

**REAVIS HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 220  
6034 WEST 77<sup>TH</sup> STREET, BURBANK, ILLINOIS 60459  
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M.  
REAVIS LIBRARY**

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**MINUTES**

**1. OPEN MEETING, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL**

Time: 6:00 p.m.

The following Board Members were physically present at the meeting:

Ted Arnold  
James Brodinski  
Andrea Creger, Vice President  
Steve Ficker  
Russell McKinley, President  
Ruben Moreno  
Linda O'Dowd, Secretary

Also Present: Daniel J. Riordan, Ed.D., Superintendent  
Julie A. Schultz, Principal  
Eileen M. Jastrzebowski, Director of Guidance, Deans & Security  
Victoria Schwarz, Ed.D., Director of Support Services  
Donald Erickson, NBCT, Director of Information & Educational Technology  
Kelly O'Malley, NBCT, Division Chair Math & Science  
Erika Banick, Ed.D., Director of Curriculum & Assessment  
Thomas Witting, Activities Director  
Students

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- Regular Meeting Minutes of September 19, 2023.

Motion: L. O'Dowd  
Second: A. Creger  
Aye: J. Brodinski, A. Creger, S. Ficker, R. McKinley, R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

### **3. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Dr. Riordan shared that there are three students being honored this evening for their Advanced Placement (AP) Art achievements. He invited Principal Schultz to introduce the teacher and Division Chair for PE, CTE & Fine Arts. Principal Schultz began by announcing that the three students scored a perfect score on the AP exam in Spring 2023. She then invited Ms. Julie Jooste, Division Chair and Ms. Katie Kalus, teacher to go into more detail about these students and this major accomplishment. The three students recognized were Ella Speck, Samantha Arguellez and Diana Valdes.

### **4. USE OF FACILITIES**

- A. Approved request by *BCA Hub Youth & Resource Center* to use the driver's education parking lot for the purpose of 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Trunk or Treat on October 29, 2023 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Motion: S. Ficker  
Second: R. Moreno  
Aye: A. Creger, S. Ficker, R. McKinley, R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, J. Brodinski  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

- B. Approved request by *Burbank Cobras & Hometown Softball* to use the main gym for baseball/softball practice on Fridays November 3, 2023 through March 1, 2023 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Motion: J. Brodinski  
Second: R. McKinley  
Aye: S. Ficker, R. McKinley, R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, J. Brodinski, A. Creger  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

- C. Approved request by *Inter Athletic Club* to use the outdoor soccer fields for youth soccer training on October 24 & 26, 2023 and November 6 & 7, 2023 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Motion: A. Creger  
Second: L. O'Dowd

Dr. Riordan commented that the Inter Athletic Club is a spin off of the Burbank organization and it is Burbank students participating.

Aye: R. McKinley, R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, J. Brodinski, A. Creger, S. Ficker  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

## **5. FISCAL MANAGEMENT**

- A. Approved resolution authorizing the purchase of real property commonly known as 7600 S. Mason, Burbank, Illinois.

Motion: R. Moreno  
Second: S. Ficker

Dr. Riordan explained to the Board that passing this resolution is the last step before the closing. Adding that it has not yet been determined what will be done with the property. The architects will do a site survey and start discussing what can be done with the building.

Aye: R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, J. Brodinski, A. Creger, S. Ficker, R. McKinley  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

- B. Approved agreement to furnish school lunches between Reavis High School and the A.E.R.O. Special Education Cooperative.

Motion: L. O'Dowd  
Second: R. McKinley

Dr. Riordan explained that this is for the students in the 2 AERO classrooms in Reavis.

Aye: L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, J. Brodinski, A. Creger, S. Ficker, R. McKinley, R. Moreno  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

- C. Financial Statements dated September 30, 2023.

Motion: J. Brodinski  
Second: A. Creger  
Aye: T. Arnold, J. Brodinski, A. Creger, S. Ficker, R. McKinley, R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

- D. Payment of Bills for October, 2023.

