

Ray-Pec School Board Update
Regular monthly meeting
Feb. 27, 2014

This is a summary of the Ray-Pec Board of Education meeting on Feb. 27, 2014. This is an unofficial record. The official minutes of each board meeting are posted on the district web site at:

<http://www.boarddocs.com/mo/rpsd/Board.nsf/Public>

Board approves strategic plan

The Board of Education on Feb. 27, 2014, approved the Ray-Pec Strategic Plan for 2013-2017.

Superintendent **Dr. Kari Monsees** provided an overview of the plan, which was developed using Baldrige Criteria for continuous improvement. The plan supports the district's mission, vision, and collective commitments, and includes a summary of feedback outlining opportunities for improvement in the district.

The plan is organized into eight focus areas, with a total of 22 SMART goals, 30 strategies, and 107 action steps. An important part of the plan is the ongoing review and analysis process.

The eight focus areas are:

- Student Success
- Workforce Satisfaction and Engagement
- Fiscal Responsibility
- Technology Optimization
- Leadership and Governance
- Performance Measurement
- Stakeholder Satisfaction and Engagement
- Communication

You can read the entire plan, a summary, or a one-page overview:

- Strategic Plan: <http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/DocumentCenter/View/6908>
- Strategic Plan Executive Summary: <http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/DocumentCenter/View/6906>
- Strategic Plan on a Page: <http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/DocumentCenter/View/6907>

Recognition

The board recognized students selected for the 2014 Missouri All-State Bands.

Three students participated in the All-State Band. Logan Jungman was fifth chair tuba, Katie Hatfield was seventh chair trombone, and Rebecca Scott was 11th chair trumpet. Earning a seat in the All-State Band is the highest honor a high school band student can receive. The All-State Band rehearsed during the Missouri Music Educators Association conference Jan. 22 to 25 at Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach. The All-State Band performed on the final day of the music conference.

Four additional Ray-Pec band students received honors for their audition to the All-State Band.

Sawyer Bletscher was selected second alternate tenor sax for All-State Band. For the All-State Honorable Mention Band, Daichi Tadokoro was selected second chair timpani option #3, Drew Evans was selected seventh chair trumpet, and Mara Beedle was selected 24th chair clarinet.

Other action items

Board approves high school band trip to Hawaii

The board approved a proposal by the high school band for a trip to Hawaii in 2015. The trip would take place from Nov. 24-Dec. 1 or Nov. 25-Dec. 2, 2015, and would include participation in the Waikiki Holiday Parade. The cost of the optional trip would be covered by fundraisers and individual travelers. The band has traditionally taken a trip every three years. In recent years, the band has traveled to Breckenridge, Colo., Chicago, and San Antonio, Texas.

Board approves contract for architectural services

The board approved a contract with incite Design Studio to provide design services identified in the district's Capital Improvement Plan for the next three years for projects estimated to cost \$1.5 million and below.

Authorization to bid list

The board approved allowing the district to proceed with obtaining bids for a number of high priority capital improvement projects estimated to exceed \$25,000. The district will not proceed with the projects until the board considers final bids. Some of the projects will take place in the current school year, while many are scheduled to occur during the summer and into the next fiscal year. The district wants to begin the bid process so that some of the projects can be scheduled over the summer while school is not in session.

The projects were identified through these criteria: safety, facility condition, efficiency, and connection to strategic initiatives and educational programming. The projects fall into these categories: safety and security enhancements; compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act; parking lots, road and walking paths; technology and electrical projects; and HVAC and roof improvements.

Surplus property

The board approved designating five items as surplus property: a 1981 Kentucky 45-foot dry van trailer; a 53-foot Fruehauf dry van trailer; a 1992 Ford F250 with snow plow; a John Deere 430 lawn tractor with blade; and a Ford farm tractor.

The board approved bids on three surplus vehicles: \$504 for a 2001 Ford Crown Victoria security vehicle, \$503 for a 2003 Ford Crown Victoria security vehicle, and \$1,584.69 for a 1993 Chevrolet Kodiak Box Truck.

Document Imaging/Copying Equipment and Service

At the recommendation of district administration, the board rejected all bids submitted as part of a recent solicitation for digital document imaging and copying equipment and service. The district received bids from six vendors, but a review showed that the bids were not comparable, because some of the companies did not include the disposition of the district's current copiers. The district plans to issue another bid notice. Until the district issues a new lease, it will continue in a month-to-month lease with the current vendor.

Information items

Energy Management Review

Jay Harris, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, provided an update on the district's energy management program. Since its inception in 2006, the program has exceeded \$3 million in energy savings and cost avoidance. The program began in 2006, when the district entered into a four-year contract with Energy Education, Inc. After the contract ended, the district continued implementing the program. Harris praised the efforts of Energy Manager Van McLain, along with Maintenance Supervisor Joe Coon, Scott Dobson, and teachers and support staff for support of the program. He said one group deserves special thanks for the success of the program. The district's custodial staff is responsible for handling much of the day-to-day implementation, and Harris noted that much of the savings comes during unoccupied times in buildings. Monitoring of lighting and thermostat controls, especially when the building is unoccupied, have made a huge difference in savings.

