

RUSH COUNTY SCHOOLS
Work Session
January 21, 2025
Regular School Board Meeting
February 4, 2025

Work Session A work session was held at the Administrative Offices on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss property tax in relation to Rush County Schools. The work session adjourned at 7:20 p.m. All members were in attendance including Superintendent Jim Jameson.

(See Exhibit Number 1 in the January 21, 2025 Minute File)

Executive Session An executive session was held for discussion at 6:00 p.m. on February 4, 2025 with respect to I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1 (b) (9). The Board certifies that no other items were discussed in executive session that adjourned at 6:30 p.m. Addam Carmony was absent.

(See Exhibit Number 1 in the February 4, 2025 Minute File)

Call to Order A regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of Rush County Schools was held at the Administrative Offices on February 4, 2025, at 6:35 p.m. The meeting was called to order by President Kevin Banks followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence and the vision statement. Members present were Jeff Edwards, Angie Kuhn, Matt Jones, Jeff Amos and Dr. Steve Sickbert. Superintendent Jim Jameson was also present. Member Addam Carmony was absent.

(See Exhibit Number 2 in the February 4, 2025 Minute File)

Reports- ADM Mr. Jameson reported the ADM spring count for February was 1,815 students and the fall October count was 1,793 students. The decrease of 22 students is broken down by: 12 graduates of Opportunity School, 3 Homeschool students, 2 Out of State Transfers, 3 In State Transfers, and 2 Expulsions. Mr. Jameson reported RCS had 126 Cash Transfer students for fall.

(See Exhibit Number 3 in the February 4, 2025 Minute File)

Public Comment Mr. Jameson stated there were no public comments at this time.

Tell Me Something Good Mr. Jameson introduced the Tell Me Something Good portion of the meeting. Each building principal honored a Student(s) and Employee(s) of the Month for January and February.

Arlington Elementary: Valarie Dennett, Grade 3 & Libby Bowman, Grade 2;

River Williams, Secretary & Amber Stone, Grade 1 Teacher

Milroy Elementary: Grace Spears, Grade 5 & MacKendra Waters, Grade 6;

Bailey Narwold, Grade 5 Teacher & Amy Reynolds- Speech Teacher

RES- Camden Ripberger, Grade 2, Zoey Phillips, Grade 6, Landon Gordon,

Grade 4, & Katalaya Goen, Kdg.; Erika Peggs, Kdg. Teacher, Tara Wallace,

Grade 5 Teacher, Beth Buzzard, Grade 3 Teacher & Rebecca Stanley, Kdg. Aide

BRMS- Kelsie Case, Grade 8 & Elizabeth Robben, Grade 8; Nyssa Tierney, Math Teacher & Terri Marcum, Math Teacher
RCHS- Jon Todd, Grade 11 & Edward Kiwala, Grade 11; Lindsay Tillison, English Teacher & Trenia Logan, Opportunity School
WCC Students- Brody Owens, Vlad Hylton, Devin Brown, Lauren Megee, Preston Williams, & Mikayla Herbert
RCS- Dan Wright, Maintenance Coordinator
(See Exhibit Number 4 in the February 4, 2025 Minute File)

*Board Member
Comments*

Dr. Steve Sickbert congratulated all the honorees this evening. Matt Jones congratulated all of tonight's award winners. Mr. Jones recently attended the Elks District Hoop Shoot at Seymour. He reported RCS had 5 students participate. Mr. Jones wished the RCHS Varsity Girls Basketball team luck in the upcoming Sectional. Angie Kuhn reminisced about Edward Kiwala loving her bearded dragon in her classroom several years ago at RES. Jeff Amos thanked the parents and staff for supporting the students who were recognized tonight. Mr. Amos was happy to see some FFA students attending the meeting. Jeff Edwards congratulated the Students and Staff members of the month. Mr. Edwards witnessed the humility of each honoree as they were being spoken about. He believes these people have been lifted up by this acknowledgement. Mr. Edwards sees a bright future for our community. President Kevin Banks reported RCS Principals Sara Mastin and Lisa Wilson were recognized for their schools meeting the first level of the High Reliability Program at the National HRS convention held recently.

