

Rockwell-Swaledale Board Minutes
Official Proceedings – February 15, 2010 – Unapproved

The Rockwell-Swaledale Board of Education met in regular session in the Superintendent's Office. President Arlyn Butler called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Board members present were Rob Heimbuch, Todd Liekweg, and Lisa Schultz. Mary Ingham arrived at 5:45 and Lisa Schultz left at 6:20. Also present were Supt. Tom Fey, Principal Abe Maske and Business Manager Linda Foell.

Heimbuch made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of 4.b. VIP donation; seconded by Liekweg. Motion carried 4-0.

Heimbuch made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 18 Regular Board Meeting and the January 28 Special Meeting; seconded by Liekweg. Motion carried 4-0.

After discussion, Heimbuch made a motion to approve the bills presented for payment; seconded by Schultz. Motion carried 4-0.

Schultz made a motion to approve the Financial Statements for the General, Management, PPEL, Capital Projects, Debt Service, Trust, Nutrition, and Activity Funds; seconded by Liekweg. Motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Fey asked the board to recognize the following people or groups for their achievements:

- ✓ The West Fork Middle and Elementary school raised almost \$1,000 to donate to the Haitian earthquake relief efforts. This was pooled with money collected by other Corn Bowl Conference schools and donated to the Red Cross.
- ✓ The former Rockwell-Swaledale VIP's (music boosters) have donated the remainder of their money - \$3,700 – to the current West Fork Music Boosters to be earmarked for the future purchase of new uniforms for the band.

Supt Fey reported that he has submitted a grant to the Cerro Gordo County Foundation for \$5,000 to help replace one of our five computer labs. The total project cost will be about \$8,500.

The board discussed school funding details outlined in correspondence from Iowa School Finance Information Services. The letter outlined the Governor's budget recommendations for Fiscal Year 2011 in regards to education.

Supt. Fey discussed the school calendar for 2010-2011. He hopes to have a calendar ready for board approval at the March meeting. At that time we will also need to approve requesting a waiver for an early start date for next year.

The board discussed the January 17 Community Forum concerning reorganization. The board was disappointed with the turn out and felt it made getting signatures on the petition difficult because people did not understand some of the issues, such as the handling of each district's debt. The board asked Mr. Fey to send out a mass mailing with the petition information to each resident with a deadline of February 28 for signing the petition.

The board discussed the debt issue in regards to reorganization and decided to move forward with the petition and discuss the results at the next board meeting.

Mr. Maske reported on the following:

- JH sports are done. The seasons went well. He said that our new JH Basketball Coach, Kevin Kuker did a very nice job and he got many positive comments on his coaching.
- Casey Grove, our middle school chorus director, received the Golden Apple award
- Jordan Nelson won his 100th game.
- The middle school will be looking at offering a wider range of exploratories including classes such as current events, personal fitness, book club, etc. to give students more choices.
- We will be looking at parking issues on the north end of the school to facilitate dropping off and picking up students and for visitor parking.

The board discussed how best to make up the 9 days we missed so far due to inclement weather. They discussed several options but felt using the built in days and adding the remainder to the end of the year was the most academically sound choice.

Supt. Fey presented possible summer projects for discussion. The board reviewed the projects and Mr. Fey will proceed with getting bids for approval at future meetings.

Supt. Fey discussed the 2011 school budget which was prepared on February 4. It was prepared based on 2% allowable growth. According to preliminary calculations our unspent balance went down considerably and will continue to go down due to underfunding by the state. Our instructional support levy is up next year so the board will need to approve that, along with the budget, in March. The levy rate will go up five cents to 13.82.

Ingham made a motion to approve an open enrollment out request for the 2010-2011 school year; seconded by Liekweg. Motion carried 4-0.

Ingham made a motion to adjourn at 6:45; seconded by Heimbuch. Motion carried 4-0. The next regular board meeting will be March 22 at 5:00 p.m.

Board President – Arlyn Butler

Board Secretary – Linda Foell