

Ray-Pec School Board Update
Regular monthly meeting
Sept. 22, 2016

This is a summary of the Ray-Pec Board of Education meeting on Sept. 22, 2016. 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>

The Board of Education on Sept. 22 approved submission of a grant proposal in the Pathways for Teachers program, heard a review of 2016 Summer School, and learned more about the District's Public Relations program.

Pathways for Teachers grant

The District is submitting a grant proposal requesting \$26,000 from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education through its Pathways for Teachers project. The money will be used to expose teachers to industries in the Kansas City area through site visits and professional development. By working with business partners, teachers have the opportunity to learn more about the skills and credentials needed in the workplace. The information also helps teachers prepare students for specific career pathways.

Dr. Kristel Barr, Director of Secondary Education, explained how teams of teachers and administrators from Ray-Pec High School would learn more about heavy manufacturing, health science, and information technology. She also shared a list of business sites the teams would like to visit. Grant funds would pay for substitute teachers, stipends for evening and summer activities, meals, transportation, and supplies. Read more about the proposal:

<http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/DocumentCenter/View/11608>

Read more about the state Pathways for Teachers grant:

<http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/DocumentCenter/View/11607>

Summer School

Dr. Al Voelker, Assistant Superintendent for Academic Services, and Cynthia Byous, Chief Financial Officer, provided a brief review about 2016 Summer School. There was an increase in enrollment, especially at the elementary level, with a total of 1,913 students in grades K-12 participating in Summer School. This was up from 1,708 during summer 2015 and 1,031 in summer 2014. See the enrollment history: <http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/DocumentCenter/View/11610>. Voelker shared survey results showing that of the 164 respondents, the majority of parents were pleased with the quality of the program.

Byous noted that while costs were higher, the Summer School program still resulted in net revenue of \$490,490.57. The largest cost increase, over 2015, was in the area of transportation. See the Summer School financial summary: <http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/DocumentCenter/View/11611>

As the District plans for Summer School 2017 and beyond, Voelker said that it will consider providing transportation for grades 9-12 and will review the possibility of adding online offerings. He described some of the different class offerings, including Driver's Education.

Superintendent Dr. Kari Monsees said that the District's Summer School program has grown in a way that is fiscally responsible, but more importantly, provides a way to expand instruction for more students.

Public Relations update

Michele Stidham, Director of Communication, provided an update on the District's public relations program. She shared information from the annual survey of patrons and employees. The survey results showed improvement in almost all areas related to communication.

She noted that both patrons and employees gave improved ratings about the quality of communication coming from the District, when compared to the survey results in 2015. Patrons and employees also gave a higher score to the District's efforts to report its plans and progress.

Stidham told about the newly-designed web site, which launched in July, and how the District seeks to have a web site that is not only attractive, but is functional and user-friendly. She updated the Board about the District's YouTube channel, which includes videos of Board meetings and other topics. The District began recording School Board meetings in December 2015.

Stidham also shared information about the District's electronic newsletter, the weekly RP Update email, text message, and social media. Analytic information about the various methods of communication show more detail about the audience demographics and viewing habits.

View the entire report: <http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/DocumentCenter/View/11612>

See the additional analytic information: <http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/DocumentCenter/View/11609>

Recognition

The Board of Education on Sept. 22 recognized Ray-Pec High School Senior Valiante Waltz for placing third in the KC SuperStar singing competition. He received a \$2,500 scholarship. The Board recognized Jacob Shriner and Nick Caskey for being named National Merit Scholarship semi-finalists. The Board also recognized Senior Breanna Birkett for qualifying as an Advanced Placement Scholar with Distinction for her coursework in 2015-2016.

Child Nutrition equipment

The Board approved a bid for \$32,575 from Sunflower Restaurant Supply for a new three-piece serving line to be installed at Creekmoor Elementary School. The height of the new serving line will make it easier for students to serve themselves. The double-sided unit will increase the speed of service through the line. The Board also approved a bid of \$5,078.27 from Sysco for a pass-through refrigeration unit to be installed at the south high school.

