

RIVER BEND COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #2
1110 3RD STREET
FULTON, IL 61252
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR APRIL BOARD MEETING

River Bend Community Unit School District #2

April 20, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of River Bend Community Unit School District #2, Whiteside County, Illinois, was held on April 20, 2020, telemetrically using the Zoom webinar platform pursuant to the Executive Order in Response to the COVID-19 order.

President Portz called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Upon Roll Call by the Secretary the following members were present: Chris Barnett, Eric Fish, Andy Meyers, Jane Orman-Luker, Dan Portz, Jay Ritchie, and Mary Simmons. Absent: None. Others present: Darryl Hogue, Superintendent and Virginia Petersen, Recording Secretary.

President Portz led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Portz welcomed all visitors including: Deb Daehler, Emily Johnson, and Stacey Dail. Principals: Robert Gosch, Jeffrey Hoese, and Kathleen Schipper. Assistant Principal/AD: Patrick Henrekin. Media: Winona Whitaker, Clinton Herald.

Additions to the agenda. There were no additions to the agenda.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Fish, to approve the agenda as presented. Voice vote, all yea, motion carried.

There was no communication from the RBEA.

President Portz asked if anyone would like to speak as part of public forum. There was no public comment.

Principal's reports. Mrs. Schipper announced that Deb Daehler received the Teacher Leadership Award presented by the Northwest Region Illinois Principal Association. Mrs. Daehler has high expectations for her students and works hard to get students to work hard. She spends a lot of extra time with students who need additional help and has been recognized by seniors twice at the Academic Excellence Dinner. Mrs. Daehler also brings her therapy dog, Reagan, to school on a regular basis and operates "Reagan's Closet" which helps out students in need. Congratulations to Mrs. Daehler.

Mrs. Schipper indicated she was contacted by Mercy One in regards to donating masks. Mrs. Schipper was able to find some unused masks to donate. Thanks to Mrs. Collachia and her team for providing meals to four-hundred students each week during the closure. Mrs. Schipper reviewed the Middle School remote learning schedule. The middle school has received numerous compliments on how well things are going. Paraprofessionals are helping as well and 80% of students are attending live sessions. Mrs. Schipper is researching the Math I class to see if student's needs are being met and if changes need to be made. She will have a recommendation once the data is compiled.

Mr. Gosch reviewed the high school remote learning schedule. 95% of the students are participating and he will be working on picking up those that have not yet participated.

Mr. Hoese honored Stacey Dail who received the Illinois Principal Association Leadership Award for Non-Certified Personnel. Over fifty nominations were received so it is really an honor for Mrs. Dail to receive this award.

Mr. Hoese reviewed the elementary remote learning schedule. Mr. Hoese began the #WINTHEDY challenges as part of the morning announcements. KWQC ran a story on this and students were able to join via online video to provide their perspective on the challenges.

Dr. Hogue reported on the April 20, 2020, Finance Committee Meeting. Andy Meyers, Jane Orman-Luker, Dan Portz, Rachel Snyder and Darryl Hogue were in attendance. Dr. Hogue reviewed the current treasurer's report. The transportation fund is over \$70,000 in the red. The district has only received one of the four payments from the state and Dr. Hogue expects only one more payment will be received. Dr. Hogue recommended abating \$100,000 from Working Cash and \$50,000 from Operations and Maintenance to the Transportation Fund. Dr. Hogue and Rachel reviewed District cash-flow and inter-fund loans. Dr. Hogue is projecting early tax money will get be greatly decreased if even received this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As of now the county is saying they will send out the tax bills but may waive the penalty for late payments. If necessary, Dr. Hogue will present an amended budget in May. A transfer of \$28,000 from Working Cash will be necessary to make the early Bond payment. The Technology Integration Specialist position will be put on hold and current staffing needs will need to be evaluated. Dr. Hogue is estimating 10-20% less revenue from the state and local funds meaning the District will have to conserve the funds available.

