

Regular School Board Meeting

August 13, 2024

A regular meeting of the Redbank Valley School Board was held on August 13, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at the Redbank Valley High School. The following members were in attendance: Chris Merwin, Chris Adams, Heidi Byers, John Kimmel, Matt Confer, Kevin Johnson, Bill Reddinger, and John Sayers. Brent Wile was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by John Kimmel to approve the minutes of the Work Session on July 2, 2024 and the Regular Board Meeting on July 9, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Crawford spoke to the board about the 2024-2026 Developing Future Special Educators Grant in the amount of \$17,200 that was awarded to the district. Redbank was the only district in the area to be awarded this grant. The purpose of this grant is to engage students in learning about and/or working with students with disabilities as a means to inspire the next generation of special educators. This will help students gain valuable information regarding career options and requirements related to the field of special education. Mrs. Crawford is very excited for this opportunity and she will work with the district office for reporting requirements.

Mrs. Shirey had nothing to add to the Primary/Intermediate Report.

Mr. Hartle had nothing to add to the Secondary Report.

Mr. Temchulla had nothing to the Special Education Report.

Mr. Rapp had nothing to add to the Maintenance Report. Dr. Rupp stated that the sinkhole has been fixed. She offered some details about the repair that took place. She also stated that a leak had been found in a pipe located under the building. Next Wednesday (8/21), 45 feet of this pipe will be repaired. She explained the specifics of the repair to the board. She added the field was being painted today and everything will be business as usual for the start of the school year. Meet the Bulldog Night will be held on Friday night (8/16) at the high school. She also shared that the Education Foundation will be selling Redbank Valley yard signs to the public as a fundraiser.

Mr. Reitz had nothing new to add to the Cafeteria Report.

Mrs. Reitz presented the Business Manager's Report. She stated that the business office was busy getting purchasing completed, working on transportation routes, and getting payroll updated for the 24-25 school year. They are all working on utilizing the accounting/transportation software to its fullest potential. This is taking some time, but will hopefully lead to less work in the future.

Dale Kirsch is coming on August 23rd and our goal is to have the accounts reconciled by August 31st. She received a punch list of items from the auditor and can start working on those as soon as the accounts are reconciled. She hopes that the AFR can be completed by November 30th. She went on to give the board an update of the district financial numbers.

Dr. Rupp had nothing to add the Superintendent Report.

Mr. Confer had nothing to add to the IU6 Report.

Mrs. Byers had nothing to add to the Career Center Report.

Mr. Sayers added to the Board Committee Reports. He stated that they would be having their first facilities meeting in September.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

OLD BUSINESS

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by John Sayers for consideration to approve the second reading of the following policies:

908.1 – Title I Program

909 – Municipal Government Relations (new)

910 - Community Relations

911 - News Media Relations

146.1 – Trauma Informed Approach

218 – Student Discipline

218.1 - Weapons

218.2 – Terroristic Threats

916 – Volunteers

Dr. Rupp offered details to the board on changes she made to 916. The board further discussed this series of readings. No vote (Motion Tabled)

A motion was made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by Heidi Byers for consideration to table the second reading of the following policies:

908.1 – Title I Program

909 – Municipal Government Relations (new)

910 - Community Relations

911 - News Media Relations

146.1 – Trauma Informed Approach

218 – Student Discipline

218.1 - Weapons

218.2 – Terroristic Threats

916 – Volunteers

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by Matt Confer for consideration to approve the first reading of the following policies as presented:

912 – Relations with Educational Institutions

913 – Nonschool Organizations/Groups/Individuals

914 - Relations with Intermediate Unit

915 – School-related Groups/Boosters/Support/PTO Organizations

917 – Parent/Family Involvement

918 - Title 1 Parent and Family Engagement

Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by Matt Confer for consideration to retire the following policy: 919 – District/School Report Cards. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Sayers and seconded by Matt Confer for consideration to approve the 9th grade trip to Washington DC from October 23 – October 25. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by Matt Confer for consideration to approve the 5 year bus contract with Barrett Busing. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by Matt Confer for consideration to approve the van and bus driver list for the 2024-2025 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by Matt Confer for consideration to approve the MOU with Riverview IU #6 for special education services as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by Kevin Johnson for consideration to approve the TSI Plan as presented prior to its submission to the state. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Matt Confer and seconded by John Kimmel for consideration to approve researching a professional development workshop with the superintendent and board of directors

presented by PSBA. Cost to the district is \$1,000 for in-person training or \$800 for a live webinar. Mr. Johnson questioned the cost associated with this training. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by Heidi Byers for consideration to approve the forgiveness of lunch debt for students who owe money to the cafeteria. Cost to the district is **\$1,254.79**. Motion Failed by a 1-7 vote (Merwin, Adams, Byers, Kimmel, Confer, Reddinger, and Sayers)

A motion was made by Chris Merwin and seconded by Kevin Johnson for consideration to approve the elimination of the pay to participate fee for extracurricular activities for the 2024-2025 school year. Total estimated cost to the district is **\$27,600.00**. Mr. Merwin asked questions about individual sports accounts/money distribution. Mr. Darr offered some insight/ information about these accounts. Extensive discussions ensued with the board involving sports finances/expenses and the financial state of the district. No vote. The board opted to create an amended motion concerning the issue.

