

Ray-Pec School Board Update
Regular monthly meeting
April 17, 2014

This is a summary of the Ray-Pec Board of Education meeting on April 17, 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>

Action items

Digital Document Imaging/Copying equipment and service

The board approved a four-year contract with Knighton Business Solutions for digital document imaging/copying equipment services. The estimated total contract cost is \$730,160.64. The district will negotiate final configurations and details of the contract, with a target installation date of July 1. Under the new contract, the district will save approximately \$161,265 over 48 months compared to the current contract with Konica-Minolta.

In seeking proposals for the copying and digital document services, the district sought sealed bids for 63 multi-function copiers. The district asked each vendor to submit pricing with standard and capital lease options.

Ryan Gooding, Director of Technology, said the Technology Department reviewed proposed copiers from Konica-Minolta and Knighton to ensure the products would work within the district's system. The department then completed training to learn about the copiers and invited faculty and staff members to try out the machines. During this trial period, the Canon copiers provided by Knighton were the preferred device. In addition, Gooding said that the new Canon copiers are compatible with Google Drive and Google Docs.

Server replacement

The board approved a bid of \$32,939.61 from AOS for the purchase of nine servers for the district's computer network. These will replace aging servers in the district's system and will provide more reliable and robust storage space and capabilities.

Board approves employee insurance renewal

The board approved renewing insurance and benefits plans for employees for 2014-2015 at an estimated increased cost of \$765,635. The board approved these benefits: voluntary life insurance through Standard with no rate change; Employee Assistance Program through New Directions Behavioral Health with an increase of \$1,167; and dental insurance through Delta Dental of Missouri, with a 5 percent increase, which means an additional \$1.46 per eligible, participating employee per month.

For health insurance, the board approved an option that maintains the current base plan options for employees through Blue Cross Blue Shield, with a cost increase of 22 percent across all plans. The district plans to continue to pay the premium for employee-only coverage. Employees have the option to pay an additional premium for spouse, children or family coverage.

Staffing for 2014-2015

The board approved a list of staffing additions for the 2014-2015 school year. The additions include new teachers at various grade levels to address enrollment increases, and additional positions to offer student support and interventions. The district is also adding a nurse position at the high school to allow the nurse supervisor position to be separated from a health room assignment. To help offset the cost of the new positions, the district is reducing staff in some locations, due to enrollment shifts or changes in scheduling or case loads. To see the list of staffing recommendations, go here:

<http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/DocumentCenter/View/7040>

Recognition

The board meeting included special recognition of Valerie Lightle, who placed fourth in Marketing Management at the state DECA Career Development Conference and qualified to advance to competition at the International Career Development Conference in May in Atlanta.

Fourth grader Hannah York also received special recognition at the meeting. Hannah received an honorable mention award in the Kindest Kansas Citian Essay Contest.

Information items

LEAP Program Review

Each month, the board hears a review of specific programs or departments. This month, the board heard about the Logic, Enrichment, and Academic Pursuit (LEAP) Program, which is for gifted students in grades 2-8.

Karen Hurst, Director of Curriculum, Assessment and Elementary Education, presented the report with Lezlie Waltz, teacher of gifted students in grades 5-6, and Kathy Payne, teacher of gifted students in grades 2-4. They told of the process to identify and evaluate students for the program. They also told about assessment and survey results.

They outlined these future goals:

- During the 2014-2015 school year, two research-based assessment tools will be identified for recognizing the nontraditional gifted student, as measured by a rubric.
- During the 2014-2015 school year, baseline data will be gathered of the affective needs of current high school LEAP students as measured by a survey.

- During the 2014-2015 school year, LEAP students will have two additional opportunities to participate in outside competitions that apply creativity and critical thinking strategies.

To review the report, go here: <http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/DocumentCenter/View/7041>

Vocational Program Review

Each month, the board hears about specific programs or departments. Information about the district's Vocational Programs was presented at the March 28, 2013, board of education meeting by **Kristel Barr**, Director of Student Services and Secondary Education; and **Kristina Martin**, high school associate principal. **Brett Barbarick**, high school business teacher, was also in attendance.

