

The Randolph Southern School Corporation Board of School Trustees met for the regular meeting on Monday, December 11, 2023 in the Superintendent's Office Board Room. The following members were present:

Eric Retter, President
Patricia Tillson, Vice President
Don Pruitt, Secretary
Heather Good, Member
Crystle Austin, Member

I. DEC 2023

Eric Retter called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

II. DEC 2023

Pat Tillson made a motion to approve the agenda. Don Pruitt seconded the motion and motion carried 5-0.

III. DEC 2023

Don Pruitt made a motion to approve the November 13, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes. Heather Good seconded the motion and motion carried 5-0.

V. DEC 2023

Pat Tillson moved to approve the November 22, 2023 payroll voucher in the amount of \$167,358.82, December 7, 2023 payroll voucher in the amount of \$148,308.31, December 6, 2023 TAG stipend in the amount of \$17,665.07, the APV's numbered 3424 through 3533 in the amount of \$682,739.91, the November 30, 2023 cash balance Education Fund in the amount of \$605,941.10 and the November 30, 2023 Operations Fund in the amount of \$211,991.54. Crystle Austin seconded the motion and motion carried 5-0.

VI.A.49 DEC 2023

Heather Good made a motion to approve the Superintendent's request for permission for the Treasurer to make year-end transfers within each fund so that no line item has a negative balance. Pat Tillson seconded the motion and motion carried 5-0.

VI.A.50 DEC 2023

Don Pruitt made a motion to approve the Superintendent's request for permission to Pay Accounts Payable Vouchers prior to December 31, 2023. (A separate docket will be presented for board approval on January 9, 2024). Crystle Austin seconded the motion and motion carried 5-0.

VI.A.51 DEC 2023

Pat Tillson made a motion to approve the Resolution to transfer unencumbered funds from the Operations Fund, Operations Fund up to but not to exceed \$65,000.00, to the Rainy Day Fund.

*Central Office will not know the exact amount until the books are closed on December 31, 2023.

Heather Good seconded the motion and motion carried 5-0.

VI.A.52 DEC 2023

Heather Good made a motion to approve adding Kelly Isenbarger as an authorized signatory of the elementary Merchants Bank of Indiana Checking account. Crystle Austin seconded the motion and motion carried 5-0.

VI.A.53 DEC 2023

Don Pruitt made a motion to approve the Superintendent's request for permission to proceed forward with a purchase agreement to purchase the home owned by Jasmine and Bryan Martzell located at 310 North Franklin Street, Lynn IN for a price of \$89,000.00. The purchase agreement will be written by school corporation attorneys, Church-Church-Hittle & Antrim with stipulations. Two appraisals were obtained by Flesher Brothers Auctioneering (\$83,000) & Real Estate and Associated Appraisers (\$95,000). Additionally, the Superintendent requests permission to proceed with a survey of the property to be conducted by Richard Mote or Mote & Associates to parcel off the acreage from the home. Mr. Mote has been in contact with Dr. Bowsman and is quoting the job at \$2,500.00 which is much lower than some previous quotes. Dr. Bowsman stated that the purchase agreement and post-closing agreement will be written for both parties to agree upon. Pat Tillson seconded the motion and motion carried 5-0.

VI.A.53 DEC 2023

Pat Tillson made a motion to approve the updated Preschool Handbook as presented. Dr. Bowsman discussed the handbook would allow the school corporation to set expectations in the preschool program next year. Dr. Bowsman also reported that changes may need to take place next year due to having fewer special education

students. Dr. Bowsman discussed that we will need to evaluate closely in April or May of 2024 and make staffing decisions for the 2024-25 school year. We cannot operate in deficit. Heather Good asked, "Do we have procedures spelled out in the handbook if parents do not pay?" Dr. Bowsman reviewed the rules and expectations listed in the handbook. Dr. Bowsman added that he reached out to Senators Raatz and Scott Alexander to voice concerns over the "red tape and bureaucracy" K-12 school corporations must go through to become a licensed preschool facility when they take care of children every day. Dr. Bowsman and Julie Northcutt, Assistant Superintendent at Randolph Central Schools, sent information to the Senators to help facilitate legislation that will allow K-12 preschool programs to become exempt. Heather Good commented, "It makes no sense that we have to go through all that for three (3) and four (4) year old children but then can turn around and take five (5) year old children into kindergarten without all those stipulations." Crystle Austin seconded the motion and motion carried 5-0.

VI.B.12 DEC 2023

Pat Tillson made a motion to approve the following Personnel items as presented:

1. Corrections to be made from Principal's original recommendations:
 - a. Tiffany Bowman as Elementary 6th Grade Camp Coordinator ½ Coach
 - b. Tammy Clements as JH Fine Arts Academic Team Coach
 - c. Tammy Clements will not be teaching Economics as an AP class.
 - d. Shawna Markley as Elementary 6th Grade Camp Coordinator ½ Coach
 - e. Shawna Markley as Elementary Spell/Math Bowl Comp. Host
 - f. Jessica Rice as JH and HS Fine Arts Academic Team Coach
 - g. Katie Uppfalt as AP Physics Stipend
2. Montana Davis to be hired as a Maternity Substitute teacher for Mrs. Fry at Randolph Southern High School from January 3, 2024 through April 1, 2024.
3. Shi Fry's maternity leave request. Mrs. Fry plans to work until delivery. Her estimated due date is January 14, 2024. Her tentative return date would be April 1, 2024.
4. Dakota King to be hired as a substitute 2nd grade teacher at Randolph Southern Elementary from October 30, 2023 through December 21, 2023.

