

REED-CUSTER COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT 255U
255 COMET DRIVE
BRAIDWOOD, IL 60408

BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
April 21, 2021

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Reed-Custer Community Unit School District 255U Board of Education was held on April 21, 2021, at the Administration Center for Board Members and Superintendent Mitchell. President Boyer called the meeting to order at 5:34p.m. with the following members present: Boyer, D. Dransfeldt, Grace, Morris, Van Duyne.

Also Present: Mr. Mitchell, Superintendent, Mr. Hulbert, Assistant Superintendent for Operations and Mrs. Valiente, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning.

CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made by Grace and seconded by Van Duyne to enter into closed session for discussion of employment, resignation, and assignment of personnel or pending/possible legal litigation at 5:35p.m.

The following members voted yea on a roll call vote: Boyer, D. Dransfeldt, Grace, Morris, Van Duyne. 5 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

CONVENE REGULAR SESSION: A motion was made by Van Duyne and seconded by Grace to return to regular session at 6:30 p.m.

The following members voted yea on a roll call vote: Boyer, D. Dransfeldt, Grace, Morris, Van Duyne. 5 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

COMMENDATIONS:
None

CORRESPONDENCE:
None

VISITORS:
None

ACTION ITEM: A motion was made by Grace and seconded by Van Duyne to accept the April School Board Election Vote totals from the Will County Clerk's Office.

The following members voted yea on a roll call vote: Boyer, D. Dransfeldt, Grace, Morris, Van Duyne. 5 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM: A motion was made by Grace and seconded by Van Duyne to Adjourn Sine Die.

The following members voted yea on a roll call vote: Boyer, D. Dransfeldt, Grace, Morris, Van Duyne. 5 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING:

OATH OF OFFICE: Tammy Dransfeldt took the Oath of Office and was appointed to the Reed-Custer School Board.

ACTION ITEM: A motion was made by Grace and seconded by Van Duyne to appoint Mark

Mitchell, president pro-tem at 6:45pm.

The following members voted yea on a roll call vote: Boyer, D. Dransfeldt, Grace, Morris, Van Duyne, T. Dransfeldt. 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM: A motion was made by Grace and seconded by Van Duyne to appoint Greg Boyer, Reed-Custer School Board President at 6:45pm.

The following members voted yea on a roll call vote: Boyer, D. Dransfeldt, Grace, Morris, Van Duyne, T. Dransfeldt. 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM: A motion was made by Grace and seconded by Van Duyne to appoint Chris Cavanaugh, Reed-Custer School Board Vice President at 6:45pm.

The following members voted yea on a roll call vote: Boyer, D. Dransfeldt, Grace, Morris, Van Duyne, T. Dransfeldt. 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM: A motion was made by Grace and seconded by Van Duyne to appoint Jesse Morris, Reed-Custer School Board Secretary at 6:45pm.

The following members voted yea on a roll call vote: Boyer, D. Dransfeldt, Grace, Morris, Van Duyne, T. Dransfeldt. 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM: The following board representatives and board committees were chosen:

WILCO Board: Chris Cavanaugh

IASB Delegate: Greg Boyer

IASB Governing Board: Greg Boyer

Policy Committee: Greg Boyer, Devin Dransfeldt, Tammy Dransfeldt

Finance Committee: Greg Boyer, Kris Van Duyne

Building and Grounds Committee: Greg Boyer, Chris Cavanaugh, Tammy Dransfeldt

Superintendent's Review Committee: Greg Boyer, Jesse Morris

Contract Negotiations: Greg Boyer, Chris Cavanaugh, Michael Grace

President Boyer will sit on all committees.

The following members voted yea on a roll call vote: Boyer, D. Dransfeldt, Grace, Morris, Van Duyne, T. Dransfeldt. 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM: A motion was made by Grace and seconded by Morris to approve the 2021-2022 Reed-Custer School District 255U Board Meeting Dates at 6:50pm.

