

RUSH COUNTY SCHOOLS
Executive Session
November 19, 2024
Regular School Board Meeting
December 3, 2024

Executive Session An executive session was held for discussion at 5:05 p.m. on November 19, 2024 with respect to the orientation of newly elected Rush County School Board members. The Board certifies that no other items were discussed in executive session that adjourned at 6:20 p.m. Member Ron Lienemann was absent.

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 December 3, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Dr. Steve Sickbert. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence and reciting of the vision statement. Members present were Angie Kuhn, Ron Lienemann, Kevin Banks, Addam Carmony, Jeff Amos and Tammy Jackman. Superintendent Jim Jameson was also present.
(See Exhibit Number 1 in the December 3, 2024 Minute File)

Public Comment Mr. Jameson stated there were no public comments.

*Swearing in of
Elected Board
Members* Angela Buckley, Clerk of Rush County swore each newly elected board member into office. Jon Kevin Banks, Jeff Edwards and Matthew Jones each recited the Oath of Office. Their 4 year terms will begin on January 1, 2025. Mr. Jameson recognized outgoing board members, Tammy Jackman and Ron Lienemann for their service and dedication to RCS for the past 12 years. Mr. Jameson also recognized Dr. Steve Sickbert as the RCS Board President for 2024.
(See Exhibit Number 2 in the December 3, 2024 Minute File)

*Board Member
Comments* Jeff Amos appreciated everyone in attendance at tonight's meeting. Mr. Amos welcomed the new board members. He feels privileged to have served with the outgoing school board members.
Kevin Banks thanked Tammy Jackman and Ron Lienemann for their years of service. Mr. Banks has thoroughly enjoyed the past 4 years serving as a board member.
Addam Carmony welcomed all new board members. Mr. Carmony also thanked Tammy Jackman and Ron Lienemann for their service. He wished all staff members and students a Merry Christmas!
Angie Kuhn stated she shares the same thoughts as the other board members.
Ron Lienemann thanked members of the board and RCS staff members for his time serving as a board member for the past 12 years. Mr. Lienemann requested an invitation to RES once the renovation is complete.

Tammy Jackman has been honored to serve on the school board the past 12 years. Mrs. Jackman feels very fortunate to have served with members who have the best interest of the schools in mind. She advised everyone to hang in there since there's only a few weeks until break.

President Dr. Steve Sickbert has enjoyed working with Mrs. Jackman and Mr. Lienemann the past 12 years. Dr. Sickbert welcomed the new board members and is looking forward to many accomplishments in the future. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

(See Exhibit Number 3 in the December 3, 2024 Minute File)

Consent Items Mr. Jameson recommended approval of consent items as presented which include minutes of the previous meeting, Revised Personnel Report, Out-of-State & Overnight Field Trips, Donations, and Claims/Payroll. Tammy Jackman made a motion. Addam Carmony seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

(See Exhibit Number 4 in the December 3, 2024 Minute File)

Consider Approval of 2025-2026 School Calendar Mr. Jameson recommended approval of the 2025-2026 school calendar. Each member received a copy of the calendar. Mr. Jameson thanked Mr. Peters for preparing the calendar. Tammy Jackman made a motion. Angie Kuhn seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

(See Exhibit Number 5 in the December 3, 2024 Minute File)

Consider Approval of Pay Raise for Non-Certified Staff Mr. Jameson recommended approval of a 4% pay increase for all RCS Non-Certified staff including bus drivers. This increase will be effective as of January 1, 2025. Angie Kuhn made a motion. Ron Lienemann seconded the motion. The vote was in favor. The motion passed. Jeff Amos abstained.

(See Exhibit Number 6 in the December 3, 2024 Minute File)

Consider Approval for Balancing of Appropriations and Closing 2024 Financial Year Mr. Jameson recommended approval for balancing of appropriations and closing the 2024 financial year. Kevin Banks made a motion. Angie Kuhn seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

(See Exhibit Number 7 in the December 3, 2024 Minute File)

Consider Approval of Pre-Written Claims through the End of December Mr. Jameson recommended approval of pre-written claims through the end of December. Tammy Jackman made a motion. Jeff Amos seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

(See Exhibit Number 8 in the December 3, 2024 Minute File)

Consider Approval to Move ECA Money from the Building to RCS Central Office Mr. Jameson recommended approval of moving ECA money from the building(s) to RCS Central Office when necessary. This will speed up the purchasing process. Ron Lienemann made a motion. Kevin Banks seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

(See Exhibit Number 9 in the December 3, 2024 Minute File)

Important Dates December 20- Last Day of First Semester
December 23- January 6- Christmas Holiday Break
January 6- Teacher Workday
January 7- Students Return- Second Semester Begins
Regular School Board Meeting at Central Office at 6:30 p.m.

President Dr. Steve Sickbert shared minor discrepancies were found in an ECA 2 year audit. These discrepancies have been corrected at BRMS. President Dr. Sickbert reported the audit went very well overall.

Mr. Jameson congratulated BRMS for being awarded as an Indiana Purple Star School for the 2024 school year. This prestigious honor is a three year award.

Administrators' Administrators' comments were heard at this time.

Comments Grant Peters thanked Pam Johnson for the donation to RCHS Athletics in honor of her late husband, Steve Johnson. Steve was a bus driver for several years at RCS not only running a daily route, but transporting many athletes to and from events over the years. Mr. Peters thanked Stan and Jamie at the bus garage for keeping the fleet of buses running smoothly. Mr. Peters invited board members to the Transportation/Bus Driver holiday breakfast next Tuesday, December 10th at 8:00 a.m. Mr. Peters reported the Custodial Dept. recently hired a couple of new employees and the Grounds Dept. has one new employee starting next week. Julie Cramer gave each board member the Interest Earned handout and the Bank Fund Balance Report. Mr. Jameson commended Julie for her work on all payroll and the audit.

Pat Anderson reported the Special Education December count reflects an increase of 21 students compared to last year. Mr. Anderson wished everyone a happy holiday season.

Julie Innis reported grants are being closed out and new grants will soon be opening. Mrs. Innis has been working closely with Mr. Anderson to get an accurate Special Education student count and they have also been working on a new grant that is available for Special Education students only. This grant will be applied for by the end of the year.

Dr. Jennifer Nahlik reported she has been working closely with elementary principals addressing curriculum needs and the streamlining of the report card process.

Brevin Runnebohm was not in attendance. Mr. Jameson congratulated Mr. & Mrs. Runnebohm on the birth of their first child, a baby girl.

(See Exhibit Number 10 in the December 3, 2024 Minute File)

Adjournment Tammy Jackman made a motion to adjourn. President Dr. Steve Sickbert adjourned the meeting at 6:00 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