5. Kelly Miller as a Volunteer Girls Assistant 7th and 8th Grade Basketball Coach for the 2023-24 school year.
6. Melissa Mosiers request for unpaid leave until 1-1-2024. Medical documentation was provided to Central Office.
7. Don Pruitt as a Volunteer Boys Assistant Varsity Basketball Coach for the 2023-24 school year.
8. Andrew Tillson as Girls 6th Grade Basketball Coach for the 2023-24 school year per the Master Contract.

Don Pruitt seconded the motion and motion carried 5-0 for 1-6 and 4-0 on 7-8 with Don Pruitt abstaining from number 7 and Pat Tillson abstaining from number 8.

VI.C.11 DEC 2023

Heather Good made a motion to approve the following fund raising requests:

1. Art Clubs request rent a booth at the RS Winter Craft Show. Contact person is Jessica Rice.
2. Elementary Library's request to hold a book fair. Contact person is Suzanne Robinson.
3. JH Cheers request to hold a fill a calendar fundraiser. Contact person is Shi Fry.
4. Prom's request to sell laundry detergent. Contact person is Laura McReynolds.
5. RSE PTO's request to sell Perfect Pastries and World's Finest Chocolates. Contact person is Alix Tillson.
6. Spirit Club/Student Councils request to hold a Winter Formal. Contact person is Shi Fry.
7. Student Councils request to hold a Hoco Dance. Contact person is Shi Fry.
8. 8th Grade Trip's request to hold a fill a calendar fundraiser. Contact person is Zoe Fisher.

Crystle Austin seconded the motion and motion carried 5-0.

VI.D.8 DEC 2023

Pat Tillson made a motion to approve Laura McReynolds and Katey Bebout request for the use of the high school cafeteria and possibly gym on January 28, 2024 from 6:00 AM to 2:00 PM to hold a Winter Craft Show as a fundraiser for Prom. Don Pruitt seconded the motion and motion carried 5-0.

VI.E.2 DEC 2023

Crystle Austin made a motion to approve Zoe Fishers request to take the 8th grade class to Hershey, PA from April 10, 2024 to April 13, 2024. They will depart RSHS at 8:00 AM on April 10, 2024 and return to the school on April 13, 2024 at 5:00 PM. Mr. Allen stated that Ms. Fisher has stepped in to help Mrs. Guerrero with this trip. They are trying to get as many educators to go as chaparones as possible. Mr. Allen stated that they were a little behind on the planning and may need to make some adjustments at next month's meeting. They are planning on the calendar fundraising event to help raise money for the trip to get the cost down for the kids. Heather Good commented, "I volunteer Mr. Good to go and be a chaperone." Pat Tillson seconded the motion and motion carried 5-0.

VI.J.5 DEC 2023

Pat Tillson made a motion to approve the following donations:

1. Lynn Friends Church made a \$100.00 donation to Girls Basketball.
2. Merchants Bank made a \$1,000.00 donation towards the 5th grade "Farm to Fork" program to help pay for all the kids' 4-H enrollment fees and supplies. They are also going to do a finance lesson related to Ag with the students as well.

Pat Tillson commented, "That is awesome, we thank them." Heather Good seconded the motion and motion carried 5-0.

VII. A.12 DEC 2023

Superintendent, Dr. Bowsman, reported on the following items:

1. Teacher Appreciation Grant (TAG) Distribution. The IDOE distributed \$17,661.55 to RSSC for the TAG. RSSC has 11 Highly Effective (HE) teachers and 16 Effective (E) teachers That qualified for the grant. HE teachers will receive \$640.04 and E teachers will receive \$512.03. FICA/MED and TRF will be deducted from each teacher's allocation amount. Distributions are based on the evaluations from last year.

2. Dr. Bowsman discussed the reconciliation DOE 54 report showing increased tuition support due to increased enrollment.
3. RoofSMART Service Quality Assurance Warranty Report shows the roof is in good shape.
4. HEA 1260 Compliance Report Submitted. IC-20-26-17 requires school corporations to limit the school's share of the cost of employees' health care coverage not to exceed the State's cost by more than 12%. RSSC's contribution was \$11,836.99 and the State's average contribution was \$16,155.82. RSSC is well below the State Average and in compliance.
5. Cigna & East Central Indiana School Trust Consortium Cost/Benefit Comparison

