

Unapproved
Ruthven-Ayrshire Board of Education
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 11, 2014, 5:00 PM
Room 214 - Board Room

The Ruthven-Ayrshire Board of Education held its regular meeting with the following in attendance; Larry Conlon, Tracy Enderson, Ray Grandstaff, Darin Malm, Susan Sikora, Andrew Woiwood, and Kelli Harmon. Also in attendance were the AEA and Auditor Murray Stanley from Schnurr & Company, LLP. Absent: Bruce Long, Katie Meyer and Jon Josephson.

All motions were unanimous unless otherwise noted.

- I. Call to Order** - President Sikora at 5:08 p.m.
- II. Review of District Mission Statement** - Enderson
- III. Approve Agenda** - Motion by Enderson to approve the agenda; second Malm. Motion carried.
- IV. Welcome Visitors and Guests** - President Sikora
 - f. Field Trip Reports: FFA National Convention**

Cole Reiman and Kelsi Eaton gave a presentation on the experiences the group of students had at the FFA National Convention. Some of the highlights of the trip were Speaker Nick Vujici, President of the Non-Profit Ministry of "Life Without Limbs". He talked about never giving up. They went to the The Kentucky Derby and Louisville Slugger Museum where they saw how baseball bats were made the old fashioned way and today. The students also had a Scavenger Hunt. The students attended The Agri Science Fair and saw Agricultural Colleges from every state.
- V. Communications**
 - 1. Citizens or organizations in attendance** - Elaine Norgart asked for board approval to Open Enroll Out her daughter to the Emmetsburg School due to bullying. It will be discussed later in the agenda.
 - 2. Received through the mail** - None
 - 3. Through Board Members - School Board Convention** - Enderson, went to a discussion on "How School Board Members Are Contacted?" They discussed when to contact them by phone, versus email and in person. Grandstaff went to a discussion on the "Job Situation and Career Academy Importance." The school needs to be on top of the new job market. Grandstaff also attended a talk on "Student Engagement & Learning." School needs to work with the students individually to be sure they are headed in the right direction. The SIAC Committee could work closer with the students. Career Academy is important for the students to be out in the job field.

Titan Jam with Four Early Graduates - Sikora thought they were well prepared and did a great job. It was suggested that the Titan Jams get taped for other board members, the sophomore class and the junior class. The Titan Jam could be added to the website also.

Sports Sharing Work Session - The meeting went well. It was agreed that they would not be getting grass in the infield for baseball. The information on figures and the coaches reviews on their sports and players was appreciated by the board. Learning how evaluations are done and that Rod Hough and Jon Josephson work together on evaluating the coaches was also good information.

Teachers Meeting - They stressed that better and more consistent communication is needed. The teachers would like more advanced notice for the Student of the Month. If a student doesn't have a computer, the teacher wants to know why. There has been improvement with the High School Principal this year. His communication with the staff has improved. He is seen in the Middle School more often. There was a complaint that the filters were too restricted on the student computers. Mr. Hersom will be informed. They would like more communication with the shuttles so teams aren't left behind. There was a question on the parking and the student parking lot. Anyone can park anywhere at the school per the Superintendent. SINA meetings are a good way to improve on student learning by using guided lesson plans. The joint PD days have too many different levels. Split up the groups when they are working on certain levels for just the Elementary vs. Middle School. The teachers would like a more consistent reading program. A lot of information is given at the PD day and there isn't enough time to implement the new ideas.