Maintenance vehicle bid

The Board approved a bid of \$28,114 from Putnam Chevrolet, California, Mo., to purchase a 2016 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 HD for the Buildings and Grounds Department. Putnam Chevrolet is the current low bid state vendor for this type of vehicle.

Peculiar rooftop units

The Board approved the purchase of two rooftop units for the gymnasium at Peculiar Elementary School for \$36,279.94 from Lennox. The current rooftop units are 20 years old, operate inefficiently, and have cracked heat exchangers. The District staff will install the units, with assistance as needed for crane services and utility connections. Additional associated costs are estimated at approximately \$10,000.

KCP&L easement

The Board approved an amended utility easement with KCP&L to accommodate power pole relocations associated with the Peculiar Way road improvements. Two words were transposed in the previously approved easement language, and the amendment corrected the easement.

Surplus property

The Board declared a list of items, including food service equipment, computer carts, chairs, and televisions, as surplus. These items will be made available for bids through Gov Deals as part of the surplus property procedure. The Board approved bids on a list of surplus items for a total of \$71. You can view the list of items and bids here: <http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/8/Board-of-Education>

Board policies

The Board had a first reading of these policies:

AFA – Data Reporting

BBFA – Board Member Conflict of Interest and Financial Disclosure

CGC – State and Federal Programs Administration

DD – Grants

DID – Inventory Management

DIE – Audits

DJF – Purchasing

DJFA – Federal Programs and Projects

DLCA – Travel Expenses

GBCA – Staff Conflict of Interest

To review these or any other Board policy, go here:

<https://eboard.eboardsolutions.com/ePolicy/PolicyOverview.aspx?S=80000&Sch=80000>

Committee reports

Board Member Ruth Johnson reported that she and Board Member Maria Davies are members of the District's Attendance Boundary Committee. She said that the group, which includes about 30 parents, is a very involved and diverse group, representing all areas of the District and different lengths of time residing in the District.

Board Member Ryan Wescoat reported on a meeting of the Policy Review Committee.

Board Member Susan Edmondson said she attended her first Team Ray-Pec meeting, at which the team reviewed the Long Range Facility Plan and the newly-implemented Paid Time Off program. Topics of discussion also included the calendar, substitutes, changing of attendance boundaries, and the staffing process for 2017-2018.

Superintendent comments

Dr. Monsees said he was excited to have the 211th Street/Peculiar Way interchange open. He thanked the City of Peculiar and the Missouri Department of Transportation for the timely completion of the project. He said that state assessment results will be shared with the public, and with parents, at the end of the month.

He also thanked members of the District's Attendance Boundary Committee. The committee met twice during September to begin helping the District prepare for new boundaries in the 2017-2018 school year.

He provided a brief update on construction at the south high school, and commended the high school for its successful College and Career Fair.

Board member comments

Board Member Ruth Johnson complimented the high school marching band for representing the District so well at ribbon cutting ceremony for the I-49 and Peculiar Way interchange.

Board Member Barbara Boucher passed along compliments from Ashley Beard-Fosnow, who attended a home football game and was impressed with the school, students, patrons, and community support.

Board Vice President Kim Bailey commended the high school soccer team on an overtime win against Lee's Summit North High School.

Consent agenda

The Board approved the consent agenda, which included the business report, and minutes for the Aug. 17 Joint Cities meeting, the Aug. 25 tax levy hearing, and the Aug. 25 regular monthly Board of

Education meeting. You may view these reports at:

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

To view the personnel report (hirings, resignations and retirements), go here:

<http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/1085/Personnel-News-September-2016>. These items are considered during the closed session of the meeting, and made public afterward.

Updates

- Missouri School Boards Association annual conference, Sept. 29-Oct. 2.
- School board work session, 6 p.m., Oct. 13, at the Ray-Pec Administrative Services Center.
- Regular school board meeting, 6 p.m. closed and 7 p.m. open session, Oct. 27, at the Ray-Pec Administrative Services Center.