

Ray-Pec School Board Update
Regular monthly meeting
Aug. 24, 2017

This is a summary of the Ray-Pec Board of Education meeting on Aug. 24, 2017. This is an unofficial record. The official minutes of each board meeting are posted at:

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

The School Board on Aug. 24 approved the 2017 tax levy rate at \$4.9122, a decrease from the rate of \$5.0397 that had been in place since 2004. The Board also approved the 2017-2018 Assessment Plan and heard a report about the District wellness program.

Recognition

The Board thanked KCP&L for its work at Shull Early Learning Center. KCP&L worked with the District as it upgraded equipment and buried electrical lines near the school's playground. Carter Morrison, field construction supervisor, who works out of the KCP&L Belton office, attended the Board meeting.

Tax levy

The School Board on Aug. 24 approved the 2017 tax levy rate at \$4.9122, a decrease from the rate of \$5.0397 that had been in place since 2004.

The 2017 rate includes an operating levy of \$3.5739 and a debt service levy of \$1.3383 per \$100 of assessed value. The approval followed a public hearing.

The rate is calculated based on the assessed valuation of real estate and personal property in the District. The rate decreased to offset increases in property values due to reassessment.

More information:

Tax rate posting: <http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/DocumentCenter/View/14062>

Tax rate history: <http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/DocumentCenter/View/14063>

Construction change orders

The Board approved 7 change orders related to construction.

One change order with the elementary renovation work by Wilcott added an expense of \$5,766 for additional fire alarms, emergency lighting inside restrooms, and additional ADA grab bars at Shull Early Learning Center.

Six change orders were for Crossland Construction Company's work related to the high school construction project:

- Additional controls and movement of thermostats, \$9,235.

- Movement of sensors, new floor box in dome, additional power for HVAC controls, and required additional emergency lighting in the dome, \$18,125.
- Water usage during sprinkler setup and testing, \$4,500 credit.
- Floor patching and fabric credit, \$2,722.
- Change in scope for sidewalk replacement, \$2,618 credit.
- Additional required strobes and door controls related to the fire alarm in the dome, \$8,522.

Assessment Plan

The Board approved the 2017-2018 Assessment Plan. The plan includes locally-developed assessments, as well as state- and federally-mandated tests. It also includes information about optional assessments, and specific assessments used for special education students, early childhood students, and gifted students. You may review the entire plan: <http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/DocumentCenter/View/14065>.

As part of the assessment plan, the District will give Ray-Pec High School juniors the option of four assessments, including the ACT.

Previously, the state of Missouri provided the opportunity for all students in 11th grade to take the ACT in the spring at no cost to the student or the school district. The state will not be funding the test this year. For spring 2018, Ray-Pec School District will pay the costs for its high school juniors to take the ACT or another assessment (see below).

In spring 2018, juniors may choose from:

- ACT, the national college admissions exam. The ACT is used by colleges and university for admissions decisions. It includes the subject areas of math, science, reading, and English. If 75 percent of the junior class opts to take the ACT, the cost to the district will be about \$17,500.
- ACT WorkKeys, which measures workplace readiness in three key areas: Applied Math, Graphic Literacy, and Workplace Documents. The National Career Readiness Certificate is credential issued at four levels, based on the student's score on the WorkKeys assessment. The MCRC measures and certifies the essential work skills needed for success in jobs across industries and occupations. If 10 percent of the junior class chooses to take the WorkKeys assessment, the cost to the District will be \$936.
- ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery). This battery measured abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success. It is used by students wishing to enter military or service or students entering technical courses at area vocational schools. The ASVAB is free.
- ACCUPLACER, an assessment to evaluate skills in the areas of reading, writing, and mathematics. The scores are used by the Metropolitan Community Colleges to determine a student's placement for English and math coursework. The first time a student takes the ACCUPLACER, it is free. If the first time takes place in high school, the second time is free as well. After that, the cost to re-test any section or the entire test is \$25.

Junior Assessment options: <http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/DocumentCenter/View/14066>

Staff Wellness Update

Lindsay Tom, Ray-Pec wellness coordinator, and Kristin Grace, account executive for CBIZ, the district's insurance broker, presented a report about the Wellness program. Tom is new to the District this year.

Tom told the board that 99 percent of employees enrolled in the District health insurance participated in the annual health risk assessment. She shared results from the health risk appraisal and screening that identified the most prevalent risks to Ray-Pec employees and their dependents.

As the school year gets under way, Tom plans to work with the Wellness Committee to develop a "why" statement, design a logo, and develop a strategic plan. The gym reimbursement program will continue, but Tom also plans to develop an annual calendar of events.

To view the wellness scorecard presented at the meeting, go here:

<http://www.raypec.k12.mo.us/DocumentCenter/View/14064>.

Other action

In other action, the Board:

- Approved a bid from Toshiba to purchase 36 Toshiba Techra C40-C laptops with 4-year warranty for a price of \$24,696. The laptops will be used in Project Lead the Way classrooms.
- Approved the Strategic Planning Community Engagement proposal from the University of Kansas Public Management Center.
- Heard comments from two residents about the Timber Creek Elementary School playground.
- Heard comments from one resident about bus transportation for students who live within one mile of school.
- Approved Policy BBFA – (Board Member Conflict of Interest and Financial Disclosure). To review this or any other Board policy, go here:

https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_ePolicy/SB_PolicyOverview.aspx?S=80000

Superintendent comments

Dr. Kari Monsees announced that this year could set a record for enrollment with more than 6,100 students in grades K-12 and another 160 students at Shull Early Learning Center. The official count will take place in September.

He thanks patrons for their patience with all of the changes this year – changes in grade configurations, changes in schools, and most recently, the closure of a portion of School Road for improvements. He noted that 260 staff members moved to a different building for this year school. He gave special thanks to the custodial, maintenance, and technology employees for all of their work over the summer.

Board member comments/committee reports

Board Vice President Kim York said that the Audit-Finance Committee met with the auditors and received a preliminary report. A report to the entire Board will take place at a future meeting.

York also reported that the Strategic Plan Steering Committee had begun to meet to plan for the process to update the District's Strategic Plan. President Kim Bailey said she was excited to see the Strategic Planning process get under way. She said that the District plans to include representatives from a variety of stakeholder groups on the Strategic Planning Committee. There will also be opportunities for community engagement during the process.

Consent agenda

The Board approved the consent agenda, which included the business report, surplus bid report, and minutes for the July 18 Board special meeting/retreat and the July 27 regular monthly 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/1197/Personnel-News-Aug-24-2017>. These items are considered during the closed session of the meeting, and made public afterward.

Updates

- Board work session, 6 p.m. Sept. 14, at the Administrative Services Center. The meeting is open to the public.
- Regular school board meeting, 6 p.m. closed and 7 p.m. open session, Thursday, Sept. 28, at the Administrative Services Center. The meeting is open to the public.