During negotiations, the CTA requested the school corporation investigate a health insurance premium cost and benefit comparison between Cigna and the East Central Indiana Trust managed by Brown & Brown. Dr. Bowsman requisitioned paid claims history from Cigna and submitted them to Brown & Brown for review. Brown & Brown provided a comparison of current rates and benefits. The East Central Trust premiums for both high deductible health plans (\$3,000 & \$5,000) are much cheaper for single plans. The \$5,000 family deductible plan is much cheaper than Cigna's plan. East Central Indiana Trust has a \$5,000 application fee if the school corporation is interested in applying to become a trust member. East Central's member school corporations have the final decision on any application submitted. The consortium's renewal date is 1-1-24 while RSSC is 7-1-24. East Central Indiana Trust has a clinic in Cambridge City and access to six (6) others located in Alexandria, Liberty, Winchester, Peru, Yorktown, and Muncie. Eligible employees may utilize the services of these clinics at no cost.

East Central Indiana School Trust Members:
Blackford, Centerville, Eastern Hancock, Cowan, Daleville, East Central Educational Service Center, Fayette County, Wes-Del, Nettle Creek, Northeastern Wayne, and South Henry.

Dr. Bowsman asked the Board of School Trustees if they wanted him to submit an application and see if the school corporation would be accepted. If we get accepted then a recommendation will be brought to the January 8, 2024 meeting. All members granted permission.

6. Dr. Bowsman discussed the Maintenance Report. Bus 2 is set to return from repairs after the accident. Bus 8 that was removed from the road due to a small

fuel leak and set to be re-inspected next week. The concrete at the track pavilion has been poured and it should be ready by track season.

7. IDOE Teacher Salary & Benefit Report.

The IDOE issued its annual report on average teacher salaries and benefits for FY2023. RSSC expended 53.77% of State Tuition support toward teacher salaries. The average for all schools was 46.44%. School corporations must expend 45%. RSSC expended 71.26% of State Tuition support toward teacher salaries and benefits. The average for all schools was 62.03%.

8. RSSC received its fall tax distribution on December 1st.

Debt Service Fund = \$278,688.04

Operations Fund = \$529,969.24

**Indiana State Board of Accounts audit deducted \$29,421.00 from Operations Fund for the audit completed from 1-1-23 to 2-1-23. The distribution provided to the school corporation was 500,548.24

9. Dr. Bowsman reviewed the ADM Count

Dr. Bowsman took a moment to discuss the passing of Mrs. Pam Welch, former Corporation Treasurer of Randolph Southern School Corporation. Pam served as the treasurer for 37 years and was a wonderful honest and caring person. Dr. Bowsman stated, "I don't know if I would have made it without her. Thoughts and prayers for the family. We definitely lost a good one."

VIII. A.12 DEC 2023

K-12 Principal, Daniel Allen, reported on the following items:

1. The Band Christmas concert was on December 10th. They did a great job.
2. Elementary Christmas program is December 20th. K-2nd grade is at 6:00 PM. 3-6th grades is at 7:00 PM.
3. PSAT scores are below average. We are working on it.
4. Girls basketball is doing great!
5. Boys basketball continues to work hard.
6. We are hosting several Secret Santa families this year. Girls basketball is sponsoring two (2) families with three (3) kids.

7. Mrs. Isenbarger is doing a nice job in the elementary.
8. Mr. Little is working on efficiently scheduling practices and athletic events. The goal is to have one or two seasons scheduled ahead.
9. The Randolph County Safety Meeting will be held at RSSC in the Supintendent's Office Board Room on December 12, 2023. Muffins, juice and coffee will be provided.
10. The Principals have met and decided to do away with the MEC Jamborees. Each school will pay a fee for the MEC medals. The vote was unanimous. Everyone was on the same page.

Heather Good asked, "Are we still doing the 50/50 tickets at the games?" Mr. Allen discussed that the State Gaming Commission have attached additional forms, regulations, and guidelines. It is no longer worth the hassle. We will however, be raffling chairs and other items.

IX. DEC 2023

Dr. Bowsman invited the School Board members to the RSSC Staff Christmas Breakfast at 7:30 AM on Tuesday, December 19, 2023.

X. DEC 2023

There were no patron comments.

XI. DEC 2023

Crystle Austin commented, "I don't have a lot to say. It has been a smooth couple of weeks. Thank you all for what you do."

Heather Good commented, "Ditto. I am really impressed. There has been no slack off even with Christmas around the corner."

Pat Tillson commented, "Merry Christmas! Thank you all for all that you do. Enjoy your families and break."

Don Pruitt commented, "Ditto. Thank you all for all you do and thank you for getting rid of the Jamboree."

Eric Retter commented, "Merry Christmas. Don't forget what it is all about and all the good things."

XII. DEC 2023

Don Pruitt made a motion to adjourn at 7:55 PM. Crystle Austin seconded the motion and motion carried 5-0.

The next regular board meeting will be Monday, January 8, 2024 at 6:30 PM, in the Superintendent's Office Board Room.

Heath M. Good
Crystle Austin
Patricia Nelson

Donald L. Pruitt
Eric Fox

Persons Attending: Daniel Allen, Donnie Bowsman and Amanda Bragg.