

Ray-Pec School Board Update
Regular monthly meeting
Sept. 19, 2019

This is a summary of the Ray-Pec Board of Education meeting on Sept. 19, 2019. 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 Board heard a report on the District's Public Relations program and a review of the District's Facilities and Grounds program. The Board approved an early resignation notification incentive and a letter of support to Metropolitan Community College for a grant application partnership.

Public Relations program

Communication Director Michele Stidham provided the annual report about the District's public relations program.

Stidham shared results from the spring 2019 stakeholder survey. The survey indicator with the greatest improvement from the previous year was "Communication regarding student progress in school." She said this was the result of efforts across the district, including the classroom teacher, individual schools, district, and the Technology Department.

She shared other survey results showing that many of the communication-related issues were among the highest-scoring indicators from the survey. The perception of stakeholders had remained steady or dipped slightly related to the quality of communication coming from the District and the District's efforts to report its plans and progress. For the current school year, Stidham plans to emphasize the role of the Board and District Administration in supporting student achievement. She also plans to focus on community partnerships, which is included in the Strategic Plan.

Stidham shared analytic statistics about the District web site and YouTube channels. She also reported on the distribution and open rates for the weekly newsletter. Ray-Pec has an open rate that is higher than the average for primary and secondary education organizations. The District has 3,454 subscribers for text messaging; 7,945 followers on Facebook; and 4,114 followers on Twitter.

Communication efforts in 2019-2020 will support the Strategic Plan priorities of Success Ready Students, High Quality Staff, and Financial Responsibility. Review the entire [Public Relations Update](#).

Facilities and Grounds Program Review

Scott Dobson, Director of Facilities, presented a review of the District's Facilities and Grounds program. He reviewed program highlights, and reviewed results from the spring 2019 stakeholder survey. He outlined three goals:

1. Increase the number of positive responses on the staff perception survey in regards to quality of work from 75.5 percent to 85 percent.
2. Increase the number of positive responses on the staff perception survey in regards to overall appearance of grounds from 84.7 percent to 90 percent.

3. Increase the number of positive responses on the staff perception survey in regards to overall grade for the department from 89.6 percent to 95 percent.

Review the entire [Facilities and Grounds Update](#).

Early resignation notification incentive

The Board approved an early resignation incentive for certified staff (defined as staff paid from the Certified Salary Schedule). Certified staff members who submit their resignation notice by Dec. 20, 2019, will receive an incentive stipend of \$750, and those who provide notice by Feb. 3, 2020, will receive an incentive stipend of \$500 to be paid on June 25.

MCC Grant Partnership

The Board approved a letter of support to Metropolitan Community College for a National Science Foundation grant application partnership. Staff from the MCC Business and Technology campus are preparing a grant application designed to support the creation of a satellite machining program to be located at a partner high school. The program would offer dual credit, as well as industry recognized credentials, through a year-long half-day course. The course would include interactive technology, with an instructor at MCC providing primary instruction with support of an on-site staff members to assist and supervise students. The letter of support indicates that Ray-Pec would be a partner district with MCC, if selected and the grant is approved.

Superintendent comments

Dr. Kari Monsees said Districtwide enrollment is at an all-time high at about 6,480 students in grades PreK-12, which is an increase of 60 to 70 students. He reminded the Board that Homecoming was the following week. He also spoke about the upcoming Missouri School Boards' Association Conference. High School Science Teacher Mike Roberts and one or more of his students planned to attend the conference to present a display about the Monarch way station.

Dr. Monsees also briefly talked about a grant from the Kauffman Foundation for efforts in the area of Real World Learning.

Board member comments/committee reports

(Here is a summary of comments by Board members)

President Ruth Johnson reported on recent meetings of the Long-Range Facility Plan committee and Team Ray-Pec. She said that the Innovation Committee would be focusing on Real World Learning, the district's Technology Plan, and the middle school schedule.

Board Member Paul Coffman said that the Wellness Committee was offering staff the opportunity to participate in various fitness or wellness challenges.

Board Member Ashley Jones reported on the Mental Health Task Force. She said that SOS Training (Signs of Suicide) would be presented soon at South Middle School and East Middle School. Parents will have the opportunity to attend an informational presentation.

Board policies

These Board policies were presented for a first reading:

P0320 – School Board Elections

P2210 – Entrance Age

P2640 – Student Use of Tobacco, Alcohol, and Drugs

P2871 – Medical Marijuana

P3425 – Accountability Portal

P4870 – Drug Free Workplace

P5550 – Student Meal Account Charges

P5620 – Student Transportation Services

Consent agenda

The Board approved the [consent agenda](#), which included the finance report, contract approval, surplus bid report, and minutes for the Aug. 22 tax levy hearing and regular monthly board meeting.

View the [personnel report](#) (hirings, resignations and retirements). These items are considered during the closed session of the meeting, and made public afterward.

Updates

- Missouri School Boards' Association Conference, Sept. 27-29.
- Board work session, 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 10, at the Administrative Services Center.
- Regular school board meeting, 6 p.m. closed and 7 p.m. open session, Thursday, Oct. 17, at the Administrative Services Center. The meeting is open to the public.