

RENSELAER CENTRAL SCHOOLS CORPORATION
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2016

RENSELAER CENTRAL SCHOOLS CORPORATION ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM

REGULAR SESSION

7:00 P.M.

The Board of School Trustees of the Rensselaer Central Schools Corporation met in Regular Session on Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at the Rensselaer Central Schools Corporation Administrative Offices Board Conference Room. All Board Members were present.

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

President Ludington determined a quorum present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

President Ludington stated that there were no changes to the agenda. Mrs. Koczan made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Lane seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The minutes of the January 19, 2016 Regular Session, Board of Finance Meeting and Work Session and the January 26, 2016 Special Session were presented for board approval. Mr. Parrish made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Zeider seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Claims dated January 1 - 29, 2016, #93 - 266 and claims dated February 1 – 16, 2016, #267 - 337, were presented for board approval. Mrs. Koczan made the motion to approve the claims. Mr. Cozza seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Speicher presented to the board, a Financial Report showing the Net Assessed Value, School Total Tax Rate and the 2016 General Fund Budget approved by the State of Indiana.

Superintendent Speicher informed the board that the final school grades for the 2014-2015 were as follows:

- Primary School A
- Van Intermediate School A
- Middle School B
- High School B
- Corporation B

Superintendent Speicher requested board approval of the Teacher Performance Awards payment in the amount of \$41,934.56. \$41,449.84 was received from the State of Indiana with the balance being paid from the General Fund. Administrator Performance Pay of \$3,672.32 will be paid from the General Fund. Mr. Korniak 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.

The Board held a Project Hearing on the proposed construction of a Wellness/Recreation Center at the Rensselaer Central High School. It was explained that under Indiana law whenever a school corporation proposes to construct or renovate a school building at a cost in excess of one (1) million dollars it must first hold a public hearing. It was also explained another purpose of the meeting was that under Indiana Code 6-1.1-20-3.1 whenever a school corporation proposes to enter into a lease for the construction or renovation of a school building resulting in total costs in excess of the lesser of (1) \$2,000,000 or (b) 1% of total gross assessed valuation of the property within the school district, the School Corporation is required to hold a public hearing on its preliminary determination to issue such bonds and enter into such lease. Notice of this public hearing was published in the Rensselaer Republican on February 5, 2016 and was mailed to the Jasper County Circuit Court Clerk.

After the purpose of the hearing was explained, the presentations regarding the need for the project were given.

The building plan was given by Superintendent Speicher along with Architect Greg Drennen explaining the proposed facility and the estimated project cost.

Financial Consultant, Lonnie Therber, explained how this project could be funded and that the tax rate would not go above the 2009 promised tax rate of .66 cents.

After the presentations, President Ludington announced they would now hear testimony and questions from the public. Questions and testimony were given by the following patrons: Martin Park, Tom Moore, George Cover, Kenny Culp, Melissa Ahler, Scott Barton, Ken Hickman, Jack Drone, Andrew Jones, Mark Heinig, Eric Huffman, Jan Benner, Butch Claussen, Dan Alson, Chris Meeks, Bill Massoels, Cheryl Hillan, Chad Wynn, Ron McElwain, Jennifer Norris, Bob Pastoor, Bill Zimmer, Chip Gull, Katelyn Hileman, Brenda Mattocks, Mike Buysi, Heather Hall, Andy Nagel, Chad Pulver, Ernest Watson, Steve Jordan, Barry Jordan, Kent Potts, Steve Molenaar.

At the conclusion of the public testimony and questions, the Board considered the Preliminary Determination Resolution to issue bonds or enter into a lease in order to fund the project. Mrs. Koczan made the motion to approve the Resolution. President Ludington passed the Chair to Vice President Korniak. Mr. Ludington seconded the motion. After further discussion Mr. Parrish made a motion to amend the motion to table the Resolution at this time. Mr. Zeider seconded the motion. The vote of the board was as follows to table the Resolution: Aye – Mr. Parrish, Mr. Zeider, Mr. Lane, Mr. Cozza. Nay – Mr. Korniak, Mr. Ludington, Mrs. Koczan. Due to a lack of two thirds majority, the motion to table failed. The vote of the board on the original motion to approve the Resolution was as follows: Aye – Mr. Korniak, Mr. Ludington, Mrs. Koczan. Nay – Mr. Parrish, Mr. Zeider, Mr. Lane, Mr. Cozza. The motion to approve the Preliminary Determination Resolution failed.

Superintendent Speicher requested board approval of a High School Roofing Contract for the Summer of 2016 with CMS Roofing, Inc. in the amount of \$74,800.00. Sections 1, 8, 9, 11 and 12 of the High School will be repaired and restored. Mrs. Koczan made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Lane seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Speicher requested board approval of the purchase of School Guard Safety Response Service. The cost is \$1,000 per building to install electronic fences and \$99.00 per month, per building to manage the phone applications. This company is highly recommended by the Rensselaer City Police Department, Jasper County Sheriff Department and the Indiana State Police. Superintendent Speicher explained that the application would be installed on employee phones, with their permission. With the electronic fences, a stress situation can be pin pointed by administration, police and emergency personnel. Mr. Parrish made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Cozza seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Speicher requested board approval of a Pre-K through 5th Grade Science Camp to be held February 9 – 25, 2016 at the Middle School with Mrs. Heather Hall. Mrs. Koczan made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Lane seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Speicher requested board approval of a Lady Bomber Softball Skills Camp for girls in grades 1 – 8, April 30, 2016 at the High School with Don Doyle. Mr. Lane made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Cozza seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Speicher requested board approval of the following FFA Spring Livestock Judging Contest Trips:

- Blackhawk Junior College, Kewanee, IL – March 4 – 5, 2016
- Lakeland Junior College, Mattoon, IL – March 18 – 19, 2016
- Marion County Fairgrounds, IL – March 31 – April 1, 2016
- Joliet Junior College, Joliet, IL – April 9, 2016
- Dubois County Invitational, Jasper, IN – April 15-16, 2016

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

Superintendent Speicher requested board approval of a contract with N2N Computing for Network Upgrades at all schools in the amount of \$154,462.60. This is a 70% E-Rate reimbursable project. Mr. Lane 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 Speicher requested board approval of Verizon Wireless as Rensselaer Central Schools Corporation E-Rate Cellular Service provider for a cost of \$42.99 per line with 60% E-Rate reimbursable. Mr. Cozza made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Korniak seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Speicher requested board approval for the High School Advanced Art and Spanish 4 classes to travel to the Art Institute in Chicago, Illinois, April 6, 2016. Mrs. Koczan made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Cozza seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Speicher requested board approval of the following coaching recommendations:

- Jodi Kaufman – Assistant Middle School Track Coach
- Ava Kosiba – Assistant Middle School Track Coach
- Joe Brenneman – Assistant High School Track Coach
- Josh Davis – Assistant High School Track Coach

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

President Ludington stated that Friday, March 11, 2016 is the end of the third grading period.

President Ludington stated that the next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 15, 2016, 7:00 p.m. at the Board Conference Room.

President Ludington stated that Friday March 18 – Friday, March 25, 2016 is Spring Break with no school.

Being there was nothing else to come before the board at this time, President Ludington adjourned the meeting at 9:55 p.m.

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