

RENSSELAER CENTRAL SCHOOLS CORPORATION
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2023

RENSSELAER CENTRAL SCHOOLS CORPORATION ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM

EXECUTIVE SESSION

6:00 p.m.

- A. Call to Order
- B. Establishment of a Quorum
- C. I.C.5-14-1.5-6.1 (b)(2)(A)
To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining
- D. Adjournment

REGULAR SESSION

7:00 p.m.

The Board of School Trustees of the Rensselaer Central Schools Corporation met in Regular Session on Tuesday, August 15, 2023 at the Rensselaer Central Schools Corporation Administrative Offices Board Conference Room. Board Members present were Janice Deno, Cole Buschman, Gary Braasch, Courtney Wilcox, Emily Lyons, and Mark Jordan. Rick Odle was absent.

President Braasch called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

President Braasch determined a quorum present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

President Braasch stated that there was (1) addition to the agenda, Item L.6 – Approval of Donations to the Rensselaer Central Health Science Department and Rensselaer Central High School. Mr. Jordan made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Ms. Lyons seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The minutes of the July 18, 2023 Regular Session Meeting and July 24, 2023 Special Session Meeting were presented for board approval. Mrs. Deno made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Buschman seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

President Braasch asked for comments from the RCCTA. Stacy Kurdelak wished to welcome the board back to the new school year on behalf of the RCCTA. She stated that the RCCTA provided lunch to the new teachers after the new teacher orientation meeting. She stated that the first ever substitute teacher training meeting was a success.

President Braasch asked for patron comments. There were none.

President Braasch extended an invitation to the board members to attend the various activities that the schools have to offer during the school year.

A Public Hearing was held on the SEA 390 Public Hearing of the Rensselaer Central Classroom Teachers Association and Rensselaer Central Schools Corporation. President Braasch opened the floor for Public Comments. Stacy Kurdalak stated that it is our goal through bargaining to have a contract including salary and benefits that is the best in our area and competitive across our state. There were no other comments. President Braasch closed the Public Hearing.

Van Elementary Principal Chad Wynn and Rensselaer Central Primary School Principal Jennifer Norris presented the board with 2023 I-Learn and I-Read results for their perspective buildings. They spoke to the board in regards to their preparation for upcoming mandates from the state.

Superintendent Craig updated the board on several projects that are planned and that have already been completed within the corporation.

- New Roof at the High School is finished.
- Van Rensselaer Elementary is painted and brick is fixed.
- The new process at the High School for preparing the floors is successful.

Claims dated August 15, 2023 were presented for board approval. Mrs. Deno made the motion to approve the claims. Mr. Buschman seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig presented, to the board, a Financial Report showing expenditures through July 31, 2023.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of a Proposal to change the name of Rensselaer Middle School to Rensselaer Central Middle School to align with the naming of the Primary and High School. Mr. Jordan made the motion to approve the request. Ms. Lyons seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of the following 2023-2024 Student Transfer Requests:

- Bowen Stuppy – Kindergarten
- Huntley Stuppy – 2nd Grade
- Dallas Linn – 1st Grade
- Nayeli Harpe – 1st Grade
- Halle Combs – 10th Grade

Ms. Lyons made the motion to approve the request. Mrs. Deno seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of 2023-2024 Contract with Soliant for School Psychologist Services through their employee, Karlissa Pollack. Mr. Jordan made the

motion to approve the request. Ms. Lyons seconded the motion. The vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of the following FFA Overnight Field Trip Requests:

- October 6-8, 2023 to Trafalgar, IN
- October 10-12, 2023 to Trafalgar, IN
- October 20-21, 2023 to Central Indiana
- November 2-4, 2023 to Indianapolis, IN
- December 8-9, 2023 to West Lafayette, IN

Mrs. Deno made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Buschman seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of 2023-2024 Fall Cheer Camp, September 16, 2023, Rensselaer Central High School Gymnasium. Mr. Jordan made the motion to approve the request. Mrs. Wilcox seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board acceptance of donations to the Rensselaer Central Health Science Department and Rensselaer Central High School. (Attachment A) Mrs. Wilcox made the motion to approve the request. Mrs. Deno seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of the following Leave Request:

- Michelle Wilmington – Maternity Leave

Mr. Jordan made the motion to approve the request. Ms. Lyons seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of the following Extra Curricular Activities Resignation:

- Dan Hawthorne – High School Science Olympiad Sponsor

Mrs. Wilcox made the motion to accept the resignation. Mr. Buschman seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of the following Extra Curricular Activities Recommendation:

- Mackenzie Logsdon – Elementary Math Bowl Sponsor

Mr. Jordan made the motion to accept the request. Mrs. Deno seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of the following Coaching Recommendations:

- Fall 2023-2024
 - Andrea Tatum – 6th Grade Girls Volleyball Coach
- Winter 2023-2024
 - Kerry Mathew – 9th Grade Boys Basketball Coach

Ms. Lyons made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Jordan seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

President Braasch stated that there will be no school on Monday, September 4, 2023 for Labor Day.

President Braasch stated that the next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, **5:00 p.m.** in the Board Conference room.

Being there was nothing else to come before the board at this time, President Braasch adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m. on a motion by Ms. Lyons and a second by Mrs. Wilcox.

SIGNED AND APPROVED BY
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
RENSSELAER CENTRAL SCHOOLS CORPORATION

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