

RUSH COUNTY SCHOOLS
Public Hearing
Regular School Board Meeting
August 6, 2024

I. Public Hearing- General Obligations Bond

Statement of Purpose Hearing for Rushville Elementary School Project

Statement of Purpose Hearing for Maintenance/Improvement Project

Call to Order A Public Hearing was called to order by School Board President Dr. Steve Sickbert at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 6, 2024, at the Administrative Office located at 330 W. 8th St., Rushville, IN. A Statement of Purpose Hearing presented by Superintendent Jim Jameson, states IC 20-26-7-37 law requires a hearing before a school corporation proposes to construct, repair, or alter a school building at a cost of more than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) when financed by a general obligations bond. Notice of the hearing was published in the Greensburg Daily News and the Rushville Recorder. These public hearings and the Adoption of the Resolutions are the beginning steps of the legal process.

Superintendent Presentation Mr. Jameson presented information on the Rushville Elementary School Project including, but not limited to: work on the 2 educational wings, additional sprinkler system installed, building of walls, install classroom doors, replace ceiling tiles, new classroom furniture, new gym flooring, update classroom technology, replace windows and doors, and create an exit driveway to promote student safety. Mr. Jameson presented information on the Maintenance/Improvement Project including new track resurface, replace windows, doors and chiller at BRMS. President Dr. Steve Sickbert introduced Jeff Hammond, Senior Manager of Baker Tilly which services RCS as a Municipal Financial Advisor. Mr. Hammond thoroughly explained the GO Bond financing process. He stated the amount of the GO Bond is \$6,350,000.00 (See attachment)

Comments There were no public comments.

Consider Adoption of Project Resolution & Preliminary Bond Resolution - RES & Maintenance/Improvement Mr. Jameson explained the Adoption of Project Resolution is required and contains the estimated cost of the project. The Adoption of Preliminary Bond Resolution contains the financial terms including the tax impact. Both of these resolutions require a motion. Kevin Banks made a motion to approve both resolutions. Angie Kuhn seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

(See Exhibit Numbers 1, 2, & 3 in the August 6, 2024 Minute File)

Consider Adoption of Project Reimbursement Resolution Mr. Jameson explained the Adoption Reimbursement Resolution allows the school corporation to reimburse itself from the bond proceeds before the actual proceeds are received. It is required by Federal tax law in order to preserve the School Corporation's ability to reimburse itself. A motion is required. Jeff Amos made a motion. Ron Lienemann seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

(See Exhibit Numbers 1, 2, & 3 in the August 6, 2024 Minute File)

*Adjournment of
Public Hearing*

President Dr. Steve Sickbert adjourned the Public Hearing at 7:16 p.m.

I. Regular School Board Meeting

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of Rush County Schools was held at the Rush County Schools Administrative Offices on August 6, 2024. The meeting was called to order by President Dr. Steve Sickbert at 7:16 p.m. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence and the vision statement. Members present were Kevin Banks, Ron Lienemann, Angie Kuhn, Addam Carmony and Jeff Amos. Superintendent Jim Jameson was also in attendance. Member Tammy Jackman was absent.
(See Exhibit Number 1 in the August 6, 2024 Minute File)

Public Comment

Mr. Jameson stated there are no public comments at this time.

*Tell Me Something
Good*

Mr. Jameson introduced the Tell Me Something Good portion of the meeting. The entire technology staff was honored for their efforts and hard work not only during the school year, but also during the summer months. The technology staff includes: Brevin Runnebohm, RCS Corporation Building Tech Coordinator; India Burris, Zach Hoeing, Ereena Moore, Building Tech Coordinators; and Nicole Tuttle, Technology Intern.

*Board Member
Comments*

Jeff Amos thanked everyone and gave a special thank you to the RCHS Cafeteria staff and Steve Souder for helping to make the luncheon yesterday a great success. Mr. Amos wished everyone a great year!
Kevin Banks stated it is a wonderful thing Mr. Amos does providing the opening day luncheon to the whole staff. He thanked Angie Kuhn and Tammy Jackman for delivering the luncheon food to the staff at Arlington and Milroy Elementary. Mr. Banks stressed how important it is to be aware of the bus stop arms!
Addam Carmony congratulated the technology honorees. Mr. Carmony wished everyone a great year ahead.
Ron Lienemann did not have any comments.
Angie Kuhn was excited to attend the opening day luncheon. Mrs. Kuhn is looking forward to the new school year.
President Dr. Steve Sickbert welcomed the new administrators. He also thanked the staff for all they do making the campus look great for our students.

*Teacher Evaluation
Plan Update*

Each board member received a handout of the Teacher Evaluation Rubric. Mr. Jameson is required by law to present this to the board members annually. He stated this rubric coaches our teaching staff with improvements to better serve our students. No action was needed at this time.

(See Exhibit Number 2 in the August 6, 2024 Minute File)

Consent Items

Mr. Jameson recommended approval of the Consent Items which include minutes of the previous meeting, Donations, and Claims and Payroll. Kevin Banks made a motion. Jeff Amos seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed. Dr. Steve Sickbert

called for a motion for the Revised Personnel Report. Kevin Banks made a motion. Ron Lienemann seconded the motion. Angie Kuhn abstained. The vote was in favor. The motion passed.

