

RILEY COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL
District 18
9406 Riley Road
Marengo, IL 60152

Wednesday, March 16, 2011
7:00 PM

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

School Board Members Peters, Northcutt, Behnke, Mitchell, and Aubry answered roll call at 7:10 PM. School Board Members Proberts and Schnable were not in attendance. Members of the public in attendance were Mr. & Mrs. Becker, Carley Becker, Mr. & Mrs. Roudabush, Adam & Brett Roudabush, Mr. & Mrs. Kasch, Mr. Engelbrecht, Mr. Haeflinger, Ms. Gibbons, and Mrs. Wojcik. Also in attendance were Mrs. Schnable, Mrs. Rooney and Mr. Trickett.

There were no Freedom of Information requests. There were no questions on the Financial and Treasurer's reports. No changes are to be made to the Special Negotiations Meeting Minutes, the Regular School Board Meeting Minutes, Closed Session Minutes for Negotiations and Closed Session Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 16, 2011. Member Northcutt and Member Mitchell will review the policy revisions listed. Riley School received \$220.63 for the Library Program Grant. The Riley Parent Association is asking approval for the annual garage sale for Thursday, June 9, 2011, through Saturday, June 11, 2011. Drop off dates will be Tuesday, May 31, 2011, through Friday, June 3, 2011. Times will be posted. Mrs. Conkling would like one week of vacation starting March 28, 2011 through April 1, 2011. Our graduation date has been set for Tuesday, May 31, 2011, at 7:00 PM in the Marengo Community High School auditorium. The bus driver's refresher course will be held on April 13, 2011, at Marengo Community High School.

Member Aubry made a motion to accept the consent agenda items as presented. Member Northcutt seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

RECOGNITION AND INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS AND VIKING AWARD RECIPIENTS

Viking award winners for February were 7th graders, Carley Becker and Adam Roudabush. Congratulations and keep up the good work.

Mr. Trickett introduced Mr. Dave Engelbrecht, head of transportation, building and grounds and technology for Marengo Community High School District 154. Mr. Engelbrecht is working on his doctorate; and is here tonight to observe a small elementary school district board meeting as part of his doctoral program. Mr. Trickett also asked Michelle Gibbons to speak on behalf of the new newspaper starting up in town. Ms. Gibbons is now employed by the

Marengo Union Times, a monthly publication, and welcomes any events, pictures, and honor roll information to publish in the new publication.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

COMMUNICATIONS

SEDOM Board Briefs, briefed us on the New Beginnings Program located in Union which provides a safe, positive, and individualized therapeutic day school environment to meet the behavioral, emotional and academic needs of each student for grades three through twelve. Spring break will start March 28, 2011, and students and teachers will return on April 4, 2011. Riley School hours over spring break will be Monday through Thursday 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM. Superintendent Trickett provided the Board of Education with several articles on the new legislation requiring Illinois school districts to consolidate from “Rural Schools Debate Options” to “Analysis and Comparison of Education Reform Proposal”. Superintendent Trickett is considering drafting a letter to the Governor of Illinois requesting that a study be done to see exactly how much money will be saved by consolidating. Consolidation bills written must be voted on by both Congressional Houses; and generally consolidation can not be forced upon school districts. The Alliance Legislative Report also comments on the consolidation bill which is currently on hold because of the large responses from school board members and general public. “The Extra Mile” provided by Hodges, Loizzi, Eisenhammer, Rodick & Kohn LLP., continues to update the Board on union laws. Mr. Trickett and Mrs. Schnable both attended the Public Hearing on Petition for the Amendment of an Annexation Agreement with City of Marengo and McHenry County. They are petitioning for multi-family zoning on the Seven Oaks property, and the Pleasant Grove Estates property is looking to be annexed into the City of Marengo and approved for well and septic. The Pleasant Grove Estates developers intend to discuss with the City of Marengo a reduction of impact fees.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Behnke expressed his displeasure on the City of Marengo’s decision on creating two TIFF Districts, one in the downtown area of Marengo and the Eastern Corridor of Marengo. On a more cheerful note, President Behnke again praised Ms. Burns on a job well done at the spring ensemble program. Mr. Behnke was impressed as to how many of the participants are 6th grade students. It is just amazing what talents continue to blossom under her direction. We are so fortunate to be able to provide our students with these arts.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Principal Conkling reported that all ISAT testing has been completed. There were many absentees and Mrs. Kallal has completed all make-up tests. Traditionally, students who are not