VI. Business & Action Items -

- 1. Consent Items** - Motion made by Conlon to approve the consent items. Second by Enderson. Motion carried.
 - a. Minutes** - November and Joint Board Work Session Minutes approved with small changes.
 - b. Audit Report**- Presented by Murray Stanley, Auditor with Schnurr & Co., LLP.
 - c. Approval of Bills/Claims**
 - d. Financial Reports** - Presented by Josh Bader of AEA.
 - e. Activity Calendar for November** - The regular School Board Meeting will be held January 12th at 6:00 p.m.
 - f. Field Trips**
 1. Special Olympics Basketball Skills - Mary Smith will take Trinity Krieg to Spirit Lake for Basketball skills and then to lunch on January 20th. They will leave at 9:00 a.m. and return at 3:00 p.m. She will need a sub and a vehicle.
 2. Music Field Trips - Mr. Nielsen's schedule for the year was presented.
Tri-State Middle School Honor Band - Saturday, March 1st; Middle School Contest in March; 3 TAG Field Trips; Quiz Bowl Tournaments in Algona, West Bend, and North Union; Iowa Lakes Show Choir Clinic/Competition, January 27th or 28th; Show Choir Competition date unknown.
- 2. Open Enrollment -Application** - There was a request to Open Enroll a 5th Grade student to Emmetsburg on November 25th. Motion by Conlon to deny the application because it was not filed timely and does not fit with the "good cause" reasons. This one time situation was dealt with appropriately. Second by Malm. Motion carried.
- 3. Personnel - Letter** - Motion by Malm to approve the resignation letter of Shawn Morris for MS Wrestling. He will sign a contract with Graettinger-Terril. Chris Oleson will sign the

Ruthven-Ayrshire contract. Second by Conlon. Motion carried.

4. Palo Alto County Gaming Mini Grants- Reading Book Sets -

Motion by Grandstaff to approve the Scholastic Reading Book Set as the #1 priority for the Palo Alto County Gaming Mini Grant. The Board will have another meeting to approve the #2 priority for the Palo Alto County Gaming Mini Grant. Second by Enderson. Motion carried.

5. Schedule Request - Letter - Motion by Malm to approve the schedule change for Kirstin Dyer. She will remain at Ruthven in the afternoon and work as a volunteer associate in the elementary. Second by Grandstaff. Motion carried.

6. Board Policy Review - 200 Series - Motion by Conlon to approve the 200 series and wave the 2nd and 3rd readings with the exception of 214.2. Changes will be made to 214.2 and a 2nd reading will be made. Second by Malm. Motion carried.

7. Partial Day Sharing - Agreement - Motion was made by Enderson to agree to the option of the 3rd year of the Partial Day Sharing Agreement with Graettinger-Terril for tuition at 60% of ½ the regular program district cost of Ruthven-Ayrshire. The boards will continue to hold the Joint Board Work Sessions to discuss options for FY17, FY18 and beyond. Second by Malm. Motion carried. Opposed: Grandstaff.

8. Joint Board Meeting - The board would like to have another survey done with the students, teachers and administration staff. They would like to talk about the positive things and things to work on. The board would like to know about class offerings and sizes, college classes offered, computer comments, problems they are having. Why aren't students taking classes and participating in activities?

9. Dropout Prevention - Motion by Conlon to approve the submitting of the Dropout Prevention report asking for a total of between \$30,846 to \$33,846. The report is due December 15, 2014. Second by Enderson. Motion carried.

VIII. Recognition of Staff and Students

A. "Good News Sharing" - in the Principal/Superintendent Reports

IX. Principal/Superintendent Reports

A. Principal Report

1. Good News Sharing from the 5-12 Staff:
 - a. Tablets and Spheros set up and working for STEM!
 - b. Students actually got late work turned in!
 - c. Seeing positive parent "concern"
 - d. Kids practicing to read to PK and K
 - e. 19 Donors at Blood Drive
 - f. Play went very well
 - g. Early Graduates have completed IHAPI
 - h. HS Students want to be involved in PBIS
 - i. QST Groups came up with some great ideas for the Pride Challenge
2. 2nd Quarter and 1st Semester will end on Friday, December 19th. Plans for Semester tests are underway.
3. Mrs. Beisell rejoined us on Monday following Thanksgiving. The staff and students are happy to have her back. On behalf of the entire 5-12 staff, I want to thank Mr. Brent

Dyhrkopp for going above and beyond in the weeks that he served as Mrs. Beisell's long-term substitute. His teamwork and willingness to help other teachers, put in extra time with students, and help with outside activities was greatly appreciated.

