

## **MINUTES OF MARCH 19, 2019 BOARD OF EDUCATION STUDY SESSION**

The Riverview Board of Education Study Session was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by President Bohr, in the Riverview City Hall Conference Room, 14100 Civic Park Drive, Riverview, MI 48193.

The following members were present at roll call: President Tim Bohr, Vice-President Gary O'Brien, Secretary Sheila Walker, Treasurer Andy Davis, Trustee Dominski, Trustee Pelkey, Trustee Walter

Also Present: District Administrators  
Cathy Rios, District Secretary

### **GUEST AND VISITOR COMMENTS**

There were no guest and visitor comments at his meeting.

### **STRATEGIC PLAN STUDENT GROWTH SERVICES REVIEW**

***Connection Club*** – Mr. Hatzl introduced seniors, Mackenzie McMahon and Kendall Dickenson, who presented a student mentoring club that they had formed. This club was based on the concept of Lin Crew in other districts but they made it their own. They explained to the Board how they formed, organized and implemented this club pairing 2-3 upperclassmen with 8-12 Freshmen to mentor throughout the year. The groups meet once a month to do activities and talk about their beliefs in a comfortable environment. Feedback from the Freshman has been favorable and Mr. Hatzl commented that he was very proud at all of the hard work and dedication Mackenzie and Kendall have shown with this project.

***RCBS Mentoring Program*** – Julie Karl discussed the Adult/Student mentoring program that has also been implemented at the High School. The purpose and intent of this program is for students to build on-going developmental relationships with a staff member and receive support and assistance throughout all of their HS years with the same mentor. The goal of the mentors are to promote competence, confidence, connection, character, caring and contribution while using the following standards: Relationships, Effort, Aspirations, Cognition and Heart. They have 6 meetings a year with 30 minutes of a planned activity and 20 minutes of a mentor choice activity. The benefit to the students as well as to the adult staff has been great.

***Middle School Pirate Pride*** – Counselor Ms. Lopez presented the board with a new mentoring program at the Middle School where they pair 8<sup>th</sup> graders with 6<sup>th</sup> graders. They meet once a month in Homeroom for special activities and lessons outlined by the Counseling Department. Students will remain with the same teacher the entire time at Seitz.

Tomorrow will be Movin' on Up where the 8<sup>th</sup> graders will take the 5<sup>th</sup> graders around and give them a tour showing them locker demos, etc.

***Elementary Student Mentoring Plan*** – The Elementary Principals came up and described their mentor groups to the Board. They actually mix all the aged students together in the building and assign them to groups. They will stay with the same teacher mentor through 5<sup>th</sup> grade participating in 40-minute sessions that have a monthly theme with half of the session focusing on relationship building.

Mrs. Maxon (Forest) also explained Restorative Practices and Restorative Justice and how they help us to meet the needs of each individualized student.

***Career Cruising*** – Counselors Mr. Flint (HS), Ms. Lopez (MS) and Mrs. Gribble (MS) discussed the new career exploration software/app, Xello, which is based on the Career Cruising platform. Starting Monday, Xello is replacing Naviance and it is more user friendly, more innovative and cheaper. With this program students can start in 6<sup>th</sup> grade tracking their career interests and update them on the app as their interests change all the way through middle school and high school. Hopefully when students are seniors they will have their career choice or at least know the path that they want to follow.

***Unwrapping Standards*** – Mrs. Maxon, Forest Principal, spoke to the Board about Formative Assessments and Standards. 25 staff members are having extensive training in these areas and will be able to share with the rest of the staff in the district. There is a RESA consultant coming to the District four times free of charge. The group has also gone to WCCC twice so far and will go two more times.

***Enhanced Dual Enrollment*** - Ms. Salow, Counselor at the High School discussed this program where we bus students to the college where they can earn up to 24 college credits. The students go together and are even in class together so they feel comfortable in the new college environment. Mr. Hatzl commented that this program is not for everyone but our Counselors have gotten good at advising our students accordingly, i.e. this is good for pre-reqs for a bachelor's degree but not a certificate program.

***Early Middle College*** – Mr. Zulewski said that the EMC program is completely different from dual enrollment. With this, students could earn both a diploma and an associate's degree using a 5<sup>th</sup> year of high school. We are in the process of applying to be able to implement this program for the 20-21 school year.

Students have to commit in 9<sup>th</sup> grade to the program and will end up with a 60 credit associate's degree. They will walk with class after 4 years, then take one math class at the HS and the rest of the classes at college. This program is not for everyone either, it is geared for those who mainly just want an Associate's degree not certificate or to go on for Bachelor's degree.

***Marcia Brenner Log Entries*** – Assistant Principals, Mr. Zulewski (HS) and Mr. Gill (MS) explained the new PowerSchool plug-in for Log Entries by Marcia Brenner. This system allows us to track every adult interaction with each student. This has been in place for 2 years now and

helps counselors to make behavior plans and helps administrators know when they need to act on a student's behavior. Social Workers can also be tagged in a log entry so they know if they need to see a specific student.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN TECHNOLOGY AND INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS REVIEW**

Sue Jeffries from the Technology Department outlined the the following in detail for the Board:

- PowerSchool – Student Information System that houses all of our student records and data
- Ecollect – New system for student enrollment, school of choice acceptance and many options for parent/student forms that is replacing InfoSnap.
- Schoology – Learning Management System and highly effective communication piece for staff and students that works well with PowerSchool
- Bright Arrow – Upgraded mass communication system for mass calling and emails from the district to the parents.

Ms. Jeffries also relayed Jake Rencsok's update as he could not attend the session. We are switching from Dells to iMacs and chromebooks. No idea what will be purchased for next year it is decided in the spring. Will take about 4 years to get away completely from the PCs. Wireless has been upgraded to new more robust system because we have have lots of wireless devices including laptops and phones.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Walter and supported by Treasurer Davis that the March 19, 2019 Riverview Board of Education Study Session be adjourned.

Yeas: Bohr, Davis, Dominski, O'Brien, Pelkey, Walker, Walter

Nays: None

## **MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

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Sheila Walker, Secretary  
Riverview Board of Education

Date March 26, 2019