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

*Consider Request
To Advertise
Budgets* Mr. Jameson requested approval to grant authority to the Superintendent to advertise the 2025 Budgets. Angie Kuhn made a motion. Kevin Banks seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

(See Exhibit Number 4 in the August 6, 2024 Minute File)

*Second Reading
on Teacher
Appreciation Grant
Policy #3220.01* State law requires every school corporation to adopt a policy annually regarding Teacher Appreciation Grant Policy #3220.01 by September 15th. New language has been added by the IDOE and the State Legislature. Mr. Jameson has been given approval by the Rush County Federation of Teachers regarding the new language. Ron Lienemann made a motion. Addam Carmony seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

(See Exhibit Number 5 in the August 6, 2024 Minute File)

*Consider Renewal
of the Athletic
Trainer Agreement
Between Rush
Memorial
Hospital and RCS* Mr. Jameson recommended approval of the agreement between Rush Memorial Hospital and RCS for the Athletic Trainer. The coverage includes 800 hours for high school events and 113.5 hours for middle school events. The cost for this year will be \$12,500.00. Jeff Amos made a motion. Kevin Banks seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

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

*Consider Approval
of Obsolete
Chromebooks and
the Buyback from
Secured Tech
Solutions* Mr. Jameson recommended approval of the buyback from Secured Tech Solutions for approximately 750 obsolete chromebooks. The company agreed to buy back these chromebooks for a flat rate of \$2,000.00. Angie Kuhn made a motion. Addam Carmony seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed. Discussion included the process of grading the old chromebooks for used parts and scrap. Brevin Runnebohm explained how some parts are kept inhouse to reuse on more updated chromebooks as needed.

(See Exhibit Number 7 in the August 6, 2024 Minute File)

*Consider Entering
Into an Agreement
with EF Business
Solutions IN* Mr. Jameson recommended approval of entering into an agreement with EF Business Solutions IN. Dr. Tom Keeley will assist on overseeing the 2024-2025 Budget, tax rate, and Gateway submissions. Kevin Banks made a motion. Ron Lienemann seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed. Discussion included whether consultants are used by other corporations and the possibility of not using a consultant going forward beginning next school year.

(See Exhibit Number 8 in the August 6, 2024 Minute File)

*Consider Renewal
of Contract between
Rush Memorial
Hospital and RCS* Mr. Jameson recommended approval of the contract between RCS and Rush Memorial Hospital for Physical and Occupational Therapies. The cost will be \$40-\$60 per hour. Ron Lienemann made a motion. Addam Carmony seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

(See Exhibit Number 9 in the August 6, 2024 Minute File)

Other Mr. Jameson recommended approval of the Benjamin Rush Middle School Science textbook adoption for grades 7-8. Kevin Banks made a motion. Angie Kuhn seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.
Mr. Jameson thanked Jeff Amos and Souder Farms for their efforts during the opening day luncheon. Mr. Jameson was also so happy to see the excitement of our students and staff with our schools opening back up for a new school year.

(See Exhibit Number 10 in the August 6, 2024 Minute File)

Important Dates August 7- First Student Day, Grades K-12 (NO EARLY RELEASE)
August 19- Publish Budget
September 3- Regular School Board Meeting and Public Hearing on Proposed Budget at 7:00 p.m. at Central Office
October 1- Regular School Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at Central Office – Officially Adoption of Proposed 2025 Budgets

Administrators' Comments Administrators' comments were heard at this time.
Mr. Grant Peters, Assistant Superintendent, shared his gratitude to all for the start up of a new school year. Mr. Peters is proud to report the RCS Maintenance, Custodial, and Transportation teams are fully staffed. Mr. Peters also gave kudos to the Grounds Dept. for their efforts in this heat.
Mrs. Julie Cramer, RCS Corporation Treasurer, reported TrustIndiana to date has gained \$268,573.65 in interest earned. Mrs. Cramer also gave each member a handout of the Bank to Fund Balance report. She also thanked the Bookkeeping staff and Michele Kessler for their hard work this summer.
Patrick Anderson, Director of Special Services, reported a few positions are still open for Special Education assistants. All teacher positions are filled. Mr. Anderson thanked the Transportation Dept. for their efforts. He reported the Paraprofessional grant will continue into this year for online training. Each assistant gets a stipend for attending the training. Mr. Anderson and Tanner Hedrick are looking forward to a new school year.
Dr. Jennifer Nahlik, Curriculum Coordinator, reported she and Mrs. Julie Innis presented the New Teacher Orientation this year. Together, they will conduct monthly meetings with the new teachers to provide additional support. Dr. Nahlik will also be visiting school buildings weekly providing instructional coaching.
Julie Innis, Grant Coordinator, reported she is in a huge learning curve. Mrs. Innis thanked Nancy Schroeder for the training time. She reported requirements for various grants are quite tedious and time consuming.
Brevin Runnebohm, RCS Technology Coordinator, reported K-6 computers for teachers are ordered and all vape detectors are installed. Fall projects include ordering PC's for all secretaries, AV upgrades throughout buildings including a new projector for the Board Room, and Laughlin Center upgrades.

Mr. Kevin Banks recognized Mr. Runnebohm for his strides in the technology field and for his vision at RCS.

(See Exhibit Number 11 & 12 in the August 6, 2024 Minute File)

Adjournment Ron Lienemann moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m. President Dr. Steve Sickbert adjourned the meeting.

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