

Rush County Schools Board of Trustees-

Board of School Trustees
Executive Session
March 31, 2026- 5:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.
RCS Administrative Offices

Executive Session

An executive session was held at 5:00 p.m. on March 31, 2026 at Rush County Schools Administrative Offices for discussion with respect to:
A. I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1 (b) (9) Discussion of Personnel

All members were present. Interim Superintendent Grant Peters was also in attendance. The executive session adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Executive Session

An executive session was held at 6:00 p.m. on April 14, 2026 at Rush County Schools Administrative Offices for discussion with respect to:
A. I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1 (b) (9) Discussion of Personnel

All members were present. Interim Superintendent Grant Peters was also present. The executive session adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order Regular School Board Meeting

President Addam Carmony called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance and vision statement were recited with a moment of silence that followed.

Attendance: All members were present including Interim Superintendent Grant Peters

II. Public Comment

Public comment was heard from Chet Walker, citizen of Rushville, Rush County, IN. Christy Richardson was not in attendance for public comment.

III. Board Member Comments

- Jeff Edwards thanked everyone in attendance. Mr. Edwards also thanked Mr. Peters and President Carmony for working diligently going forward. He invited everyone to the RCHS theatre production of Lightning Thief this weekend.
 - Jeff Amos thanked the audience for attending. Mr. Amos stressed the dress code needs to be enforced at each of our buildings with warmer weather ahead.
 - Angie Kuhn bragged on the RCHS Softball team. Mrs. Kuhn encouraged everyone to attend the sporting events.
 - Jennifer Bowles thanked RCS Asst. Principals for supporting our students. Mrs. Bowles wished luck to the students during I-Learn testing. She recognized March Students and Employees of the Month at various school buildings. Mrs. Bowles also congratulated the newly inducted National Honor Society students. She also thanked everyone involved for making the prom a successful and memorable event for students.
 - Kevin Banks acknowledged seeing photos of prom participants having a great time. Mr. Banks shared spring sports are rolling along well. He mentioned the end of the school year is coming quickly.
 - Matt Jones thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Mr. Jones recently attended a track meet at North Decatur. He also thanked FFA for the invitation to the annual FFA banquet. Mr. Jones alerted everyone to be cautious on the roads with farmers' planting season beginning.
 - President Addam Carmony thanked everyone for their comments and attending tonight.
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IV. Consent Items

- Approval of minutes of previous meetings
- Personnel Report
- Donations
- Out of State/Overnight Field Trips
- Claims and Payroll

Interim Superintendent Peters highlighted donors and amounts donated.

Angie Kuhn made a motion to approve. Jeff Edwards seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Bowles thanked the community members for their generous donations. Angie Kuhn stated RCS student athletes are very fortunate due to the donation from the Booster Club.

V. Out of District Transfer Numbers

Currently, RCS has 113 out of district transfer students projected from the February ADM count. This number is in flux due to the redistricting within our school corporation. Information purposes only.

VI. Consider Approval of Insurance Coverage

The following insurance coverage is being considered for approval: property, liability, school board, administrative, workman's compensation, automobile and bus with carrier McGowan Insurance, agent Laura Ash. The yearly cost is \$352,000.00 beginning May 1st. This is a \$15,000.00 savings compared to our past carrier.

Kevin Banks made a motion to approve. Matt Jones seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

VII. Consider Adoption of Resolution to Transfer Funds from Education Fund to Operation Fund

This resolution is required to be passed each year by law. The state limits the transfer of no more than 15% of the revenue from the Education Fund. The approval of this resolution allows the transfer of \$70,000.00 monthly which is only 6% of the revenue from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund to balance funds monthly.

Angie Kuhn made a motion to approve the resolution. Jennifer Bowles seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Adoption of English Curriculum

The explanation and rationale of the English curriculum adoption for next school year was prepared by Dr. Nahlik.

Angie Kuhn made a motion to approve the English adoption. Jennifer Bowles seconded the motion.

Discussion included the payment plan and renewal of curriculum being every 6 years.

Motion passed unanimously.

IX. PreSchool Handbook

Cassandra Metcalf, RES Asst. Principal presented the board with a PreSchool handbook for approval. RES is implementing a new PreSchool program next school year.

Jeff Amos made a motion to approve the PreSchool handbook. Jeff Edwards seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

X. Library Board Appointment- Future

RCS currently has one seat to fill on the Rushville Public Library Board. Jenna Gardner, appointee is recommended by Nicki Kirchoff, Library Director. Jenna's term will begin on May 1, 2026.

