

**Regional School District No. 8 Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Monday, November 15, 2021 @ 6:30 pm**

Note: Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, attendees participated via in person and Zoom

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Kathleen Goodwin, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

BOE Members Present: Kathleen Goodwin, Mary Cochefski, Jean Wilson, Robert Schadtler, Erik Schevchenko, via zoom Susan Stolfi, Lori Blake, Joseph O'Connor, Jessica Dapsis, Mike Morris,

Administration Present: Scott Leslie, Superintendent
Eva Gallupe, Business Manager

Student Representative: Lily Schevchenko and Rowan Ackerlind

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Comments - none

4. Add/Delete Agenda Items - none

5. Student Representative Report – L Schevchenko reported Homecoming was moved inside, using the Atrium, Café, and Auxiliary gym. The event was spread out and fun. Fall sports is over except football and cheerleading. Liam Calhoun broke a 30-year record for cross country, he has advanced to the state open. Seniors who applied for early action are starting to receive college responses. Quarter one has ended. The volleyball team is moving to the semi-finals. Rowan reported that during a wellness class project it was found that students would be very interested in a family consumer science class and a driving course.

6. BOE Chair Report – K Goodwin stated that this is her last Board meeting. She thanked administration, staff and Board members. It has been a privilege to be elected and volunteer. Stated Covid has been a test of perseverance and the Board did extremely well. She congratulated the upcoming Board members, and thanked the current Board members for their service and working together. Thanked Scott Leslie for doing a great job and stated her appreciation on his guidance.

7. Report of the Superintendent - S Leslie stated there are four Board members leaving. He is honored to have worked with each and every one of them. S Leslie commended each member, Robert Schadtler, Jean Wilson, Kathleen Goodwin, and Joseph O'Connor, for their years of service and for donating countless hours of time. Plaques were presented to each member.

8. **Consent Agenda**

8.1. Approval of Minutes: October 18, 2021

S Stolfi moved to approve the minutes of October 18, 2021, seconded by J Dapsis. Approved, with two abstentions by J Wilson and M Cochefski. MOTION CARRIED.

8.2 Resignation Letter – Samantha Schadtler

K Goodwin moved to approve the request for resignation of Samantha Schadtler, with regret, seconded by J O'Connor. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

9. **Old Business** - none

10. **New Business**

10.1 Discussion and action on contracting with a new organization to facilitate the hiring of the new superintendent

S Leslie gave the history of the start of the hiring of a superintendent in 2020. The Board chose J Erardi to lead the search. It was decided after the start that S Leslie would remain for another year as interim superintendent and put the process on hold to resume this year. Due to J Erardi having health issues he had to pull out of all work obligations. J Erardi has recommended a colleague, Chip Dumais, who was one of the previous candidates interviewed to lead the search. S Leslie stated there were two options available; 1) Enter into a contract with Chip based on J Erardi's recommendation. Proceeding this way would allow the same timeline of hiring by the start of the school year. Chip has agreed to pick up where J Erardi left off, including the same price as J Erardi committed to or 2) Start the process as new and interview for a new consultant. This would mean the timeline would be pushed out and we would not be able to secure a candidate by the start of the school year.

Discussion on the Board if RHAM would be the only client and who would serve as a backup to help the process. Further discussion on other options, setting potential meetings, and timeline specifics and potential issues with delaying.

J O'Connor motioned to move forward with Chip Dumais for the superintendent search with the understanding that he will be the lead person for the RHAM Board of Education, seconded by S Stolfi. Approved, with abstentions by R Schadtler, E Schevchenko, L Blake, and K Goodwin. M Morris was not present for the vote. MOTION CARRIED

10.2 Financials: - E Gallupe reviewed all reports.

Expenditure and Revenue Report – net favorable position \$14,641. HVAC project has not incurred any supplies issues as of now.

Student Activity Report – Balance totals bank balance. E Gallupe reviewed what the student activity fund is to the new members. There will be no DC trip but there are plans for a day trip for 8th grade.

Food Service Report – net income \$1,382.42

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11. Reports

Committees

Facilities/Safety/Transportation –J O'Connor reported that they discussed issues regarding the high school baseball field and are working on ideas and remedies. The turf field was also discussed about what happens next.

Finance/Audit Compliance and Insurance – next meeting for 11/18 will need to be rescheduled due to another conflicting meeting.

Negotiations – no report

Policy – no report

Program/Communication – no report

Facilitators

EASTCONN – J Clarke – no report

CABE – J Clarke –no report

12. Public Comment –Mary Meade, Hebron, thanked the board members for their time and dedication.

13. Informational Items

13.1 Calendar of Events: Middle School, High School - submitted

13.2 Discipline Reports – Middle School, High School - submitted

14. Executive Session

14.1 Review and discussion of employee retirement request

14.2 Discussion and recommendation for new superintendent's contract

R Schadle moved to enter into executive session and invite Superintendent S Leslie, seconded by M Cochefski. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Enter Executive Session: 8:11p.m.

Exited Executive Session: 8:27p.m.

15. Action as a Result of Executive Session

R Schadle moved to allow Linda Thurber-Lund to delay her retirement by one year without negatively impacting her retirement benefits, seconded by J Wilson. Unanimously approved with Mike Morris absent from vote. MOTION CARRIED

16. Adjournment

R Schadle moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30p.m., seconded by J Wilson.

Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tricia Dean, Clerk