tested with their class tend not to do as well because they are taken out of the class room setting and are unable to utilize instructional posters. This creates a stressful environment for these students. All tests have been boxed and ready for pick up. The State does a random survey of Districts on the ISAT process. Mrs. Conkling hopes that Riley School is selected to participate in this survey, so she may express her concerns. Boss Drilling will be out next week to start installation on the next two pieces for the playground. Riley Parent Association (RPA) has given Mrs. Conkling some money to purchase one more piece of equipment. Spring break begins March 28, 2011, and we all return on Monday, April 4, 2011. The custodians are working on a project list for spring break which includes some unfinished painting. Mrs. Conkling would also like to praise Ms. Burns on a wonderful concert. The level of difficulty these students continue to play is amazing. She would also like to commend those soloists that have the courage to perform in front of an audience. Girls' basketball ended with a staff/player scrimmage and pizza. Boys' volleyball is in full swing this week with girls' soccer and track and field to end the sports seasons. There is a Junior High Dance for 6th through 8th grade this Friday, March 18, 2011, from 3:15 PM to 5:00 PM. Kelsey Paprocki represented Riley School at the Regional Spelling Bee at McHenry County College placing 2nd runner up. Kelsey did a fantastic job and studied hard. She plans on winning the Riley Spelling Bee next year and finishing 1st runner up at the Regional level. Good luck in your efforts for next year. Kelsey and her brother Carter Paprocki also competed at the Region 5 Science Fair at Northern Illinois and both received highest honors to advance to the State level at the University of Illinois in May.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Trickett would like to thank Mrs. Conkling for organizing the ISAT testing. This can be a very stressful job. Mr. Trickett and Mrs. Schnable continue to develop the budget while waiting on the State to determine the funding. The third grade classrooms continue to have some minimal leaking; and Mr. Trickett understands the leaking of water to be from a build up in condensation in the insulation above the ceiling tile that develops over the winter months. When the temperature changes from an intense heating to cooling off, we notice the water forms on the cooler metal spikes holding the insulation in place and water drips from the metal spikes. Industrial Appraisal will complete, over spring break, an audit of our fixed assets, for purpose of District and insurance records.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

The McHenry County Safe School Program is an alternative school program for students unable to adapt to the day to day routine in a regular school setting.

Member Mitchell made a motion to pass a resolution for the McHenry County Safe School Program. Member Aubry seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Member Aubry made a motion to appoint Sharon Ettner as Riley Community Consolidated School District 18's Treasurer and secure Bond for Fiscal Year 2012. Member Peters seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Member Northcutt made a motion to appoint Barb Rooney as Treasurer of the Activity Fund and secure Bond for Fiscal Year 2012. Member Aubry seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Mr. Trickett would like to thank Mrs. Schnable for implementing the new software program requested by the auditors for the Activity Fund. Under the auditor's direction Mrs. Conkling, Mrs. Schnable and Mrs. Rooney have complied with their demands for more internal accountability of district activity funds.

Member Peters made a motion to accept Board of Education semi-annual review of all non-released Executive Session Minutes and recommendation to release the following: October 20, 2010 and November 17, 2010. Member Northcutt seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Member Mitchell made a motion to accept the Board of Education recommendation to destroy Board of Education audio tapes of executive sessions that are at least six months old for sessions: 3/17/10, 5/19/10, 6/16/10, and 7/21/10. Member Aubry seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Member Mitchell made a motion to adjourn for Executive Session at 7:45 PM for the purpose of Negotiations and Personnel. Member Northcutt seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The regular School Board Meeting resumed at 8:40 PM.

President Behnke stated that the negotiations are proceeding amicably and on schedule.

Member Mitchell read the Resolution for extra support personnel and personnel recommendations for employment.

Member Mitchell made a motion to pass a resolution for the honorable dismissal of part-time teaching staff, Ms. Carole Cukla, Mrs. Kelly Haeflinger, and Ms. Danielle Melka at the end of the 2010-2011 school year; and a second resolution for the re-employment of fourth year probationary teachers Ms. Victoria Kotche, Mr. Joshua Maas, Mrs. Emy Klopfenstein and Mrs. Kim O'Brien for the 2011-2012 school year; and a third resolution awarding tenure status to Ms. Nicole Adler; and re-employment of Mrs. Christine Conkling as Principal for 2011-2012 school year. Member Peters seconded the motion which carried on a roll call vote as follows:

Member Northcutt – AYE
Member Mitchell – AYE
Member Aubry – AYE

Member Behnke – AYE
Member Peters – AYE

Mr. Trickett and Mrs. Conkling met with Mrs. Kasch indicating that she intends to submit a letter to the Board of Education in reference to student selection for our algebra program.

The next regular Board of Education meeting will be April 20, 2011, at 7:00 PM. Special Board of Education Meetings are scheduled for March 23, 2011, at 5:00 PM.

Member Aubry made a motion to adjourn at 8:44 PM. Member Northcutt seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Jay Behnke – President

Mrs. Anita Mitchell – Secretary