the USS Somerset and was also well attended by veterans.

Misty Demchak informed the Board that Mr. Kush's class met with Lockheed Martin to discuss the "What's So Cool About Manufacturing" contest.

Misty Demchak advised the Board that Mr. Kush's class will again have a Christmas display on the diamond in Somerset.

Misty Demchak presented the Board with new Health, Microsoft Suite, and Accounting textbooks. These textbooks are in the rotation to be updated this year.

Misty Demchak informed the Board that a cafeteria advisory meeting was held to discuss menu options and get feedback from students in regards to the breakfast and lunch programs.

Misty Demchak advised the Board that the fall formal and soph-senior dances went well.

Nick Buterbaugh announced the Volley for a Cure volleyball tournament was a success.

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