The vocational program at Ray-Pec is comprised of three areas: family and consumer sciences, marketing, and business education. There are 44 courses offered among the three departments. Personal Finance is the only course in this area required by the state of Missouri. It is also offered online and during summer schools.

Students may also enroll in additional vocational courses through the programs offered at Summit Technology Academy and Cass Career Center. (Students must apply, and the district pays tuition to these programs.) During the 2013-2014 school year, Ray-Pec had 33 students attend Cass Career Center, 17 students attend Summit Technology Academy, and two students participate in a new Cerner Scholars program.

The Perkins Act requires a Technical Skills Attainment to assess students who have earned three or more sequential credits in a career or technical education program.

Future goals:

- Increase by 2 percent the percentage of RPHS students who pass their TSA/IRC exam, achieving a 90 percent pass rate.
- Increase enrollment in all RPHS vocational classes to 18 students per class for the 2015-2016 school year.
- Increase the number of Career Education completers by 10 percent over the next three years.

Read the entire report here: <http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/DocumentCenter/View/7039>

Superintendent comments

Superintendent Dr. Kari Monsees provided a brief legislative update and reminded the board and audience about the debut of Quick Tip, an online tip line for people to report school safety and bullying concerns. In the first week of use, two concerns were submitted via Quick Tip. Monsees also said that as of Thursday p.m., there had been approximately 800 downloads of the new Ray-Pec application for smart phones. He also shared that he attended the intermediate school scholar bowl. The competition was close, but the traveling trophy has returned to Eagle Glen Intermediate School.

Committee Reports

Board Member **Maria Davies** reported on the meeting with Team-Ray, which focused on salary and benefits, insurance renewal and the scheduling of possible make-up days for inclement weather during the school year. Davies said Team Ray-Pec also heard about plans to expand the Bring Your Own Device project.

Board member comments

Board Member **Ruth Johnson** said she loves the new Ray-Pec application for smart phones.

Board member Barbara Boucher noted the recent article in The Kansas City Star about the Watch DOGS program at Raymore Elementary School.

Board President Leo Anderson thanked the board for electing him to serve as board president.

Other business

Public Comment

Hannah York, a fourth grader at Raymore Elementary School, addressed the board about LEAP, the district's program for gifted students. Hannah said that she had been tested for LEAP, but had not qualified for the program. She said she is sometimes bored in class and wants more challenge. She said she wished there was a program for students who don't qualify for LEAP.

Surplus property

The board declared a list of items as surplus. The list includes 96 band hats, a commercial freezer, projectors, a Panasonic television, six boxes of library books, and 20 plastic chairs with wheels.

The board approved bids for some other surplus items. These items were made available for bids earlier through Gov Deals as part of the surplus property procedure. The board approved bids for a pallet jack, a 2000 Dodge Van, a 1996 Dodge truck, 115 gym lockers, one lot of phone cases, and several other items.

The board also declared a list of technology equipment as surplus. The technology items will not be advertised on Gov Deals, but will be handled by an approved technology surplus vendor. Technology surplus items must follow regulations from the Environmental Protection Agency and the technology standard related to destruction of hard drive content for private, confidential and proprietary information. The board approved Midwest Recycling Center as the vendor to recycle district technology equipment. The company will come, palletize and remove the equipment. There is no cost for the technology recycling.

Consent agenda

The board approved the consent agenda, which included the business report, personnel report (hirings and resignations), and minutes for the March 27 meeting. You may view these reports at:

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

Updates

- Missouri School Boards Association Region 4 meeting, 6:30 p.m. April 21 at Lee's Summit West High School. Ray-Pec has been invited to provide a presentation about the Bring Your Own Device pilot project.
- Teacher and Support Staff Employee of the Year banquet, 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 7, at the south high school.
- Ray-Pec High School graduation, 7 p.m. Friday, May 16.
- Joint Cities quarterly meeting, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 21, hosted by Cass County.
- Next regular school board meeting, 6 p.m. closed session and 7 p.m. open session on Thursday, May 22, at the Administrative Services Center, 21005 S School Rd., Peculiar.