



Wisconsin Rapids Board of Education
Educational Services Committee

510 Peach Street · Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494 · (715) 424-6701

MINUTES

Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Chairperson
John Benbow, Jr.
Troy Bier
Christopher Inda
John Krings, President
Elizabeth St.Myers
Julie Timm

October 7, 2024

LOCATION: Board of Education Office, 510 Peach Street, Wisconsin Rapids, WI
Conference Room A/B

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: John Benbow, Jr., Christopher Inda, Troy Bier, John Krings, Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Elizabeth St.Myers, Julie Timm

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Ed Allison, Phillip Bickelhaupt, Roxanne Filtz, Steve Hepp, Aaron Nelson, Ronald Rasmussen, Rodrick Watson

- I. Call to Order
- II. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- III. Public Comment – none.
- IV. Actionable Items – none.
- V. Updates
 - A. New Course/Curriculum Modifications and Proposals

Roxanne Filtz, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, explained that a number of new course and curriculum modification proposals brought forward by staff have been presented to various leadership teams and have been considered by the Council for Instructional Improvement (CII) Committee, with the exception of two: 1) Physical Education changes, and 2) Mental Health and Stress Management changes. These proposed course modifications were just recently brought forward through staff collaboration/review and while they have moved through building and content area leadership teams, the CII Committee hasn't had a chance to review them. This will occur at the upcoming October CII meeting. Due to the timing involved, Ms. Filtz opted to bring these proposed modifications through for the Committee's awareness. Formal approval will take place in November after the proposals move through the normal process with CII. Proposals were then presented by staff members as follows:

- 1. New Course Proposals
 - a. Advanced Video, Digital and Graphic Arts – Dana Rice, Lincoln High School Art Teacher
 - b. Game Changers: Tracing History Through Sports – Jacob Bertagnoli, Lincoln High School Social Studies Teacher

2. Course Drops – Jacob Bertagnoli
 - a. America’s Voice
 - b. America’s Story

3. Proposed Changes to Science Course Offerings – Pete Larsen, Lincoln High School Science Teacher
 - a. Earth Structure & Processes – change to grade levels eligible for the course (currently open to grades 9-12, limit to grades 9-10)
 - b. Meteorology, Oceanography, Climatology – remove Earth Structure & Process as a prerequisite
 - c. Physical Geology – remove Earth Structure & Process as a prerequisite
 - d. Topics in Physical Science – change to students eligible for the course (not open to students who have previously earned a grade of C- or higher in a course in Chemistry, Physics, or Earth Science at Lincoln)
 - e. Topics in Life Science – change to students eligible for the course (not open to students who have previously earned a grade of C- or higher in a course in a Biology course at Lincoln)
 - f. Physics 101 – canceled due to UW system changes – no future offerings planned unless there are changes to UW requirements or to the course structure at Lincoln
 - g. AP Environmental Science – remove from list of offerings due to extremely low interest

4. Proposed Changes to Physical Education – Amy Manhardt, Lincoln High School Physical Education Teacher
 - a. Environmental Lit. in the Outdoors – remains as is
 - b. Outdoor Education – remove stipulation that states: *Students cannot take this course if they have taken Environmental Lit. in the Outdoors*
 - c. Winter Outdoor Education – remove stipulation that states: *Students cannot take this course if they have taken Environmental Lit. in the Outdoors*

5. Proposed Changes to Mental Health and Stress Management – Amy Andrys, Wisc. Rapids Area Middle School Health Teacher
 - a. Mental Health and Stress Management – change to grade levels eligible for the course, and add prerequisites (currently open to grades 9-12 with no prerequisites; change to limit to grades 10-12, adding prerequisite of .5 high school Health credit)

Committee members had an opportunity to ask questions concerning the course proposals and modifications. Ms. Filtz stated that the recommendations will be brought back to the Educational Services Committee in November after the CII Committee reviews them and takes an advisory vote on each proposal.

B. Student Travel

Ms. Filtz shared that five members of Lincoln High School’s Future Farmers of America (FFA) organization will travel to Indianapolis, Indiana on October 22-25, 2024 to attend the FFA National Convention.

C. Wisconsin Student Assessment 2023-24 Results

Ms. Filtz stated that the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) did not lift the embargo imposed on 2023-24 Wisconsin State Assessment System (WSAS) results in time for the meeting. She will have a thorough analysis available for the Board at the regular meeting on October 14th. She also mentioned that School Report Cards will be available mid-November, and plans to provide an update on these results at the Educational Services Committee meeting in December.

VI. Consent Agenda Items – none.

VII. Future Agenda Items/Information Requests

The Committee reviewed the following future agenda items:

- New Course/Curriculum Modifications and Proposals - Decision (November)
- Early College Credit Program (ECCP) and Start College Now (SCN) Applications (November)
- Initial Discussion of 2025-26 District Strategic Plan (November)
- Innovation Mini Grant Recipients (December)
- Open Enrollment Space Determination Limits for the 2025-26 School Year (January)
- AGR Mid-Year Report (February)

Ms. Stebbins-Hintz adjourned the meeting at 6:38 p.m.