Dr. Hogue reported on the February 19, 2020, Building and Grounds Committee Meeting. Members present included Chris Barnett, Robert Gosch, Jeffrey Hoese, Jay Ritchie, Kathleen Schipper, and Gary Wolfe. Also in attendance was Darryl Hogue, Superintendent. CTS provided estimate costs for the following projects:

- a. Renovate and relocate High School Office - \$700,000-\$800,000
- b. Middle School Gym - \$4.6-\$5 Million
- c. High School Gym Expansion - \$1.3-\$1.6 Million
- d. High School Auditorium - \$2.4 - \$5 Million
- e. High School Fitness Center - \$875,000 - \$920,000
- f. Middle School Kitchen Space – Need more information
- g. High School HVAC Options - \$2.4-\$2.8 Million

Dr. Hogue is being very conservative on recommendations at this time due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on 1% funds. Extra summer staff will not be needed due to the early closure of the buildings. Playground destruction and construction plans are in the process and may begin sooner than expected due to the closure. The Playground Committee is \$5,000 short of meeting its goal. The summer projects list will need to be revised. Another meeting will be necessary in May.

Dr. Hogue, Mary Simmons, and Chris Barnett attended the Northwest Division Dinner meeting on March 10, 2020, in Milledgeville, IL. The topic was school safety and the importance of communication with students and developing a good culture.

Member Orman-Luker reported on behalf of the River Bend Educational Foundation. The Foundation agreed to fund \$1000 per year enrolled in coursework to teachers who wish to obtain National Board Certification or the credentials necessary to teach dual credit courses. The Foundation approve \$5,184 in mini grants in March and another \$1000 in April. Martin Estate requests were funding in the amount of \$1518.40.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board enrollment is holding steady. The Kindergarten class coming in next year is estimated at seventy students which is twenty-four more than this year.

Dr. Hogue followed-up on the cost estimates presented by CTS. President Portz recommended maintaining what the district has and not add anything new due to the uncertainty of finances at this time. Dr. Hogue recommended updating the HVAC and relocate the office at the high school. The rest of the items will remain on the wish list.

Dr. Hogue informed the Board that IASB is accepting resolution for consideration by the Delegate Assembly held in conjunction with the Triple I conference in November. If any Board Members would like to submit resolutions, this is the opportunity to do so.

Dr. Hogue presented 2019-20 calendar updates. The last day for remote learning will be May 28, 2020. Principals are looking at rescheduling 8th Grade Promotion, High School Graduation, and Prom to a date in June to mid-July. The awards ceremony scheduled for May 12, 2020, will be conducted remotely.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve the consent agenda including the March 9, 2020, Regular Board Meeting Minutes as printed; March Treasurer’s Report; and April Bills recommended for payment in the amount of \$137,409.54, subject to audit. Roll Call Vote.

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	<i>Member Simmons, yea</i>
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>	
<i>Member Meyers, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of 2020-21 student registration, extra-curricular, and meal prices. Parents will continue to save \$5.00 for early registration. Lunch and breakfast prices will be increased 10 cents to conform to USDA calculation for assuring free/reduced meal reimbursements do not support paid meals. The Board agree to pay the \$50 for district hosted dual credit classes.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Ritchie, to approve 2020-21 registration, extra-curricular fees, and meal prices as presented. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	<i>Member Simmons, yea</i>
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>	
<i>Member Meyers, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of the Dual Credit/National Board Certification Application with an annual stipend to teachers enrolled in the coursework of \$1000 paid by the River Bend Educational Foundation.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Simmons, to approve the Dual Credit/National Board Certification Application as presented. Roll Call Vote.

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	<i>Member Simmons, yea</i>
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>	
<i>Member Meyers, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of the Illinois Elementary School Association (IESA) 2020-21 membership for Middle School track and wrestling at an annual fee of \$450. Roll Call Vote.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Meyers, to approve the Illinois Elementary School Association 2020-21 membership for Middle School track and wrestling at an annual fee of \$450. Roll Call Vote.