4. Mr. Borchers has been working with students to complete registration for Spring Semester ILCC classes. Mrs. Alesch, Mrs. Cook and I have been working with high school students to take care of any schedule changes for 2nd semester.
5. Titan JAM for Early Graduates was held on December 1. All four early graduates presented and all met the requirements. Thanks to the board members Grandstaff, Meyer, and Sikora for assisting with the JAM presentations.
6. 5-11 MAP Testing was conducted last week with make-ups and completions being finished during study halls this week. I was very pleased with my initial review of the data. Many students met their yearly goals with the winter testing and most others made significant progress toward their goals.
7. R-A and G-T High School Students worked cooperatively with staff members and community members from both schools to carry out community service projects in conjunction with our Iowa Hall of Pride Scrimmages in November. Over \$1300.00 was raised through the various activities. This money will be distributed to several worthy local causes in our communities.
8. The PBIS team has been working overtime throughout November and December to complete the planning necessary for a PK-12 roll-out at the beginning of 2nd Semester. The Team shared their progress with the rest of the staff during Professional Development on November 11th and then gave the staff an opportunity to provide input and suggestions. The Team has been meeting 1-2 mornings per week before school in order to complete work on posters for each area of the building, lesson plans for teaching expected behaviors, and plans for acknowledging appropriate behavior.
9. Girls and Boys Basketball and Wrestling are well underway. The Junior High boys complete their season next week and Junior High girls and Junior High Wrestling will start right after Christmas break.

B. Superintendent Report

Good News Sharing - Elementary

- K-4 Reading Assembly - Grandma Pam and Tucker, the dog, came to read a story to the students from Tucker's point of view on the Buffalo by Ruthven. It was dedicated to Margo Brockmeyer.
- PK-6 Student of the Month/Character Counts Assembly is new this year.
- MAP Testing - 5-11 is completing make-ups and 2-4 started this week.
- Concert -Elfis Goes West - Great job kids! Concert behavior by the students was good, but the adults' behavior at the concert was not so good.
- We have two new students. Emilie Crapser in Elementary and Jeremy Patten in Middle School.
- I just wanted to share a few things I have noticed about this group of Kindergarten students that do not seem to be an issue like in past years. Overall they are NOT the usual group of kids I have seen, but I like to think that some of the decrease in behavior is due to the SMART Room. I do not see kids resting their heads on the

table. They sit up straight at the tables and for the most part while sitting on the carpet. They do not seem to get tired easily. They can read and count without having to touch each word/picture/object. (I think some of the counting is due to the Number Sense routines I have been using this year as well.) The ones that chewed on pencils, erasers and their shirts at the beginning of the year, do not do that anymore. They have good attention spans, they are organized, they follow directions well, and because of all of this we are definitely more productive with our class time! It will be interesting to see where they are by the end of the year!

Professional Development on Tuesday, Nov. 11th

K- 6 Reading

- SINA Plan - Consistency in reading program
Non-Negotiables - Guided Reading- working on lesson planning and what goes into Guided Reading.
- **7-12 PBIS Plan** - Have been meeting in the mornings and working on lesson plans for teaching expected behaviors.

IX. Information Items:

- 1. Student Teacher** - Marybeth Quattlebaum will be student teaching with Mrs. Kirk starting on January 5, 2015 and working through February 26, 2105.
- 2. Microsoft Grant** - There is \$9,155 in a reimbursable grant. General purposes and software expenses can be used for this grant. The grant is due December 17th.
- 3. 2015-2016 Calendar** - The 2105-2016 calendar has been started. A survey has been put out to both Ruthven-Ayrshire and Graettinger-Terril staff for suggestions of starting dates and other calendar ideas.

XIII. Adjourn - Motion by Enderson to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Second by Malm.
Motion carried. The next board meeting will be Monday, January 12, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

Kelli Harmon, Board Secretary