



**Independent School District #883  
Regular School Board Meeting  
August 18, 2014**

Chair Botten called the regular meeting to order at 6:32 pm. Members Abrahamson, Anderson, Botten, Hall, Smith and Tryon were present. Also present were Principals Brenda Petersmeyer, Amy Denneson and Matt Scheidler, Director of Teaching and Learning Peter Grimm, Activities Director Dan Pratt, Business Manager Sandy Strozyk and Superintendent Paul Durand.

Abrahamson motioned to approve the amended agenda with additional personnel items. Tryon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Recognition**

**Oath of Office**--The Board gave the ceremonial oath of office for Lia Hall.

**RACER Summer Soccer**-- Megan Leipholtz and Ben Leipholtz, the RACER Summer Soccer League Coordinators, and all of the volunteer parent coaches and high school soccer player helpers were recognized for their commitment to youth soccer in our community. Over 160 area youth participated in the month-long soccer program.

**Summer Marching Band**- Rockford Activities Department recognized Abigail Salmon with the assistance of Jerald Ferdig for their hard work and dedication to the summer marching band. Rockford has been well represented this summer, marching in Delano, Hanover, Rockford, Montrose and will be performing at the MN State Fair.

**Construction**—The Board recognized Andy Faulkner, construction manager, and each construction worker who has worked tirelessly to complete the massive construction projects during this summer.

**Custodial Team**--The Board recognized the amazing RAS custodial team and the director of buildings and grounds, Maureen Mullen, for all of their hard work in getting the district buildings prepared to open the doors for the 2014-2015 school year and their assistance during construction.

**Technology**—The Board recognized our technology department-- John Engel, Dan Madson and Nola Raymond-- for the significant time and energy they invest each and every day to get all the technology items ready for the upcoming school year.

**Public Comments**

Chad Robran, chair of the Corcoran Country Daze, thanked the Board for allowing the City and the Corcoran Country Daze event to happen on school district property. Over 25 of our students volunteered to help at the event.

**Consent Items**

Tryon motioned, seconded by Abrahamson, to approve the following consent items:

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting—July 21, 2014.
- Personnel:
  1. Mamie Vetsch, resignation as paraprofessional
  2. Elizabeth Pratt, resignation as paraprofessional
  3. Matthew Scheidler, hired as high school principal
  4. Danielle Olson, hired as 0.6 FTE Band teacher, MA Step 6
  5. Paul Ivers, hired as long-term substitute for Carey Sang, HS Spanish, MA Step 1

6. Gerry Bahe, hired as HS Industrial Tech, BA Step 14
7. Abigail Greene, hired as HS MARSS Secretary
8. Nils Johnson, hired as Technology Assistant
9. Melissa Joseph, hired as Community Education Facilities Scheduler/Supervisor
10. Fall Coaches—As listed

Rockford 2014-2015 Coaching/Advisor List

Fall	Head Coach	Assistant Coach	JV Coach	C-Squad	8th Grade	7th Grade
<b>Football</b>	Dan Houghton	Nick Peterson	Brian Johnson	Doug Boken	Mike Tauber	Louie Villaume
<b>Football</b>			Nathan Maher	Aaron Kneeland	Steve Merila	Tyler Maher
<b>Cross Country</b>	Jason Hester	Eli Goyke				
<b>Volleyball</b>	Jen Stoa		Ben Stephens	Lynette Schultz	Jessica Pierce	Stephanie Batts
<b>Soccer Boys</b>	Mike Leipholtz		Steve Ulen		Rob DeWolfe	
<b>Soccer Girls</b>	Abby Maus		Brian Nichols		Tim LaForce	
<b>Cheerleading</b>	Shelli Mintz					
<b>Musical RHS/3</b>		Brandy				
<b>Act Play</b>	Caroline Young	Gullickson				

11. Jennarae Seawell, resignation as paraprofessional

- Bills and Wire Transfers:

Fund 01 General Fund	\$	771,906.57
Fund 02 Food Service	\$	3,802.35
Fund 04 Community Services	\$	14,887.36
Fund 06 Debt Service	\$	2,463,310.92
Fund 07 Agency Fund	\$	1,800.00
Fund 21 Student Activities	\$	7,172.71
Fund 45 (PEB)	\$	474.00
Total	\$	3,263,353.91
Wire Transfers	\$	908,393.13

- Open Enrollments

1. Student in Grade 8, open enrolled to ISD 877
2. Student in Grade 6 open enrolled to ISD 877
3. Student in Grade K, open enrolled to ISD 278
4. Student in Grade preK, open enrolled to ISD 877
5. Student in Grade 2, open enrolled from ISD 877

- Donation from M & S McCaustland

Motion carried unanimously.

### High Student Achievement

Principal Petersmeyer updated the Board on the REAMS mission and vision statements and its creative process, enrollment, Arts experiences, What I Need time, piano lessons and upcoming events.

Principal Denneson gave a report on the construction progress, National Night Out, new staff, RMS-CEs professional staff development, Project Learning Tree and upcoming events.

Superintendent Durand introduced the high school principal, Matthew Scheidler.

