

RENSELAER CENTRAL SCHOOLS CORPORATION  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2021

RENSELAER CENTRAL SCHOOLS CORPORATION ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES  
BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM

EXECUTIVE SESSION

6:00 p.m.

- A. Call to Order
- B. Establishment of a Quorum
- C. I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(9)  
To discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees
- D. Nothing else was discussed in executive session
- E. Adjournment

REGULAR SESSION

The Board of School Trustees of the Rensselaer Central Schools Corporation met in Regular Session on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at the Rensselaer Central Schools Corporation Administrative Offices Board Conference Room. All Board Members were present.

President Phillips called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

President Phillips determined a quorum present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

President Phillips stated that there were three (3) additions to the agenda. Item K.10 – Student Transfer Requests, Item K.11 – Design-Build Delivery Method with Performance Services Request and Item L.1 – Extended Maternity Leave Request. Mr. Braasch made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Mr. Odle seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The minutes of the February 16, 2021 Executive Session and Regular Session were presented for board approval. Mr. Lane made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Arnold seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

President Phillips asked for comments from the RCCTA. Mrs. Stacy Kurdelak stated that the RCCTA believes public education and funding should be a top priority for legislatures and they are closely monitoring legislature for the Charter School Voucher program.

President Phillips asked for patron comments. There were none.

President Phillips asked for Board comments. Mr. Odle stated that he had attended the meeting at North White along with 13 other area school corporations in opposition of legislation taking money away from public schools and wanted to know if there had been any response from the state. Mrs. Kurdelak stated that she had not received any updates but would check on it.

Mrs. Jennifer Norris, Primary School Principal and Mr. Chad Wynn, Van Intermediate School Principal presented to the board the “Back to Basics” Math program that has been implemented at the elementary schools. The staff used Bomber Academy time last summer to create the program. The goal is to align math learning through all grade levels from the Primary School to Van to keep students on track. Students returning from virtual learning is a big concern for all. The schools will monitor the students closely and give extra help, as needed, to help keep them on track.

Superintendent Craig informed the board that electric costs have decreased at the Middle School and Van Intermediate School due to the Energy Savings Project. Guaranteed savings was \$43,384 with actual verified savings of \$52,182 for January 1 – December 31, 2020.

Claims dated February 1 - 26, 2021, #321 - 403 and claims dated March 1 – 16, 2021, #404 - 523 was presented for board approval. Mr. Odle made the motion to approve the claims. Mr. Arnold seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig presented, to the board, a Financial Report showing expenditures through February 28, 2021.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Jasper County Police Department for the “Handle with Care” program. (Attachment “A”) Mr. Chad Wynn explained to the board that school administrators will receive an email from the Police Department if a student has been exposed to trauma in anyway. The email will contain the student name and grade. No other information about the situation will be received. Mrs. Deno made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Braasch seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of a Lease Purchase Agreement for 1150 iPads for grades K – 8 for a total cost of \$602,961. Mr. Mark Heinig informed the board that this agreement includes cases and four (4) years of Apple Technical support and AppleCare+ Hardware coverage up to two (2) incidents of accidental damage per year per device. Mr. Odle made the motion to approve the request. Mrs. Deno seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of the purchase of twenty (20) Charging Carts from Apple for a total price of \$19,999. Mr. Mark Heinig informed the board that these carts will replace the ones currently at the Primary School. Mr. Parrish made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Arnold seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of the purchase of two (2) IC/Collins 78 passenger buses for a total price of \$213,936. Mr. Odle made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Braasch seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of Resolution Opposing Education Savings Accounts and Voucher Expansion. (Attachment “B”) Mr. Parrish made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Braasch seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval for the Lady Bomber Basketball Team to travel to the Wisconsin Dells, June 14 – 16, 2021 to participate in the Mt. Olympus Dells Classic Option One Basketball Tournament. Mr. Odle made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Braasch seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of the following Summer 2021 Camps:

- Running Club for grades K – 5, Tuesdays and Thursdays in June
- Lady Bomber Volleyball Camp for grades 3 – 5, June 7 and June 9
- Lady Bomber Volleyball Camp for grades 6 – 8, June 8 and June 10

Mr. Braasch made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Odle seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Rensselaer Central Classroom Teachers Association to offer a one-time Early Retirement Incentive to certified staff for the 2020-2021 school year. (Attachment “C”) To qualify the certified employee must be at least fifty-five (55) years of age and have completed at least ten (10) years of teaching experience at RCSC or sixty (60) years of age and have completed at least five (5) years of teaching experience at RCSC. A minimum of five (5) certified staff must take advantage of the incentive or no payout will be given by the board. Mr. Parrish made the motion to approve the request. Mrs. Deno seconded the motion. The vote of the board was as follows: Aye – Mrs. Deno, Mr. Braasch, Mrs. Phillips, Mr. Parrish, Mr. Arnold. Nay – Mr. Odle, Mr. Lane.

Superintendent Craig requested board acceptance of donations for the High School. (Attachment “D”) Mr. Parrish made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Braasch seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of the following 2021-2022 Student Transfer Requests:

- Chevelle Schleman – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Dreygon Hurd - Kindergarten

Mr. Braasch made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Odle seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of a Design-Build Delivery Method with Performance Services for facility needs. 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 Craig requested board approval of the following Leave Requests for the 2021-2022 school year:

- Shannon Anderson – Third Grade Teacher - 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Sabbatical Leave
- Jennifer Ousley – Elementary Physical Education Teacher - 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Sabbatical Leave

Mr. Parrish made the motion to approve the request. Mrs. Deno seconded the motion. Mr. Parrish stated that he feels that Sabbatical Leaves are used to further education, not to explore other options and does not feel like the corporation should hold positions for these requests. Mr. Odle agreed with Mr. Parrish. The board voted unanimously to decline the requests.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of a request from Kaitlyn Ostendorff to extend her Maternity Leave to the end of the 2020-2021 school year. Mr. Parrish made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Braasch seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Superintendent Craig requested board approval of Sarah Redlin as Middle School Assistant Track Coach. Mrs. Deno made the motion to approve the request. Mr. Arnold seconded the motion and the vote of the board was unanimous in favor of the motion.

President Phillips stated that there will be no school Friday, March 19 – Friday, March 26, 2021 for Spring Break.

President Phillips stated that there will be no school Friday, April 2, 2021 for Good Friday.

President Phillips stated that Monday, April 5, 2021 will be a Weather Make-Up Day if needed.

President Phillips stated that the next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 20, 2021, 7:00 p.m. in the Board Conference room.

Being there was nothing else to come before the board at this time, President Phillips adjourned the meeting 8:25 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Arnold and a second by Mr. Odle.

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

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