



FOUNDATION
FOR
RUSHFORD-PETERSON SCHOOLS

Board Meeting Minutes
JULY 9, 2021 | 8:00 a.m. | Forum Room, RP School

In Attendance: Donna Boyum, June Vitse, Joyce Iverson, Claire Olstad, Jon Thompson, Bonnie Prinsen, and Jo Anne Agrimson.

Absent: Brenda Tesch, Amy Woxland, Jack Culhane, Lisa Lawston, Jen Hengel, Jenny Helgemoe, Aaron Prinsen

President Joyce Iverson called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. She then formally welcomed Bonnie Prinsen to the board as school board representative.

Approve Agenda: Motion made to approve the agenda by Jo Anne Agrimson; seconded by June Vitse. Motion carried.

Minutes: Motion made to approve the minutes from June 4, 2021 by Donna Boyum; seconded by June Vitse. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Jen Hengel's report showed contributions of \$100 to Michael Reinhardt scholarship and \$6,000 for the named G. S. Woxland scholarship. The Woxland family has set up the parameters of the new scholarship. Quarterly interest for all funds will be shown in August. Motion made to approve the financial report by June Vitse; seconded by Claire Olstad. Motion carried.

Bills to Pay: \$127 to the Chamber of Commerce for financial services for 6 hours from April 1 to June 30. This reflects an increase from \$20.00 to \$23.50 per hour for these services. Motion made by Jo Anne Agrimson; seconded by Donna Boyum to pay the \$127 bill to the RP Valley Chamber of Commerce. Motion carried.

BLT Planning:

BLT: August 21, 2021: Brenda Tesch and Amy Woxland were unable to attend the meeting. On-line t-shirt orders must be placed by July 15. 61 entrants have registered so far, which is the most registrations as of this date.

Bluff Land Trojan Kids' Challenge Saturday, July 17 at Creekside during Rushford Days: The Booster Club has provided a \$500 sponsorship so there will be no entry fee for children. 12-1:30 will be for practice runs; 1:30 for age group races with medals and prizes. Volunteers are needed: 6-10 high school students paired with an adult volunteer could be used.

Trade Scholarships: Joyce Iverson called for volunteers to develop a definition of the term *trade* for future scholarships. Claire Olstad, Jack Culhane and Jo Anne Agrimson will be on that committee.

Here is the draft we discussed as recorded in the June 4th minutes:

“A post-secondary educational institution that is designed to train students for a specific job in a skilled trade career. Trade schools offer hands-on training to prepare students for actual work in their chosen field. They are entirely concentrated on relevant job training. A trade school gives students the knowledge needed in order to start a career in a field that requires technical expertise or hands-on experience. A skilled trades training program can take two years or less; however, most students have enough training to begin their careers in a year. For the Foundation for R-P Schools Trade Scholarship, a trade school education may not be considered a stepping stone to a four-year bachelor's degree from a college.”
(Do we add career examples such as “may include but not be limited to”; consider trade as the name vs. technical/vocational/community college?)

A discussion was held. Guidance Counselor Jenny Helgemoe works hard to ensure students apply for scholarships and she answers student questions about the scholarships. Members agreed that the point of the scholarships is to enable post-secondary education whether 2-year or 4-year. Superintendent Thompson had contacted other schools who are also struggling with this question. The question was raised whether the 4-year scholarship specifies that it is a 4-year school. The intent originally was to allow students who would be auto mechanics or other 1-2 year “trades” to apply for a specific scholarship; local businesses had hoped to sponsor a scholarship for their specific trade. We discussed the fact that the line between post-secondary institutions has blurred. Students don’t always know what they wish to do when they are 17 or 18. Nurses can, for example, go to post-secondary for different time spans to earn different certificates and degrees.

Claire suggested tabling the discussion until there are more members present. Claire made this into a motion. Bonnie Prinsen seconded. Motion carried.

This is the time to contact possible new members to be considered in October for approval by November 1st.

Junior Student Member: Senior Student Member Aaron Prinsen suggested two junior students. Based on feedback from Administration’s Mr. Timm, President Iverson suggested choosing Brielle Rasmussen and was asked to contact her as soon as possible.

Community Members: New member suggestions are Megan LaFleur whom Jack Culhane will contact. Jo Anne mentioned Nancy Snyder. Duane Koenen will be contacted by Bonnie Prinsen. Others mentioned were Burt Svendsen and Ross Himlie. Typically the number of board members should be an odd number. Joyce Iverson will check the by-laws for minimum and maximum numbers.

Joyce had also offered the services of the board to scrape and paint the Grinde school. Any members who are able to help should contact Terri Benson.

Next meetings are scheduled for Fridays August 6; September 10; October 1 or 8, 2021 @ 8 a.m. at R-P School.

Adjourn: Motion made by June Vitse to adjourn at 8:33; seconded by Jo Anne Agrimson. Meeting adjourned.

Actions for SMIF:

\$127 payment to the Rushford Peterson Valley Chamber