

RUSH COUNTY SCHOOLS
Work Session
September 11, 2024
Regular School Board Meeting
Public Hearing-Lease
October 1, 2024

Work Session A work session was held on September 11, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at the Rush County Schools Administrative Offices to discuss the facility improvements at Rushville Elementary School. All members were present. Superintendent Jim Jameson was also in attendance. The work session ended at 6:20 p.m.

Executive Session An executive session was held for discussion at 6:30 p.m. on October 1, 2024 with respect to I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1 (b) (9) Personnel. The Board certifies that no other items were discussed in executive session that adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Regular School Board Meeting

Call to Order A regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of Rush County Schools was held at the Administrative Offices on October 1, 2024. The meeting was called to order by President Dr. Steve Sickbert at 7:03 p.m. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence. Members present were Jeff Amos, Addam Carmony, Ron Lienemann, Angie Kuhn, and Tammy Jackman. Kevin Banks was absent. Superintendent Jim Jameson was also present.
(See Exhibit Number 1 in the October 1, 2024 Minute File)

Public Comment President Dr. Steve Sickbert introduced Brock Davis and Kaci Gerrian from Citizens State Bank. Mr. Davis shared Citizens State Bank is excited to partner with RCS to provide the Banzai program. This program meets the required IN based standards for Financial Literacy for grades 8-12. Citizens State Bank will cover the cost of the Banzai program which is a savings of \$2,090.00 per year.

*Hearing on Lease-
Additional
Appropriation
Hearing* Mr. Jameson introduced the Building Corporation members Adam Wilson, Andy Taff, and Cora Lienemann. Mr. Jameson explained the legalities of lease financing between the Building Corporation and the School Corporation.
President Dr. Steve Sickbert opened the public hearing at 7:10 p.m.
There were no public comments.
President Dr. Steve Sickbert closed the public hearing at 7:11 p.m.

*Resolution
Authorizing
Execution of
Lease* As required by the School Leasing Statute IC 20-47-3, after a hearing the School Board must approve the Lease and authorize the officers to execute such Agreement. President Dr. Steve Sickbert called for a motion. Ron Lienemann made a motion. Tammy Jackman seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

<i>Additional Appropriation Resolution</i>	The School Board will adopt the resolution which outlines the appropriation of funds received for the sale of the real estate. The funds will be placed in a School Corporation Construction account until the Project is complete. President Dr. Steve Sickbert called for a motion. Jeff Amos made a motion. Angie Kuhn seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.
<i>Resolution Reapproving Building Corporation</i>	The IRS requires the School Board approve the Building Corporation and authorize it to issue tax-exempt bonds on behalf of the School Corporation. President Dr. Steve Sickbert called for a motion. Tammy Jackman made a motion. Addam Carmony seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.
<i>Resolution Assigning Construction Bids/Contracts to Building Corporation</i>	Construction bids and contracts will need to be with the Building Corporation because the Building Corporation will hold the money to pay the contractors. The School Corporation receives the bids/contracts and awards the bids/contracts under State law but then assigns those bids/contracts to the Building Corporation. President Dr. Steve Sickbert called for a motion. Ron Lienemann made a motion. Tammy Jackman seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.
<i>Resolution Approving Fourth Supplement To Master Continuing Disclosure Undertaking</i>	The Securities and Exchange Commission requires a school corporation to enter into a Fourth Supplement to Master Continuing Disclosure Undertaking before it issues bonds. President Dr. Steve Sickbert called for motion. Angie Kuhn made a motion. Jeff Amos seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

(See Exhibit Number 2 in the October 1, 2024 Minute File)