The following members voted yea on a roll call vote: Boyer, D. Dransfeldt, Grace, Morris, Van Duyne, T. Dransfeldt. 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA: A motion was made by Van Duyne and seconded by Cavanaugh to approve the following consent agenda items:

Financial: Treasurer/Activity Accounts Reports

Bill Payable List/Payroll

Minutes: March 15, 2021 Board Minutes

The following members voted yea on a roll call vote: Boyer, D. Dransfeldt, Grace, Morris, Van Duyne, T. Dransfeldt. 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

WILCO:

Mrs. Valiente, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, stated that Peggy Kuntz, WILCO board member and ELS instructor, commended Reed-Custer School District on having a great system in place with being able to have students in session for the entire 2020-2021 school year during COVID-19 pandemic.

SOWIC:

Superintendent Mitchell reported that the motion for the Reed-Custer Early Childhood Program was approved and is discussed further in his report.

BOARD GOAL/COMMITTEE UPDATE:

President Greg Boyer commented on the new board committee moving forward smoothly.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

Superintendent Mitchell provided a COVID-19 update. As of April 21st, there have been 35 positive cases with 29 students and 6 staff members. Beginning with Summer School 2021, students electing to participate in remote learning must provide medical documentation to support the request. Optional staff vaccinations were complete as of March 12, 2021 and additional vaccination sites are available but must be scheduled individually by staff members.

Mitchell reported on the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Grants. Part one, \$170,530 was used to purchase student devices, approximately 461 Chromebooks were purchased. Part two, propose to use all of \$574,896 to repair and upgrade projects to improve air quality in school buildings. Part three, estimated \$1,364,847 to become live on July 1, 2021 and at least 20% must be used to combat learning loss, which is \$272,969 minimum.

Mitchell reported that the Resolution for the Reed-Custer Early Childhood Program that amends the SOWIC Articles was passed by the majority of SOWIC Districts. The Article Amendment was passed by the SOWIC Board. Reed-Custer CUSD 255 will operate its own Early Childhood Program in the fall 2021.

Mitchell reported that due to COVID-19, homeschool students were not able to participate in school day events or extracurricular activities in 2020-2021. Starting 2021-2022 school year, homeschool students will be allowed to participate in school day events and/or extracurricular activities, contingent on COVID-19 restrictions.

Mitchell reported potential Reed-Custer CUSD 255 employment positions at Reed-Custer Elementary School and Reed-Custer High School. Two possible full time, permanent Intervention Specialist positions, one supporting Kindergarten through 5th grade in Math and English Language Arts and the other for credit recovery, remote learning and learning loss support.

Mitchell stated Reed-Custer Middle School Promotion is Thursday, May 20 at 7:00pm with a rain date of Friday, May 21st at 7:00pm. Reed-Custer High School Graduation is Sunday, May 23rd at 2:00pm with a rain date of Saturday May 22nd at 2:00pm. Both ceremonies will take place outside at the Reed-Custer High School football field. Each student will receive 4 attendance tickets. Board members, Greg Boyer and Jesse Morris, will attend the Reed-Custer High School Graduation. Board members, Kris Van Duyne and Michael Grace, will attend the Reed-Custer Middle School Promotion.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING:

Mrs. Valiente, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, provided an update on Curriculum. Naviance, a college and career readiness platform, will replace Xello at the Reed-Custer High School. Naviance provides support for all post-secondary paths and includes a

resume builder and high school course planner. Partners with PowerSchool, Parchment and CommonApp. Offers an alumni database for 7 years after student graduates.

Valiente highlighted the assessment and reported that the Department of Education approved the ISBE's waiver to eliminate testing accountability and success measures. Illinois is not required to issue annual summative designations using 2021 data, factor the 95% participation requirement into academic achievement calculations, or measure progress toward long-term goals and periodic targets using 2021 data. Illinois is still required to report on chronic absenteeism and require previously identified schools implement support and improvement plans. 2019 designations were carried over to 2020 with Reed-Custer Elementary School being exemplary, Reed-Custer Middle School being commendable and Reed-Custer High School being commendable.