Consent Items

Mr. Jameson made a recommendation to approve minutes of the previous regular meeting, Revised Personnel Report, Donations, Out-of-State & Overnight Field Trips and Claims & Payroll. Dr. Steve Sickbert made a motion. Matt Jones seconded the motion. The vote was in favor. The motion passed. Jeff Amos acknowledged the community members who donate generously to RCS.
(See Exhibit Number 5 in the February 4, 2025 Minute File)

*Consider Resolution
for Cancellation of
Old Outstanding
Checks*

Mr. Jameson recommended approval of the Resolution for cancellation of old outstanding checks from BRMS, RCHS and RCS with 23 checks totaling \$4,318.30. He explained by statute these outstanding checks have to be approved by March 1st. Jeff Amos made a motion. Angie Kuhn seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.
(See Exhibit Number 6 in the February 4, 2025 Minute File)

*Consider Approval of
RCHS Senior Week
Activities*

Mr. Jameson recommended Senior Week activities be approved for the week of May 5th- 9th. Jeff Edwards made a motion. Matt Jones seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.
(See Exhibit Number 7 in the February 4, 2025 Minute File)

*Consider Approval
of the 2025
Employee
Handbook*

Mr. Jameson recommended approval of the 2025 Employee Handbook. The updates and changes have been made since the January meeting. Matt Jones made a motion to approve the 2025 Employee Handbook with the updated changes. Jeff Amos seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

(See Exhibit Number 8 in the February 4, 2025 Minute File)

*Consider Approval of
Moving All Rainy
Day Fund Money to
Trust Indiana*

Mr. Jameson reported after contacting Trust Indiana, a sub category can be created for the Rainy Day fund money. The current interest rate is a little over 4% and the monies can be moved within 24 hours if needed. Further discussion included the “big ticket items” that the Rainy Day Fund money should be used for. Jeff Amos made a motion to move all the Rainy Day Fund to Trust Indiana. Angie Kuhn seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

(See Exhibit Number 9 in the February 4, 2025 Minute File)

*Consider Approval of
Using On The Stage
Free Online Platform
to Purchase Tickets
for the RCHS
Theater Production*

Mr. Jameson recommended approval of “On The Stage”, a free online platform used to order and purchase theater production tickets. Each member received a copy of RCHS Theater Production Teacher, Hannah Lemmons’ letter explaining how the platform is used. Tickets may still be purchased at the gate. Angie Kuhn made a motion. Jeff Edwards seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

(See Exhibit Number 10 in the February 4, 2025 Minute File)

Other

Mr. Jameson recommended approval of a one time stipend of \$2,500.00 for Christina Gurley, BRMS Special Education Teacher. Mrs. Gurley has taken on additional caseloads within the Special Ed Dept. Dr. Steve Sickbert made a motion. Angie Kuhn seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

(See Exhibit Number 11 in the February 4, 2025 Minute File)

Important Dates

February 17- Make-Up Day
March 4-8- Boys’ Basketball Sectional at Shelbyville
March 4- Regular School Board Meeting 6:30 p.m. at C.O.
March 24-28- Spring Break- Central Office closed on 3/28/2025

*Administrators’
Reports*

Mr. Grant Peters was absent.
Mrs. Julie Cramer shared the interest earned handout. Mrs. Cramer reported it has been a busy month with W-2’s, 1099’s and completing the Form 9.
Mr. Jameson shared a Monthly Financial Statement with all board members. This will be updated monthly and shared at future board meetings.
Mr. Jameson also suggested keeping a 10-15% cash balance in reserve in the Education and Operations Funds. He strongly believes in continuing to be fiscally sound in the future while still giving teachers and staff members yearly raises when possible. Discussion also included the starting hourly rate for non-certified personnel compared to other nearby school corporations, rollover balance of the

Education Fund moving it to Trust Indiana to earn more interest, and the timing of state monies received. Mr. Jameson will research with State Board of Accounts the ability to transfer monies from the Education and Operations Funds to Trust Indiana.

Mr. Pat Anderson reported Future Champions date will be in early May. A date will be set soon.

Mrs. Julie Innis was absent.

Dr. Jennifer Nahlik reported teachers have been finalizing their pacing guides. Dr. Nahlik and the elementary principals have been working together on the remapping of curriculum guides. She also reported summer school preparation at the elementary level is underway.

Mr. Brevin Runnebohm reported the Erate season is coming to a close. A power unit will be replaced this coming weekend due to a corporation wide internet outage. Some new fiber that was installed at BRMS recently failed and will be replaced over Spring Break. RCHS Chromebooks and grades 7-12 teacher PC's will be replaced this summer. The kiosks as you enter the buildings also need to be refreshed. The point of sale system for the cafeterias is going to be updated this summer. RCS Technology Dept. consists of 5 techs corporation wide. Mr. Runnebohm suggested the addition of a tech(s) would be extremely beneficial if the budget allows.

Mr. Jameson will meet with the contractors tomorrow regarding the RES renovation. He reported the renovation is moving along at a rapid pace. The bidding process will begin soon for RES and BRMS to have doors and windows replaced this summer.

(See Exhibit Number 12 in the February 4, 2025 Minute File)

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

Jon Kevin Banks, President

Jeffry A. Amos, Member

Addam Carmony, Vice President

Jeff Edwards, Member

Angela Kuhn, Secretary

Matthew Jones, Member

Dr. Steve Sickbert, Member