<i>Tell Me Something Good</i>	Mr. Jameson introduced the Tell Me Something Good portion of the meeting. The following students and employees were recognized for Student of the Month/Employee of the Month: Arlington: Sabrina Wehr, Grade 5; Ashley Wissler, Instructional Assistant Milroy: Max Waters, Grade 4; Julie Leisure, Title I RES: Maverick Faw, Kindergarten, Isabell Tompkins, Grade 6; Denise Connolly, Secretary, Brittany Lee, Secretary BRMS: Aramaya Ng, Grade 8; Carri Flannery, Treasurer (former) RCHS: Kemper Seitz, Grade 12; Hannah Augsburg, At-Risk Counselor WCC: Kyle Jacobs, Grade 11 Mr. Warren Cook also recognized RCHS Student, Ivy Paugh, Grade 10 and BRMS English Teacher, Vicki Baker for working together to form a new club called Lion's Tale Literacy Club. RCS: Mike Owens, RCHS Head Custodian
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(See Exhibit Number 3 in the October 1, 2024 Minute File)

<i>Board Member Comments</i>	Angie Kuhn attended RES Family Night and was pleased to share it was very well attended. Ron Lienemann commended the construction company working at RES. He was very impressed with so little disruption to the students' day. Mr. Lienemann encourages everyone to visit the new Community Center Grand Opening. Tammy Jackman gave kudos to the construction crew and secretaries at RES.
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Mrs. Jackman also thanked the community for donations so RCS 4th graders can attend a yearly field trip to Caldwell Acres. She reported the FFA had a great Green Hand Initiation evening. Mrs. Jackman also reported 4 RCHS FFA students will compete in the National FFA Convention held in Indianapolis as National Finalists.

Addam Carmony congratulated all students and staff who were recognized this evening. Mr. Carmony thanked Citizens State Bank for supporting RCS.

Jeff Amos stated parents should be proud of their kids who were honored tonight. President Dr. Steve Sickbert recently performed Kindergarten vision screenings. He gave “hats off” to all Kindergarten teachers!

Consider Adoption of 2025 Budgets Mr. Jameson stated all requirements have been met regarding the 2025 budgets. The budgets have been presented, advertised and a public hearing has been held.

Consider Approval of 2025-2027 Capital Projects Plan and Resolution Mr. Jameson recommended approval of the 2025-2027 Capital Projects Plan and Resolution. The Plan and Resolution have been advertised per law. Tammy Jackman made a motion. Ron Lienemann seconded the motion. Addam Carmony had very strong concerns regarding monitoring expenses on a detailed cash flow report. After discussion, Mr. Carmony and Mrs. Jackman requested a monthly itemized report reflecting income and expenses for each building for the Operations and Education Funds. All voted in favor. The motion passed.
(See Exhibit Number 4 in the October 1, 2024 Minute File)

Consider Approval of the 2025-2029 Bus Replacement Plan and Resolution Mr. Jameson recommended approval of the 2025-2029 Bus Replacement Plan and Resolution. The Plan and Resolution have been advertised per law. This approval would include the purchase of four passenger buses. Tammy Jackman made a motion. Jeff Amos seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.
(See Exhibit Number 5 in the October 1, 2024 Minute File)

Consider Approval of Resolution to Authorize Budget Reductions Mr. Jameson recommended approval of the Resolution to Authorize Budget Reductions which gives the Superintendent authority to reduce budgets if needed. Jeff Amos made a motion. Tammy Jackman seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.
(See Exhibit Number 6 in the October 1, 2024 Minute File)

Consent Items Mr. Jameson recommended approval of consent items as presented which included minutes of the previous meeting, Revised Personnel Report, Donations, and Claims/Payroll. Tammy Jackman made a motion to approve all. Ron Lienemann seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.
(See Exhibit Number 7 in the October 1, 2024 Minute File)

Consider Approval of First Reading of Board Policy Updates Mr. Jameson stated this is a first reading of the following board policy updates: A275-R, C125, C125-R, , C275, C275-R, C525, E125-R, E125-E, F100-R, F125, and G350. No action was needed.
(See Exhibit Number 8 in the October 1, 2024 Minute File)

