

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
REETHS-PUFFER SCHOOLS -- MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN
December 11, 2023

A regular meeting of the Reeths-Puffer Board of Education was called to order by Kim Bramer at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, December 11, 2023 at the Reeths-Puffer Educational Services Building, 991 W. Giles Road, Muskegon, Michigan

The following members were present:

Kim Bramer, President
Susan Blackburn, Secretary
Joan Vincent, Trustee

Jennifer Romanosky, Vice President
Chris Brooks, Treasurer
Alex Keefe, Trustee

Absent: Sonya Hernandez, Trustee

Others present: Steve Edwards, Superintendent
Rob Renes, Assistant Superintendent
26 Others

The meeting was open with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jennifer Anderson and Kristia Whitaker along with Brandyn Thorsen, Karla Buchan, Paula Olsen, Susan Derby and John Smit explained the importance of and how the flex schedule works. The flex schedule provides academic support to those students that need it. Students are paired up with a teacher but are able to request any teacher and staff are able to request any student. The staff have noticed that students are helping each other on a peer to peer level and students are not being pulled out in the middle of class for extra curriculars. It gives EI students more time to work on group projects or retake a test. With the flex program, the counseling office have been able to obtain guest speakers, go over the college applications and have college reps come in during this time instead of the lunch hour. It's been very beneficial especially for juniors and seniors.

Flex time takes place on Tuesdays and Thursdays and is a credit/no credit class. Students will have the same teacher for four years. During those years, they build strong relationships

Nate Smith and Simeon Frang brought some Good News to the board. We are one of the schools that will receive millions of dollars for the Education Innovation and Research Grants. We will have engagement in middle level learning specific to "sense of belonging, purpose and academic identity."

- The data shows that a drop of 40% interest in education from 5th thru 8th grade nationwide.
- Why R-P? We have proven to implement, partner and sustain efforts in instruction and culture over time systematically for kids.
- R-P will be plugged into a large group of partners that will help make this a success.

Summer Acceleration Update – 2024-2025 & 2025-2026 school years will be fully funded to continue our summer acceleration program.

The following items were discussed:

- A. Board Policy Special Updates – 1st Reading
 - Policy 0122 – Board Powers
 - Policy 1420 – School Administrator Evaluation
 - Policy 3120 – Employment of Professional Staff
 - Policy 3130 – Assignment and Transfer
 - Policy 3131 – Staff Reductions/Recalls
 - Policy 3132 – Vacancies
 - Policy 3139 – Staff Discipline
 - Policy 3140 – Termination and Resignation
 - Policy 3142 – Probationary Teachers
 - Policy 3220 – Professional Staff Evaluation

- B. Board Policy Updates – 2nd Reading
 - Policy 1540 – New Administrative Staff Reductions/Recalls
 - Policy 2370.01 – Revised Online/Blended Learning Program
 - Policy 7217 – Weapons
 - Policy 7540.03 – Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety
 - Policy 8531 – Free and Reduced-Price Meals

It was moved by Susan Blackburn and supported by Chris Brooks to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously. The consent agenda follows:

- A. Approve Regular Meeting Minutes – November 20, 2023
- B. Approve Closed Meeting Minutes – November 20, 2023
- C. Approve Closed Meeting Minutes – November 20, 2023
- D. Approve Closed Meeting Minutes – November 20, 2023
- E. Approve Closed Meeting Minutes – November 20, 2023
- F. Approve Personnel Report
- G. Approve 2nd Reading of Board Policy Updates

The meeting was open to the public:

- None

Communications

A. Superintendent

- Steve presented the board members with an early board appreciation gift. The District, students and staff benefit every day from the dedicated energies and countless hours devoted by our school board members. These individuals receive little recognition for the difficult job they do. They are dedicated to the continued success of Reeths-Puffer Schools. In a climate of change and challenge, board members develop policies and make tough decisions on complex educational issues. Our board members include:
 - Kim Bramer, President – June, 2003
 - Jennifer Romanosky - Vice President, - May, 2020
 - Susan Blackburn - Secretary, July, 2011
 - Chris Brooks - Treasurer, August, 2018
 - Sonya Hernandez - Trustee, March, 2018
 - Alex Keefe - Trustee, July, 2020
 - Joan Vincent, Trustee, January, 2023
- Steve shared the current realignment of the OK conference that was passed with an advisory vote.

- Holiday Event Dates to Remember:
 - High School – Candlelight Concert, Dec. 17th at 7pm in the Rocket Centre.
 - Middle School – Middle School Choir Concert Dec. 14th at 7pm.
 - Intermediate – Holiday Concert, Dec. 16th at 2pm & 5pm in the High School Rocket Centre

B. Board

- None

It was moved by Jennifer Romanosky and supported by Susan Blackburn to move to a closed session for an expulsion hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting reconvened at 6:36 p.m.

It was moved by Alex Keefe and supported by Jennifer Romanosky to accept the recommendation of the high school administration that the student identified as AW2324-8, be expelled, effective November 27,2023 for up to 180 school days from Reeths-Puffer Schools for the reason that student AW2324-8 has failed to follow the rules and regulations contained in the Student Code of Conduct resulting in a disruption of the education process for both student AW2324-8 and others such behavior is sufficient to warrant expulsion pursuant to Section 1311(1) of the Michigan School Code. During the time of expulsion, the student shall not be on school grounds or attend any functions at Reeths-Puffer Schools unless approved in advance by the Superintendent of Schools. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Alex Keefe and supported by Joan Vincent to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Blackburn, Secretary