Valiente reported that spring MAP testing will be trialled with volunteer Kindergarten classes. All students, in-person and remote, in grades first through 5th will test and sixth through 8th grade students receiving interventions.

Valiente reported that Professional Development is planning dates for May 24th, 25th, 26th and summer options with curriculum time for vertical articulation and technology and software training.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR OPERATIONS:

Mr. Mark Hulbert, Assistant Superintendent for Operations reported that at the Reed-Custer Middle School clocks, bells and intercom system have been replaced. Bleacher handrails have been replaced with aluminum rails at RCMS. Water heater was replaced in the kitchen at RCMS. Superior Hood Cleaning will be cleaning the kitchen hood at RCMS

Hulbert provided a technology update that Multi-factor authentication is completed. Student interns for 2021-2022 school year are seniors, Chris Hill, Josh Stockin and Isabella Lardi; and juniors, Jaina Dubbert, Kaitlyn Faurot and Makayla Wilkins.

Hulbert provided a transportation update that the district has one (1) year of a five-year bus lease with Central States. A decision on leasing in the future will need to be approved no later than the December board meeting in order for busses to be assembled and ready for the 2022 school year. Suggested doing three-year lease for future due to a four-year warranty on engines of busses. All busses are now equipped with gas engines as an option. Research pros/cons on gas vs. diesel.

The district storage tank can be converted to gas at a cost between \$1,000-\$1,500 per Pemco. Cracked line was replaced in the underground diesel tank.

Hulbert provided a registration update as of April 21, 521 students have registered for FY2022 school year.

ACTION ITEMS: A motion was made by Van Duyne and seconded by Grace to approve the following action items:

A. Personnel

- Approve the employment of Paula Smith, 3.5 hour RCMS Food Service Assistant.
- Approve the employment of Kristen Rhodes, 4 hour RCES Temporary Lunch Duty Custodian.
- Approve the employment of Courtney White, District Nurse, effective July 1, 2021, starting salary \$50,000.00.
- Approve the employment of Shelby Zwolinski, Reed-Custer High School Assistant Softball Coach, Level 1, \$3,018.00.
- Approve the employment of Anthony Tessone, Reed-Custer High School Assistant Bass Fishing Coach, Volunteer.

- Approve the employment of Kenna Wilkey, Reed-Custer High School Assistant Softball Coach, Volunteer (pending background check).
- Accept the resignation of Anthony Gnutek as Reed-Custer Bus Driver (regular route) may continue to be a substitute driver, effective March 16, 2021.
- Accept the resignation of Stacy Bateman, RCMS Food Service, effective March 18, 2021.
- Accept the resignation under the VERP agreement of Will Ricken, Director of HVAC/Maintenance, effective 2024-2025.
- Approve the position change of Matt Peterson from RCES Assistant Principal to Assistant Superintendent of Operations, two-year contract, July 1, 2021- June 30, 2023.
- Approve the contract of Will Ricken, Director of HVAC/Maintenance, Four-year contract July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2025.
- Approve the contract of Terry Bennett, Director of Maintenance, Four-year contract, January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2023, retroactive from September 16, 2020.
- Approve the contracts for Luciana Kelaiditis, Duane Dubbert and Justin Walsh, Technology Support Personnel, one-year contract, July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022.
- B. Building Usage Requests – NONE
- C. -Approve 2021-2022 IESA Membership Renewal, renewal dues of \$300.00.
- Approve 2021-2022 IHSA Membership Renewal.

The following members voted yea on a roll call vote: Boyer, D. Dransfeldt, Grace, Morris, Van Duyne, T. Dransfeldt. 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEM:

Superintendent Mitchell suggested offering incentives to current Reed-Custer certified employees who agree to further their education in order to fill open positions within the district.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Grace and seconded by Morris to adjourn the regular session meeting at 8:53pm.

The following members voted yea on a roll call vote: Boyer, D. Dransfeldt, Grace, Morris, Van Duyne, T. Dransfeldt. 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.