

2021-22 INTER-SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

Date | time 03/23/22 9:00 a.m.

In Attendance

Heather Berkenpas, Brandi Berta, Emily Babson, Melody Butters, Mike Cuneo, Tom Hosford, JoJo Lambert, Kerrie LeBlanc, Many Mynhier-Lake, Lindesy O-Rourke, Mike Ramm, Christie Ramsey, Renee Russo, Sonya Schmidt, Jill Silverman, Jessica Steele, Larry Watters, Sharon Wells, Korie Wilson-Crawford

Advisory Committee

The purpose of the Inter-School Advisory Council is to act as an advisory group to the school superintendent and other administrative personnel, to serve as a sounding board for pertinent issues, and to facilitate communication to the community.

Superintendent/Central Office Reports

a. Superintendent Update (Korie Wilson-Crawford)

- Legislative Updates
 - Senate Bill 726 – We want this bill to pass because it addresses critical shortage areas. It will allow any qualified person to substitute teach in our schools and allow retirees to sub teach after a 4 month wait (vs a 12 month wait without SB 726).
 - Senate Bill 618 – “The State would see lower repayments into the School Loan Revolving Fund (SLRF) compared to current law. Funds paid into the SLRF are used to make new loans to districts or to repay the State's debt for the School Bond Loan program.” (Senate Fiscal Bill Analysis)
 - Approved by Governor Whitmer 03/29/22
 - Decline to Sign – Decline to sign the Let MI Kids Learn ballot proposal – this is a Devos backed campaign that allows donors to designate tax breaks to private schools/charter schools. This initiative would divert hundreds of millions of dollars away from public schools. Not only will public schools lose money, but the monies diverted to private schools/charter schools will come with strings attached based on the will of Lansing. For more information see <https://formikids.com>
- Superintendent Search Update – 2 final interviews for candidates on 3/24 & 3/25. Beyond The Rock will livestream the interviews.

b. Instruction (Mike Ramm)

- Student Achievement Report
 - NWEA Winter Benchmark Reporting
 - Conditional Growth Indices (Fall to Winter)
 - Reading K-8 – Students are not quite up to pre-COVID performance, but scores are trending closer to the pre-COVID levels (within approx. 1 point)
 - Math K-8 – Student growth in math is almost aligned to pre-COVID levels. Grades 2 & 8 are performing a smidge higher than pre-COVID levels.
 - Winter Achievement
 - Reading K-8 – Exceeded pre-COVID scores in 2nd, 3rd, 4th, & 5th grades.
 - Math K-8 – Matched or exceeded scores from Winter 2021, still not at pre-COVID levels, but within a few points (matched pre-COVID scores in 2nd & 8th grades)
 - There will be one more benchmark report in May
 - Literacy Report – Sharon Wells
 - See ISAC Literacy Report Presentation

c. Finance (Mike Cuneo)

- Governor's Budget
 - We are not looking at reductions in budget next year
 - If, however, there are reductions with one-time monies to retain the fund
 - Governor Whitmer is looking to adequately fund to attract/retain teachers
 - Michigan's economy drives K-12 funding
- Bond Update
 - Elementary School #9
 - North end of property to be reserved for an outdoor educational environment
 - Trees will be replanted where necessary to provide a buffer between the school and the neighborhood
 - If you ever have any issues/concerns, you can ask the construction manager in the OAK trailer
 - Time-lapse camera will be set up on RPS website to view progress on the school
 - Official groundbreaking ceremony after spring break
 - NRMS
 - Planning process has started to expand and reconfigure parts of NRMS
 - Bids will go out in Fall of 2022
 - Construction to begin next 2023

Rockford Booster Bucks – Melody Butters, Rockford Chamber of Commerce

Rockford Chamber of Commerce has partnered with Rockford Public Schools to offer Booster Bucks to support our local community merchants and our schools. When Booster Bucks are purchased through the RPS website, 5% of every purchase will go to the organization of our choosing (Roguewood PTO, SI Boosters, band, choir, etc). Currently the band and choirs are top receivers of this 5% incentive. These profits are sent out approximately every two weeks if a minimum of \$20 has been reached. Booster Bucks can be purchased 24/7 and printed out on your home computer or e-mailed to the recipient. There are currently 65 local merchants

that accept Booster Bucks. Any excess Booster Bucks remaining once spent, it is up to the discretion of the merchant as to whether you will get cash back, so smaller denominations might be a better way to gift. There is also a corporate gifting order form online for large orders. Booster Bucks would make great birthday and teacher gifts.

Rockford Education Foundation – Jill Silverman

- RPS Hall of Fame Nominations Deadline April 15 Our district needs substitute teachers!
 - Nomination Categories
 - graduate from 2012 or earlier
 - community member
 - cultural/performing arts
 - service to community/academic
- Middle School Orchestra Teachers – pilot program
 - \$15,000 allocated to help break down rental cost barriers for students (specifically those that qualify for free/reduced lunch)
 - Introduced to 5th grade students
 - Hope is to carry this forward through the years
 - Will eventually expand to the band program
- Student grant applications will be accepted through the end of April. They can receive up to \$500 to help the school or a class and be educational in nature.

ISAC Member Issues/Miscellaneous

- Parkside has been working hard on sustainability and has achieved Evergreen Status. This is the highest level a Green School can achieve!

Next Meeting

April 27, 2022, Administration Office Team Room (350 N. Main Street)