

RENSSELAER CENTRAL SCHOOLS CORPORATION
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2023

RENSSELAER CENTRAL SCHOOLS CORPORATION ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM

REGULAR SESSION

The Board of School Trustees of the Rensselaer Central Schools Corporation met in Regular Session on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at the Rensselaer Central Schools Corporation Administrative Offices Board Conference Room. Board Members present were Janice Deno, Charlie Parrish, Gary Braasch, Kevin Arnold, and Rick Odle. Emily Lyons and Mark Jordan were absent.

President Braasch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

President Braasch determined a quorum present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

President Braasch stated that there were (3) additions to the agenda, Item J.6 – Location changed to Viking Middle School and Six Flags Great America, Gurnee, IL, May 20, 2023. J.10 – Approval to Accept Bids for High School Food Service Upgrades. Item J.11 – Approval to Purchase Truck for Maintenance. Mrs. Deno made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Mr. Parrish seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The minutes of the April 18, 2023 Regular Session Meeting and April 25, 2023 Special Session were presented for board approval. Mr. Odle made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Arnold 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 thanked the board for working with RCCTA this school year. She stated that the teachers have concerns about numbers, classes, and Lifewise Academy.

President Braasch asked for patron comments. Jody Burton and Tanya Casteel spoke in support of Lifewise Academy. Lana Zimmer expressed her concerns regarding the Lifewise Academy. Jan Benner and Kelley Spurgeon invited the board members and their spouses to attend the Senior Graduation Ceremony on June 4, 2023. Mikki Yeoman spoke regarding an issue posted on social media. Ryan Hunsley spoke on behalf of his support for Lifewise Academy. Greg Whaley, Kathy Staddon, and Linda Comingore spoke of their concerns with Lifewise Academy.

President Braasch asked for Board comments. Kevin Arnold stated the importance of the board members presence at the Senior Graduation Ceremony.

Superintendent Craig updated the board on several projects going on within the corporation.

- New Roof at the High School will start shortly after Graduation.
- New Furniture for the High School Art Room arrived and looks fantastic.
- The Corporation will be seeking bids for the restroom/concession facility.

Claims dated May 16, 2023 were presented for board approval. Mr. Arnold made the motion to approve the claims. Mr. Odle 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 April 30, 2023.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of the 2023 Seamless Summer Meal Program, May 30, 2023 – June 29, 2023. Mr. Parrish 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 acceptance of donations for the High School, Van Rensselaer Intermediate School Library and Art Program. (Attachment “A”) Mr. Arnold made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Odle seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval for Grade 3-5 Students to be Released to Lifewise Academy for Religious Instruction. Mr. Arnold made the motion to approve the request. Mrs. Deno seconded the motion. The vote of the board was as follows: Aye – Mrs. Deno, Mr. Parrish, Mr. Arnold. Nay – Mr. Braasch, Mr. Odle.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of 2023 Rensselaer Central Schools Technology Plan. Mrs. Deno made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Parrish seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval to Get Bids for Restroom/Concession Facility. Mr. Parrish made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Odle seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval for Rensselaer Central Band to Viking Middle School and Six Flags Great America, Gurnee, IL, May 20, 2023. Mrs. Deno made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Parrish 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:

- Parker Hanley - Kindergarten
- Emmah Kelley – 12th Grade

Mr. Odle made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Arnold seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of Boys Soccer Camp, Huntington University, July 24-27, 2023. Mrs. Deno made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Parrish seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval for the Boys Golf Team to stay in a Hotel in West Lafayette, May 19, 2023 to participate in an Invite at Kampen Golf Complex, 6:30 a.m. on May 20, 2023. Mr. Arnold made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Odle seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval to Accept Bids for High School Food Service Upgrades. Mr. Parrish 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 to Purchase Truck for Maintenance. Mr. Odle made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Parrish 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 Requests:

- Jessica L. Davis – Maternity Leave
- Nicole Cook – Maternity Leave

Mr. Parrish 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 Kaylin Holmes for the Maternity Leave of Jessica L. Davis. Mrs. Deno made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Parrish 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 Teacher recommendations:

- Brittany Gonzales - Agriculture Teacher
- Brenlyn Freeman - Agriculture Teacher
- Amy Craig – 7th Grade Language Arts Teacher

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

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of the following Summer School Recommendations:

- Jamie Fields – Elementary Art
- Bobbi Jo Sammons – IREAD
- Brenlyn Freeman – SAE
- Brittany Gonzales – SAE
- Rebecca Fuller – Primary ESY
- Jacqui Buczek – Primary ESY
- Meghan Stalbaum – Van ESY
- Rose Sell – Middle School ESY
- Stacy Kurdelak – High School ESY
- Elliott Zimmer – High School Credit Recovery

- Chris Meeks – Drivers Education
- Linda Kaufman – Drivers Education

Mr. Parrish made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Arnold 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 Summer Workers:

- Stephenie Budd
- Matthew Swartz
- Anderson Heinig
- Wyatt Chapman
- Anthony Rodriguez

Mr. Arnold made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Odle seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board acceptance of the following Coaching resignations:

- Elliott Zimmer – Middle School Wrestling Coach
- Ashley Webb – 7th Grade Volleyball Coach

Mrs. Deno made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Odle 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
 - Kali Gastineau – Asst. HS Cheer Coach
 - Alfonso Lopez-Alba – Asst. HS Boys Soccer Coach
 - Katie Bilyeu – JV Volleyball Coach
- Winter 2023-2024
 - Matt Anderson (50% Stipend) – Asst. Boys HS Wrestling Coach
 - Kim Schmid (50% Stipend) – Asst. Boys HS Wrestling Coach
 - Kent Korniak – MS Wrestling Coach
 - Eric Van Meter – JV Girls Basketball Coach
 - Amanda Manns – Asst. Girls Basketball Coach
 - Trent Phegley – JV Boys Basketball Coach
 - Dan Yeager – 6th Grade Girls Basketball Coach
 - Jodi Schroeder – 7th Grade Girls Basketball Coach
 - Ed Cain – 8th Grade Girls Basketball Coach
 - Bob Hanna – 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach

Mr. Arnold made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Odle seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

President Braasch stated that Thursday, May 25, 2023 will be the last student day.

President Braasch stated that the Senior Graduation Ceremony will be held Sunday, June 4, 2023, 2:00 p.m. at the High School Gymnasium.

President Braasch stated that the next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, 7:00 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 Mr. Odle and a second by Mr. Parrish.

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

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