

**Riverdale School Board Minutes**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**January 25, 2010**

The Board of Education of Riverdale C.U.S.D. #100 met in the High School Library, 9622 256<sup>th</sup> Street North, Port Byron, Illinois for a Regular Meeting on Monday evening.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Present**

Todd Caves, member, Rick Kessler, member, Lori Wirt, member, Brian Plumb, Vice President, Tom Schroeder, President

**Absent**

Sherry Creen, member, Steve Gibson, member

**Principals' Reports**

Mrs. Evans reported the following:

- Over 60 students in grades 3-5 earned Honor Roll status.
- Books were collected to donate to another school increasing their library of 3000 books by more than double.
- Students are participating in a Loose Change Drive for Haiti.
- 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School celebrations are January 27.
- Completed building benchmark testing for AIMS Web with very encouraging results.

Mr. Jennings reported the following:

- 8<sup>th</sup> grade students annual ski trip to Chestnut Mountain Resort in Galena on February 12.
- Spelling Bee was rescheduled due to weather for February 1.
- ISAT tests are March 2-12.
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will start registering for high school classes the week of February 16.
- Second set of winter activities are underway.

Mr. Boyd reported the following:

- Supreme Court Justice, Thomas Kilbride, will be a guest speaker for our juniors and seniors to address the decline in civic knowledge and our court system on January 28.
- Double-header Girls' and Boys' basketball games, honoring active veterans and military personnel on January 30.
- Juniors will have their first review day for PSAE testing during the Teacher Institute on February 5.
- Library is receiving a collection of non fiction books donated by the Ruth Hall family of Port Byron through the River Valley Library.
- Winter activities are coming to an end.

## **Transportation Report**

Mr. Zuercher discussed changes that have taken place over the last several months. He also thanked the board members for the bus leases and the change to single routes. We now have excellent equipment, making it easier for the drivers to drive all buses. Repairs have dropped drastically because of the lease and warranty. Mr. Zuercher was pleasantly surprised on how well things went on the first day of school. There were concerns because of moves in student population and the time changes for parents. The change to one route has resulted in a reduction of salaries, fuel usage and route times, with most routes between 25-45 minutes in length from starting point to drop off. There are eight new drivers and all have done an excellent job.

Mr. Zuercher also mentioned the car purchased by the District is paying for itself with a substantial savings instead of reimbursing individuals for mileage.

Mr. Jacobs talked about the stress at the start of the school year with the changes and that Mr. Zuercher did a wonderful job with coordinating and planning routes. Mr. Jacobs and Mr. Schroeder thanked Mr. Zuercher for the great job he is doing.

## **District Website**

The Riverdale C.U.S.D. #100 website has changed to **riverdaleschools.org** which will be easier for parents to remember and logon to see what their children are doing every day at school. Mr. Mitchell has taken a more active role in this change and continues to learn on a day-to-day basis along with Mrs. Keplinger. The secretaries will be trained to post announcements and other informational items.

Mr. Jacobs thanked Tony Vandercar for the wonderful job he did bringing Riverdale into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century by adding our website 3 years ago. Now our employees will be able to update and make changes to the website.

Mr. Jacobs mentioned that he would like to have a Twitter and Facebook fan page, with one-way communication, to keep parents informed.

## **Atomic Learning**

Thanks to the generosity of the PTA, the Boosters (from Market Day sales) and a small amount of E2T2 grant money from the State, we were able to purchase a 12-month license for Atomic Learning. This is a very powerful learning tool and it is available to everyone including students, teachers and parents. You can logon to [Atomiclearning.com](http://Atomiclearning.com) (*username parent@riverdale, password rams*). Any software application is available with 2-5 minute applications. We have the ability to track how and what is being used and are able to renew again next year.

## **Consent Agenda**

Motion to approve the following as presented:

- Open and Closed Session Minutes for December 21, 2009
- Accounts Payable and Financial Reports
- Gorenz and Associates as independent auditors for the 2009-10 school year
- David Bills as District Freedom of Information Act Officer

*Motion (Kessler), Second (Plumb) - Roll Call: All yes, Motion carried*

**Internet Service**

Motion to approve an agreement with Frontier Communications for Internet Service beginning the 2010-11 school year.

*Motion (Caves), Second (Wirt) - Roll Call: All yes, Motion carried*

**Dual Credit**

Motion to approve allowing Riverdale High School students to enroll in dual credit classes conducted by Black Hawk College at Erie High School beginning the 2010-11 school year.

*Motion (Kessler), Second (Plumb) - Roll Call: All yes, Motion carried*

**Into Closed Session**

Motion to go into closed session to discuss personnel appointments and employment at 7:52 p.m.

*Motion (Kessler), Second (Plumb) - Roll Call: All yes, Motion carried*

**Out of Closed Session**

Motion to come out of closed session at 8:21 p.m.

*Motion (Plumb), Second (Kessler) - Roll Call: All yes, Motion carried*

**Personnel**

Motion to hire Heath Franklin, Asst. Baseball Coach, effective immediately.

*Motion (Plumb), Second (Kessler) - Roll Call: All yes, Motion carried*

Motion to approve probationary status for Kathrine Campbell, High School Library Aide, effective immediately.

*Motion (Wirt), Second (Plumb) - Roll Call: All yes, Motion carried*

Motion to approve permanent status for Jima Belton, Elementary Special Education Aide, effective January 11, 2010.

*Motion (Plumb), Second (Kessler) - Roll Call: All yes, Motion carried*

**Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

*Motion (Kessler), Second (Plumb) - Roll Call: All yes, Motion carried*