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	<i>Member Simmons, yea</i>
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>	
<i>Member Meyers, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of the bid submitted by Spring-Green for treatment of the high school football field and high profile areas of lawn around each school.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Orman-Luker, to approve the bid for lawn care submitted by Spring-Green for treatment of the football field in the amount of \$999.90 and high profile areas of lawn around each school in the amount of \$886. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Barnett, nay</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	<i>Member Simmons, yea</i>
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, nay</i>	
<i>Member Meyers, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

Dr. Hogue recommended approval of establishing a Bass Fishing Activity Account at Fulton High School.

It was moved by Member Orman-Luker, seconded by Member Fish, to approve establishing a Bass Fishing Activity Account at Fulton High School. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	<i>Member Simmons, yea</i>
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>	
<i>Member Meyers, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

The district received \$500 from the Exelon Employee Engagement Program for Art and Music programs.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Simmons, to accept the gifts to the district as presented. Roll Call Vote:

<i>Member Barnett, yea</i>	<i>Member Orman-Luker, yea</i>	<i>Member Simmons, yea</i>
<i>Member Fish, yea</i>	<i>Member Portz, yea</i>	
<i>Member Meyers, yea</i>	<i>Member Ritchie, yea</i>	

Motion Carried.

It was moved by Member Fish, seconded by Member Meyers, to approve the following personnel items:

- Hired Sarah Brubaker as Business/Technology Teacher at Fulton High School beginning the 2020-21 school year.
- Hired Carolyn Meurs as Family and Consumer Science Teacher at Fulton High School beginning the 2020-21 school year.
- Hired Laura Spillane as Math Teacher at Fulton High School beginning the 2020-21 school year.

- Hired Emily Johnson as Technology Support Specialist at Fulton High School beginning the 2020-21 school year.
- Accepted the resignation of Emily Johnson as Library Paraprofessional at Fulton High School pending approval as Technology Support Specialist.
- Hired Anna Huizenga as Night Custodian at Fulton High School to replace Pat Foster as she transitions into the Head Custodian Position at Fulton Elementary School.
- Hired the following coaches for the 2020-21 school year:

LEVEL I

VARSITY BASKETBALL (B)..... RJ Coffey
 VARSITY BASKETBALL (G) Mike Menchaca
 VARSITY WRESTLING..... Chris Grant

LEVEL III

SOPHOMORE BOYS’ BASKETBALL..... Ryan Voss
 SOPHOMORE GIRLS’ BASKETBALL..... Darwin Johnson
 ASSISTANT WRESTLING..... Dan Mahoney
 FRESHMAN BOYS’ BASKETBALL..... Mitch VanZuiden
 FRESHMAN GIRLS’ BASKETBALL..... Mike Gazo
 SPEECH TEAM..... Alison Phillips
 H.S. CHEERLEADING Mara Bilyeu
 FIRST ROBOTICS..... Stacy Gates

LEVEL IV

7th GRADE BOYS’ BASKETBALL..... Jim Prombo
 7th GRADE GIRLS’ BASKETBALL..... Elizabeth Mote
 8th GRADE BOYS’ BASKETBALL..... Mike Ankrom
 8th GRADE GIRLS’ BASKETBALL..... Jennifer Pepper
 MIDDLE SCHOOL WRESTLING..... George Graham

Roll Call Vote:

Member Barnett, yea Member Orman-Luker, yea Member Simmons, yea
Member Fish, yea Member Portz, yea
Member Meyers, yea Member Ritchie, yea

Motion Carried.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held Monday, May18, 2020, at 6:30 P.M., at the River Bend District Office.

It was moved by Member Meyers, seconded by Member Fish, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 P.M. Voice vote, all yea, motion carried.

Dan Portz, President
 Board of Education
 River Bend Unit District #2
 Whiteside County

Eric Fish, Secretary
 Board of Education
 River Bend Unit District #2
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