Principal Scheidler introduced himself to the Board and gave a report on Rockford River Days, extracurricular activities, construction progress and upcoming events.

Superintendent Durand introduced the Director of Teaching and Learning, Peter Grimm.

Director of Teaching and Learning Grimm introduced himself and updated the Board on hiring process, curriculum, Q-Comp and PLC work, business classes and EXCEL program.

Superintendent Durand updated the board on the Rockford River Days, the staff opening week planning, NWSISD Superintendent meeting, administrative meetings, MAWSECO meetings, and upcoming meetings and events.

Activities Director Pratt gave a report on the fall activities season, participation numbers, summer marching band, and adding Rockee to the cheerleading squad.

Activities Director Pratt introduced the proposal for joining the Wright County Conference and asked Mike Tauber to give a history of our athletic conference.

Tryon motioned to approve the proposal to move to the Wright County Conference-West (includes smaller districts) as presented with a three-year transition plan.

For the 2015-16 academic year—Boys/Girls Soccer, Gymnastics, Dance Team, Speech and Academic Challenges.

For the 2016-17 academic year—Cross Country, Volleyball, Boys/Girls Basketball, Wrestling, Baseball, Softball, Track and Field, Boys/Girls Golf.

Abrahamson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Business Manager Strozyk gave an update on current enrollment numbers. Superintendent Durand spoke about class sizes at the elementary school.

Anderson motioned to open two elementary teacher positions (one each Grade 3 and 4) effective immediately, and give authority to administration to add a kindergarten position based on additional data. Tryon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Safe and Welcoming Environment**

Business Manager Strozyk and Superintendent Durand discussed the current School Resource Officer program status, including safety, and budget costs.

Tryon motioned to approve to discontinue with the SRO program for the 2014-15 school year and give authority to administration to determine how to staff for safety concerns. Abrahamson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Fiscal Responsibility**

Business Manager Strozyk gave the treasurer's report and updates on the business office, annual audit schedule, new staff orientation, and workshop kick-off.

Superintendent Durand and Construction Manager Andy Faulkner updated the Board on the Project Oversight Committee meeting and bond projects, including activities in planning and design, construction, critical issues including work around the fields, middle school science week, access to the high school, financial items and upcoming planning. They spoke about postponing the building open houses scheduled for late August.

Member Smith left the meeting at 8:33 pm.

Member Abrahamson introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION RESCINDING PRIOR RESOLUTION THAT AUTHORIZED A NEW BOARD APPROVED REFERENDUM AUTHORITY**

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 883, State of Minnesota, as follows:

1. On August 19, 2013 the Board adopted a resolution to authorize an additional Board approved referendum authority which equaled the difference between \$300 per adjusted pupil unit and the District's then current referendum authority per adjusted pupil unit after the Location Equity Revenue subtraction.
2. The 2013 resolution referenced above is hereby rescinded, effective for taxes payable in 2015 and thereafter.
3. The clerk is authorized and directed to submit a copy of this adopted resolution to the Minnesota Department of Education as soon as reasonably practicable after its adoption.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Tryon.

On a roll call vote, the following voted in favor: Abrahamson, Anderson, Botten, Hall, and Tryon. Member Smith was absent.

and the following voted against: None

whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Member Abrahamson introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A NEW BOARD APPROVED REFERENDUM AUTHORITY**

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 883, State of Minnesota, as follows:

1. Current Authority. The District has either no current voter approved referendum authority or a current voter approved referendum authority of less than \$300 per adjusted pupil unit after the local optional revenue subtraction for fiscal year 2016, and after preliminary adjustment by the Minnesota Department of Education in compliance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.17, as amended.
2. Approval of New Authority. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.17, subdivision 9a, the Board hereby determines to authorize a new Board approved referendum authority in the amount of \$300 per adjusted pupil unit. This new Board approved referendum authority shall be further adjusted based on final pupil unit data. It is the intention of the Board to create the maximum authority for which it is eligible, not to exceed \$300 per adjusted pupil unit. This new Board approved referendum authority, as adjusted, shall be applicable for five years, beginning with taxes payable in 2015. The Board may subsequently reauthorize the Board approved referendum authority in increments of up to five years.
3. The clerk is authorized and directed to submit a copy of the adopted resolution to the Minnesota Department of Education as soon as reasonably practicable after its adoption, but in no event later than September 30, 2014.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Tryon.

On a roll call vote, the following voted in favor: Abrahamson, Anderson, Botten, Hall, and Tryon. Member Smith was absent.

and the following voted against: None

whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Superintendent Durand reviewed with the Board the possible additions to the middle school building in the long-term planning, if the district sustains student enrollment growth.

Business Manager Strozyk reviewed the facility rental protocols, contracts, brochure and rates and gave handout with the information. This information will be incorporated into Policy 907-Use of Facilities for September regular meeting.

Abrahamson motioned to approve the facility rental rates for the stadium and procedures as presented. Tryon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Efficient and Effective Operations**

Business Manager Strozyk handed out the job description revision process and draft descriptions. Approval is slated for the September regular meeting.