Board Approval Alternative Bid #7 & #7A for the RES Construction Project	Mr. Jameson recommended approval of Alternative Bid #7 and #7A for the Rushville Elementary School construction project. Angie Kuhn made a motion. Jeff Amos seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed. (See Exhibit Number 9 in the October 1, 2024 Minute File)
Update Mileage Claim Amount	Mr. Jameson recommended approval to increase mileage rates from \$0.58 per mile to \$0.67 per mile. This follows the IRS Standard mileage rates. Addam Carmony made a motion. Angie Kuhn seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed. (See Exhibit Number 10 in the October 1, 2024 Minute File)
2025 High Reliability Schools Summit	Mr. Jameson recommended approval of an Out-of-State Trip for 7 administrators, including Mr. Grant Peters and Dr. Jennifer Nahlik. They will be attending the 2025 HRS Summit in San Antonio, TX on January 29-31, 2025. Jeff Amos made a motion. Tammy Jackman seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed. (See Exhibit Number 11 in the October 1, 2024 Minute File)
Other	Mr. Jameson recommended approval of the 2025-2026 Official Board Meeting dates. Tammy Jackman made a motion. Addam Carmony seconded the motion. Jeff Amos requested the July 1st date be amended to July 8th due to the fair. Tammy Jackman amended the motion to changing the date to July 8th. Angie Kuhn seconded the amended motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed. Mr. Jameson has challenged Sami DeLey and Karley Yager, FFA Advisors to decide what types of trees will be planted on Sexton St. due to the removal of dead trees. No action was needed on this topic. Mr. Jameson explained the S & P Rating Call for RCS remains strong with an AA++ rating. RCS financial forecast is consistent with previous ratings issued last year. This rating will create a lower interest rate and RCS will pay back less money in interest due to the positive fiscal policies and practices that are in place. (See Exhibit Number 12 in the October 1, 2024 Minute File)
Important Dates	October 9- Parent/Teacher Conferences – No Students in Session October 21-25- Fall Break -Central Office closed October 25th October 29- Public Hearing on the Tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement 4:00 p.m.- Central Office November 4- Regular Board Meeting - Central Office - 6:30 p.m. (Monday)
Administrators' Comments	Administrators' comments were heard at this time. Mr. Grant Peters, Assistant Superintendent, reported the Transportation Dept. is excited to bring Alexa Welborn onboard as the Transportation Coordinator. Mr. Peters shared the importance of Stop Arm Safety. He reported the Custodial and Maintenance departments continue to address any issues or concerns school wide.

Julie Cramer, Corporation Treasurer, was not in attendance due to being at an IASBO conference.

Patrick Anderson, Director of Special Services, thanked Special Ed teachers for completing all required paperwork and progress reports. Mr. Anderson attended a Special Education Directors' state conference last week. He stated other school corporations continue to struggle hiring staff.

Julie Innis, Grant Coordinator, reported the ADM count will be put into the system at midnight. Mrs. Innis will share the ADM count at the November board meeting. She stated RCS has been awarded a career coaching grant for \$46,000.00. Mrs. Innis reported the Title I allotment has not been released yet. A PLTW grant through the Lily Foundation will be applied for in the near future which will benefit all RCS students.

Brevin Runnebohm, Corporation Technology Coordinator, was not present. Angie Kuhn asked if the internet issues had been resolved. Mr. Jameson stated issues are improving but repairs are still in process.

Dr. Jennifer Nahlik, Curriculum Coordinator, reported Instructional Coaching with new hires has been her main focus the past couple of months. Dr. Nahlik has jumpstarted the PD Pop program with making more digital options available to teachers. Mr. Jameson stated teachers praise Dr. Nahlik and are very thankful she is part of the RCS family.

(See Exhibit Number 13 in the October 1, 2024 Minute File)

Adjournment Angie Kuhn made a motion to adjourn. President Dr. Steve Sickbert adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Dr. Steve Sickbert, President

Jeffry A. Amos, Member

Jon Kevin Banks Vice- President

Tammy Jackman, Member

Addam Carmony, Secretary

Angela Kuhn, Member

Ron Lienemann, Member