

ROCHESTER-STOCKBRIDGE UNIFIED DISTRICT  
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2020 – 3:00 PM  
@  
WHITE RIVER VALLEY SUPERVISORY UNION  
CONFERENCE ROOM  
VIA GOOGLE HANGOUT  
DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order @ 3:31
2. Adjustments to the Agenda- None
3. Public Comment - None
4. Consent Agenda
5. Board Comment
  - Megan - how do we make sure the public has access to this?
6. Reports to the Board
  - 6.1 Superintendent's Report
  - 6.2 Business Manager's Report - did receive full draft financial audit. It's being reviewed by the business office & Tara's team. Meeting as a business office team to review and answer questions from the team. Still came back with \$259,000 surplus. Question from Amy -- how do we gain access to the audit? Tara: it will be emailed when it is ready/after review
    - Amy - Concern about the funds from the Dandelion sale and where they are in the audit/surplus
    - Tara - \$70,905 from the sale is in the surplus/general fund; It needs to be warned for the annual meeting to be put in a reserve fund;
    - Amy - do we want to follow the intention of the Rochester board and move it into the reserve fund; or keep it in the surplus?
    - Tara - So if you take \$70,905 out of the surplus --you would only have \$188,000 for a surplus to use towards 20/21 budget
    - Lindy - my concern is that to cut that much out of the budget at this point is people -- and we've missed the window to RIF people;
    - Amy -- I'd like to try and take the \$70,905 out of the budget? Maybe we can take some money out of the food service transfer
    - Bonnie- At this point we have taken as much out as possible without cutting programming;
    - Bruce -- remember with the current closure we could be saving money;
    - Janie -- we should not be looking cutting out programming;
    - Ethan - we can submit the engineering study to the board for merger funds to help pay for it

Amy - Is the Stockbridge Capital Reserve fund for buildings still intact or is it part of the surplus?

Tara - Yes the \$109,000 is pulled out and is not part of the surplus

Ethan - can we chunk this out/ and not put all of the Dandelion money into the surplus at all of once?

Amy - Don't we have extra of the surplus that we aren't using - so doesn't that give us a cushion?

Tara - the cushion (\$24,000) is based on the auditor's advice so we don't set ourselves up a deficit & protect ourselves from any prior year bills that aren't billed in time;

Ethan - recommends making a decision today; not act - leave it in the general fund; or act - and take the Dandelion sale money out of the general budget and have administrators find the money/make the cut

Janie - I understand Amy's point; but I don't want programming and personnel cut;

Megan - it's disheartening that this money is being used to pad our budget; but I don't want to cut programming and personnel; we will have to make tougher budget decisions later on down the road (future years after next year)

Amy - are we approving this budget? I want to see the audit before we approve; I'm ok with this;

Ethan - Tara do you have a time that you would feel comfortable signing off on this budget?

Tara - I should have the audit numbers by the middle of next week; But I won't be able to put the actuals in from FY 19 by then based on my schedule for next week.

### 6.3 Principal's Report

## 7. Discussion Items

7.1 Budget - see business manager's report

7.2 Annual Meeting

- a. Amy - concerned that by May 5th we won't be able to meet as a public body; especially since we vote from the floor
- b. Tara - guidance is to warn the annual meeting so we meet all the dates; if we are still in the same situation then we would rescind the warning and reschedule; meaning we would have to warn by April 3rd.
- c. Bonnie - I think there are so many waivers being granted day by day; it may look like we are not on top of things (COVID-19) if we put a warning out for May 5th;
- d. Amy - I agree - can we look at how to warn a meeting for a later date;
- e. Bruce - Yes
- f. Ethan - making it clear to our constituents that we could have a budget of 87%
- g. Amy - and we still put our budget out
- h. Bruce - by pushing this out to the end of the year (June) if the budget goes down you will have to operate under 87% for the entire year;

- i. Amy/Megan/Ethan - Can we ask the question of a waiver?
- j. Bruce - they are making the most urgent decisions now; they haven't projected out beyond April 6th right now.
- k. Bonnie - this will all sort itself out - once we get through the top priorities
- l. Ethan - goal of the meeting was to get our priorities clear;
- m. Bruce - will call the AOE and try to ask them about it on Monday; it might be important to be proactive and write something to the public about pushing the annual meeting out and why; - who is going to write this? Probably from the entire board - Ethan is going to try and share a draft;
- n. Megan - we need to still have the budget approved and school reports ready

### 7.3 Online Learning

Principals - reported out on what students are doing by classes;

Janie - expressed concern about the structure & not continuing education; maintenance is falling behind; what is the future going to look like? What will the instruction look like if this goes longer than April 6th? It's our responsibility to look at the instruction

Ethan - can we take the lead - and instruct teachers to be ready for the virtual classroom

Bruce - We have to maintain it for all so it doesn't create a special education issue in the future? My expectation for teachers to be working 5 hours a day and contacting students 3 times a week

Ethan - aren't we trying to connect people who don't have internet access?

Ray - depends on where the family is; there are resources out there; without having a map of RSUD families can't answer this question

Bonnie - depends on the family; to be a robust online community we would have to have been this before this event; remember this is impacting families and teachers in a lot of different ways.

Ray - EC Fiber looking for families that are F&R lunch to offer them internet service; Ray is working to see if this is possible and families are willing for their information to be shared; explained that next week he has been working with teachers on how to use google tools for virtual education to happen if we go longer than April 6th.

Megan - it means that we can never have another snow day again, this crisis presents us with an opportunity;

### 7.4 COVID-19 Updates

Bruce - no additional updates;

Amy - what are the cleaning recommendations/process?

Bruce - custodians have been asked to deep clean, it means summer cleaning but walls and ceilings must be cleaned as well; teachers still have access to the building for right now; this access may not continue; custodians will clean the buses and vans;

Bonnie - only allowed in if you let me know ahead of time; access is extremely limited; basically will only have access to the lunch room;

Megan - can we shut down the heat? - to help save money;

8. Action Items
9. Public Comment
10. Other
11. Next Meeting Date
  - 11.1 April 7, 2020 - Virtually; but planning to meet next week at some point to finalize the budget;
12. Adjourn motion to adjourn by Janie @ 4:35

**Public is Encouraged to join by phone**  
**1-209-783-9572**  
**PIN: 776915859**