An amended motion was made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by Heidi Byers for consideration to cap the participation fee for extracurricular activities for the 2024-2025 school year to \$100 per family. Motion failed by a 4-4 vote (Kimmel, Confer, Reddinger, and Sayers)

A motion was made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by Heidi Byers for consideration to approve the elimination of Chromebook insurance and repair costs for Chromebooks for the 24-25 school year. Total estimated cost to the district based on costs for the 24-25 school year is a minimum of **\$15,000.00**. Motion failed by a 4-4 vote (Kimmel, Confer, Reddinger, and Sayers).

A motion was made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by Chris Merwin for consideration to approve the elimination of parking fees for the 24-25 school year. Total estimated cost to the district is **\$4,220.00**. Motion failed by a 4-4 vote (Kimmel, Confer, Reddinger, and Sayers)

A motion was made by Bill Reddinger and seconded by John Kimmel for the consideration to hold board meeting in a live setting and eliminate the audio and video livestream for the public. Motion failed. (All opposed) Mr. Johnson emphasized the need for the district to be transparent and open with the public. Mr. Sayers stated it was important to improve the quality of the livestreams so that the information being shared with the public was clear and accurate. He doesn't want a poor quality livestream to lead to misinformation or misunderstandings with those listening. The board was open to spending funds to improve the quality of the livestream equipment.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by John Sayers for the consideration to approve the agreement between Keystone Area School District and Redbank Valley School District for Autistic Support Services. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

A motion was made by Chris Merwin and seconded by John Sayers for consideration to approve July 2024 General Fund Expenditures in the amount of **\$1,364,601.23** and to approve the July Treasurer's Report. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by Matt Confer for consideration to accept a \$2,500 monetary donation from the estate of Allen Byers in memory of Kathy Burdett. Donation to be transferred to the RV Education Foundation. Motion carried unanimously.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by Kevin Johnson to approve Kyle Hicks to serve as a mentor for Lauren Smith (Cost to the district over one year is **\$700.00**), to approve Barbara Orange to serve as mentor for Dana Weiser (Cost to the district over one year is **\$700.00**), and to approve Eli Terwilliger to serve as a mentor for Angeles Ondish (Cost to the district over two years is **\$1,400.00**). Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by Matt Confer for consideration to approve the Coaches Handbook Changes for the 2024-2025 season. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by Chris Merwin for consideration to approve the 24-25 RV Official's Pay Scale as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by John Sayers for consideration to approve the hiring of Katelyn Reddinger as a paraeducator at an hourly rate of \$11.37 per hour. Total cost to the district is **\$13,831.84**. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by Chris Merwin for consideration to approve the following resignations:

Ryan Sherry - Varsity Softball Assistant Coach

Ruben Carrillo - JH Assistant Football Coach

Jordonna Bowser - Musical Director

Nancy McCauley – Custodian

Elizabeth Dean – Cafeteria Worker

Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by Kevin Johnson for consideration to approve the hire of Mike Rearick as the Assistant Varsity Softball Coach. 60 pts @ \$43.50. Total cost to the district is **\$2,907.62**. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by Kevin Johnson for consideration to hire Khorey Neiswonger as the Assistant Boys Varsity Basketball Coach. 80 pts @ \$43.50. Total cost to the district is **\$3,876.82**. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by Kevin Johnson for consideration to hire Andy Rex as the JH Assistant Football Coach. 74 pts @ \$46.50. Total cost to the district is **\$2,952.74**. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by Chris Adams for consideration to hire the following volunteers for Fall Sports:

Scott Toth - Football
Trent Bowersox - Football
Tessa Troup - Volleyball
Matt Darr - Volleyball
Cari Darr – JH Soccer
Justin Dawson - Girls Soccer
David Pence – Boys Soccer
Ashlyn Holben - Competitive Spirit
Jada Collins - Competitive Spirit
Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by Kevin Johnson for the consideration to hire Zoe Girty as the Musical Director. 70 pts @ 43.50. Total cost to the district is **\$3,393.01**. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by John Sayers for the consideration to add Barbara Shaffer to the substitute school nurse list. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by John Kimmel and seconded by John Sayers for the consideration to approve the settlement agreement between Redbank Valley School District and former Employee #312 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Kevin Johnson and seconded by Matt Confer for the consideration to approve the hire of Stephanie Crissman as a 4.5 hour cafeteria worker. Total cost to the district is **\$10,640.96**. Motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL BOARD ITEMS: None

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ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by John Sayers and seconded by John Kimmel to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rochelle Reitz

Rochelle Reitz
Board Secretary