The Board discussed the current committee assignments. Lia Hall was appointed to fill out the committee assignment vacated by Peter Grimm which included Activities Committee, Curriculum Committee, Committee at Large and Negotiations.

Member Abrahamson introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

### **RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE ELECTION OF SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS AND CALLING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT GENERAL ELECTION**

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No.883, State of Minnesota as follows:

1. It is necessary for the school district to hold its general election for the purpose of electing (three) school board members for terms of four (4) years each.

The clerk shall include on the ballot the names of the individuals who file or have filed affidavits of candidacy during the period established for filing such affidavits, as though they had been included by name in this resolution. The clerk shall not include on the ballot the names of individuals who file timely affidavits of withdrawal in the manner specified by law.

2. The general election is hereby called and elected to be held in conjunction with the state general election on Tuesday, the 4th day of November, 2014.

3. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 205A.11, the precincts and polling places for this general election are those polling places and precincts or parts of precincts located within the boundaries of the school district and which have been established by the cities or towns located in whole or in part within the school district. The voting hours at those polling places shall be the same as for the state general election.

4. The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause written notice of said general election to be provided to the county auditor of each county in which the school district is located, in whole or in part, at least seventy-four (74) days before the date of said election. The notice shall include the date of said general election and the office or offices to be voted on at said general election. **Any notice given prior to the date of the adoption of this resolution is ratified and confirmed in all respects.**

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause notice of said general election to be posted at the administrative offices of the school district at least ten (10) days before the date of said general election.

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause a sample ballot to be posted at the administrative offices of the school district at least four (4) days before the date of said general election and to cause two sample ballots to be posted in each polling place on Election Day. The sample ballot shall not be printed on the same color paper as the official ballot. The sample ballot for a polling place must reflect the offices, candidates and rotation sequence on the ballots used in that polling place.

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause notice of said general election to be published in the official newspaper of the school district for two (2) consecutive weeks with the last publication being at least one (1) week before the date of said election.

The notice of election so posted and published shall state the offices to be filled set forth in the form of ballot below, and shall include information concerning each established precinct and polling place.

The clerk is authorized and directed to cause the rules and instructions for use of the optical scan voting system to be posted in each polling place on Election Day.


5. The clerk is authorized and directed to acquire and distribute such election materials as may be necessary for the proper conduct of this election, and generally to cooperate with election authorities conducting other elections on that date. The clerk and members of the administration are authorized and directed to take such actions as may be necessary to coordinate this election with those other elections, including entering into agreements or understandings with appropriate election officials regarding preparation and distribution of ballots, election administration and cost sharing.

6. The clerk is further authorized and directed to cause or to cooperate with the proper election officials to cause ballots to be prepared for use at said election in substantially the following form, with such changes in form, color and instructions as may be necessary to accommodate an optical scan voting system.

**GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 883  
(ROCKFORD)  
NOVEMBER 4, 2014**

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS**

To vote, completely fill in the ovals(s) next to your choice(s) like this: 

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**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER  
VOTE FOR UP TO THREE**

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- Chuck Tryon
- Theodore P. Botten III
- Lia Hall
- \_\_\_\_\_  
write-in, if any
- \_\_\_\_\_  
write-in, if any
- \_\_\_\_\_  
write-in, if any

Optical scan ballots must be printed in black ink on white material, except that marks to be read by the automatic tabulating equipment may be printed in another color ink. The name of the precinct and machine- readable identification must be printed on each ballot. Voting instructions must be printed at the top of the ballot on each side that includes ballot information. The instructions must include an illustration of the proper mark to be used to indicate a vote. Lines for initials of at least two election judges must be printed on one side of the ballot so that the judges' initials are visible when the ballots are enclosed in a secrecy sleeve.

7. The name of each candidate for office at this election shall be rotated with the names of the candidates for the same office in the manner specified in Minnesota law.

8. If the school district will be contracting to print the ballots for this election, the clerk is hereby authorized and directed to prepare instructions to the printer for layout of the ballot. Before a contract in excess of \$1,000 is awarded for printing ballots, the printer shall, if requested by the election official, furnish, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 204D.04, a sufficient bond, letter of credit, or certified check acceptable to the clerk in an amount not less than \$1,000 conditioned on printing the ballots in conformity with the Minnesota election law and the instructions delivered. The clerk shall set the amount of the bond, letter of credit, or certified check in an amount equal to the value of the purchase.

9. The individuals designated as judges for the state general election shall act as election judges for this election at the various polling places and shall conduct said election in the manner described by law. The election judges shall act as clerks of election, count the ballots cast and submit them to the school board for canvass in the manner provided for other school district elections. The general election must be canvassed between the third and the tenth day following the general election.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Anderson. On a roll call vote, the following voted in favor: Abrahamson, Anderson, Botten, Hall, and Tryon. Member Smith was absent. and the following voted against: None whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

The individual board members gave reports on their committee assignments.

### **Announcements**

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for Monday, September 15, 2014 at 6:30 PM in Rockford High School.

Abrahamson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:57 PM, seconded by Tryon. Motion carried unanimously.

Kathy Ehlers  
Recorder

Chuck Tryon  
Clerk