International Baccalaureate

The school board learned more about the district's efforts to become a candidate school for the International Baccalaureate Program for the 2015-2016 school year. The IB program is a comprehensive two-year curriculum and assessment system that allows students to study courses across all disciplines. It is designed for highly motivated students who seek the challenge of a well-rounded curriculum.

Kristel Barr, Director of Student Services and Secondary Education, and Steven Meek, Ray-Pec High School language arts teacher and International Baccalaureate coordinator, said that an IB consultant visited Ray-Pec during January to assess the district's progress. The district is continuing to send teachers to IB training, and also inform students, parents and the community about the challenges and

benefits of the IB program. At the same time, the district is preparing the curriculum in grades 7-10 for a smooth transition into high school IB courses.

Currently, the district is preparing an "Application for Authorization," which requires a three-year commitment to the IB program. Barr said they hope to present this authorization to the school board in March for approval. Once approved, the authorization will be submitted. This semester, work will continue to identify and purchase textbooks and other materials needed for the program. In addition, the district is investigating the possibility of additional IB courses in French, Information Technologies and other subjects.

An IB site visit is scheduled for fall of 2014, and the first IB classes will be offered at Ray-Pec High School during the 2015-2016 school year.

They also reviewed the steps taken over the past seven years to prepare for the program. You can read more here: <http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/index.aspx?NID=770>

Public School Foundation

Jodie Huston, Executive Director of the Raymore-Peculiar Public School Foundation, provided an update on the Foundation's activities. On Feb. 21, the Foundation prize patrol on Friday, Feb. 21, awarded nearly \$5,000 in Classroom Impact Grants. There were 13 grant recipients at nine schools.

The Foundation invited Ray-Pec staff members to apply for grants of up to \$500 to be used this semester. A committee selected the recipients. To see a list of the grant awards, go here: <http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/index.aspx?NID=902>

Huston said that the Foundation board planned to offer Classroom Impact Grants again in the fall. She said that the Foundation planned to award funds to support school libraries and to award 10 \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors. In addition, the Foundation will again award \$250 to top seniors in nine academic areas. She reported that the Caring About Nutrition (CAN) program was serving about 70 students in grades K-6, and that food pantries had been established in the middle and high schools. She also invited board members and the meeting audience to attend the Foundation Gala on March 21, the Making a Difference (MAD) 5K walk/run on March 29, and the Teacher of the Year/Support Staff Employee of the Year dinner on May 7.

Superintendent comments

Superintendent Dr. Kari Monsees shared information on several topics:

- He reported that the legislature was proposing an increase in funding for education, although not as much as the Governor earlier recommended.
- He gave an update on the school transfer issue.

- He said that the Polar Plunge on Jan. 25 was fun, and that the staff and students raised \$18,800 for Special Olympics.

Committee Reports

- Board Member **Kyle Gillespie** said that he and Maria Davies attended the Team Ray-Pec meeting earlier that afternoon. Much of the meeting was about employee benefits and ways to improve the enrollment process.
- Several board members attended the Joint Cities meeting, where they learned that work will begin on the 211th Street interchange. **Dr. Monsees** also pointed out that improvements to School Road will take place in a multi-phase process.
- Board President **Kim York**, Board Member **Ruth Johnson** and **Dr. Monsees** attended a legislative meeting in Jefferson City.
- Board President **Kim York** said she had attended meetings of the Ray-Pec Public School Foundation Board of Directors.

Board member comments

- Board Member **Kyle Gillespie** noted that spring sports are scheduled to begin on Monday, March 3. He also said that the Freshman-Sophomore Showcase was scheduled for the next week.
- Board Member **Ruth Johnson** said that she attended the high school musical and was amazed by the talented students.

Other business

Early graduates

The board, as part of the consent agenda, approved requests by these students for early graduation: Shelby Kizer, Erica Knoll, Amber Sheets, Sean Swope, and Donovan Lovingood.

Consent agenda

The board approved the consent agenda, which included the business report, personnel report (hirings and resignations), and minutes for the Jan. 9 and Jan. 23 meetings. You may view these reports at:

<http://www.boarddocs.com/mo/rpsd/Board.nsf/Public>

Updates

- Cass County Spelling Bee, 10:30 a.m. March 5, at the Ray-Pec Administrative Services Center.
- Spring Break, March 17-21.
- Next regular school board meeting, 6 p.m. closed session and 7 p.m. open session on March 27 at the Administrative Services Center, 21005 S. School Rd., Peculiar.