Kevin Banks made a motion to approve the appointee. Angie Kuhn seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

XI. Library Board Appointment- Past

A library board seat currently held by Anna Jo Richards is recommended for approval. It was recently discovered the initial approval may have not followed proper protocol. This approval will be retroactive to the beginning of her term.

Kevin Banks made a motion to approve. Jeff Amos seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

XII. Elementary Redistricting Plan

A digital map and a Rush County map were presented reflecting township boundaries going forward with the elementary redistricting plan. Ripley township is not in the Rush County Schools district. The following townships will be considered **Milroy** homeschool: Walker, Orange, Anderson, Richland, and Noble. The boundary of Rushville township divided by 200 South will be considered **Milroy** homeschool if you live south of the boundary line.

The following townships will be considered **RES** homeschool: Washington, Posey, Center, Jackson, and Union. The boundary of Rushville township divided by 200 South will be considered RES homeschool if you live north of the boundary line.

Transportation shuttles will be offered to students who wish to attend either Milroy or RES. The shuttle locations may include Glenwood Fire Dept., Rushville Boys & Girls Club and Arlington Elementary School.

Jeff Amos made a motion to approve the elementary redistricting plan as presented. Angie Kuhn seconded the motion.

Discussion included Milroy Elementary will have an Open House on April 28th.

Motion passed unanimously.

XIII. RCS Virtual School Approval

The recommendation to approve Virtual School is due to the declining enrollment and recent trends. Virtual School is an opportunity to retain students who may choose to leave the district.

Angie Kuhn made a motion to approve. Kevin Banks seconded the motion.

Discussion included an informational meeting will take place once the approval is complete.

The application is ready to go pending approval. Virtual School has to be an option going forward to help retain students and give them opportunities for success.

Motion passed unanimously.

IVX. RCS Virtual School Handbook

The recommendation is for the approval of the Virtual School Handbook, striking page 4.

Kevin Banks made a motion to approve the Virtual School Handbook as presented, striking page 4. Matt Jones seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

XV. Other:

Public Discussion of Alternative Uses of Arlington

- Microschool – option #1
 - RCS possibly partnership with another district
 - Public charter tries to attract students who are currently homeschool students
 - K-12 – decision made by Microschool which grades to offer
 - RCS would receive monies for the use of the facility based on Microschool ADM count
 - Repurpose the building serving students and protect RCS ADM count
- Behavior Center- option #2
 - Special needs students who need 1:1 assistance
 - Limited options in the area
 - Start Fall 2027
 - RCS would run the Behavior Center
 - Microschool could also be housed in the same building
 - K-12 special needs students

Potential Savings of our Strategic Moves

- Discussion of Personnel cuts has been very difficult
 - Cashflow budget going forward will see some savings in the fall and more into next year
 - 6th Grade will remain in elementary buildings for now.
 - Absorb as many positions as possible through attrition.
 - Following a plan and restoring joy in teachings kids is most important!
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XVI. Important Dates

- May 12- Regular Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at Central Office
- May 12- 6th Grade Celebration at RES – Cafeteria Lunch
- May 22- Last Student Day
- May 25- Memorial Day (Central Office Closed)
- May 26- Teacher Record Day
- June 7- Graduation at Hinshaw Field at 8:00 p.m.

FAFSA deadline is April 15th.

XVII.

Administrators' Reports

Treasurer: Julie Cramer, Corporation Treasurer- Interest earned March report, ECA Virtual Audit complete July 2023-June 2025, Bookkeeping will attend software training next week.

Special Education: Pat Anderson, Director of Special Services- Absent

Curriculum: Dr. Jennifer Nahlik, Curriculum Coordinator- Summer School plans continue, Transportation is building summer school routes, Last minute textbook needs being met.

Grants: Julie Innis, Grant Coordinator- Absent

Technology: Brevin Runnebohm, Corporation Building Tech Coordinator- During spring break, the network hardware was updated, Installed internet at baseball/softball fields to accept card payments, Finalized Special Ed count for April, Early stages of 2 step factor for email accounts.

Transportation/Maintenance: Interim Superintendent Grant Peters- Thanks to bus drivers, Maintenance & Custodial for continuing to do good work.

XVIII. Adjournment

Angie Kuhn made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Addam Carmony, President

Jeffry A. Amos, Member

Angela Kuhn, Vice- President

Jon Kevin Banks, Member

Matthew Jones, Secretary

Jennifer Bowles, Member

Jeff Edwards, Member