Motion: L. O'Dowd  
Second: R. McKinley  
Aye: J. Brodinski, A. Creger, S. Ficker, R. McKinley, R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

## **6. TRAVEL**

- A. Approved request by Ms. Stephanie Korbakes, Girls' Volleyball Head Coach, to attend *American Volleyball Coaches Association*, in Tampa, Florida from December 14 -17, 2023.

- B. Approved request by Mr. Robert Morack, Athletic Director, to attend the *NIAAA (National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association) Conference* in Orlando, Florida December 15-19, 2023.
- C. Approved request by Mr. Mark Gniadek, Boys' Soccer Head Coach, to attend the *National Soccer Coaches Convention* in Anaheim, California from January 10 -14, 2024.
- D. Approved request by Mr. Konrad Dziedzic, Girls' Soccer Head Coach, to attend the *National Soccer Coaches Convention* in Anaheim, California from January 10 - 14, 2024.
- E. Approved request by Mr. Michael Gonzalez, Boys' & Girls' Soccer Assistant Coach, to attend the *National Soccer Coaches Convention* in Anaheim, California from January 10 -14, 2024.
- F. Approved request by Mr. James Young, Golf Head Coach, to attend the *PGA National High School Golf Association Coaches Conference* in Orlando, Florida from January 25 - 27, 2024.

It was the consensus of the Board to approve *Items A, B, C, D, E and F* under *Travel* with one motion:

Motion: S. Ficker  
 Second: R. Moreno  
 Aye: A. Creger, S. Ficker, R. McKinley, R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, J. Brodinski  
 Nay: None  
 Vote: 7-0

## 7. **PERSONNEL**

- A. Approved the resignation of Mr. James Ficaro, Division Chair for Special Education & ELL at the conclusion of the 2023-2024 school year.

Motion: J. Brodinski  
 Second: R. McKinley  
 Aye: S. Ficker, R. McKinley, R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, J. Brodinski, A. Creger  
 Nay: None  
 Vote: 7-0

- B. Approved the hire of Ms. Miranda Hernandez, full time substitute, effective November 6, 2023.

Motion: S. Ficker  
 Second: R. Moreno

Dr. Riordan stated that this item and the next are teachers that were covering FMLAs and are being asked to continue as full time substitutes.

Aye: R. McKinley, R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, J. Brodinski, A. Creger, S. Ficker  
 Nay: None  
 Vote: 7-0

- C. Approved the hire of Ms. Dulce Garcia, full time substitute, effective November 27, 2023.

Motion: L. O'Dowd  
 Second: A. Creger

Aye: R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, J. Brodinski, A. Creger, S. Ficker, R. McKinley  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

- D. Approved the hire of Dr. Erika Banick, Director of Activities & Community Relations, effective for the 2024-2025 school year.

Motion: R. Moreno  
Second: S. Ficker

Dr. Riordan stated that Dr. Banick is very excited to take on this new role and has done a tremendous job as the Director of Curriculum & Student Assessment.

*The Board congratulated Dr. Banick.*

Aye: L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, J. Brodinski, A. Creger, S. Ficker, R. McKinley, R. Moreno  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

- E. Approved the hire of Ms. Kelly O'Malley, Director of Educator Services, effective for the 2024-2025 school year.

Motion: L. O'Dowd  
Second: J. Brodinski

Dr. Riordan stated that Ms. O'Malley has been the Division Chair for Math & Science for the past 6 years and has done a wonderful job in that role. She is ready to take the next step and is confident she will do a fantastic job supporting the educators in the building.

*The Board congratulated Ms. O'Malley.*

Aye: T. Arnold, J. Brodinski, A. Creger, S. Ficker, R. McKinley, R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

- F. Approved the hire of Mr. William Lauer, Director of Deans & Security, effective for the 2024-2025 school year.

Motion: S. Ficker  
Second: R. Moreno

Dr. Riordan introduced Mr. Lauer who was present at the meeting. Mr. Lauer is in his 2<sup>nd</sup> year in the Dean role. He is a great teacher and even better coach. His demeanor with students is exemplary.

*The Board congratulated Mr. Lauer.*

Aye: J. Brodinski, A. Creger, S. Ficker, R. McKinley, R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

- G. Approved the hire of Ms. Julie Jooste, Director of Counseling & Student Development, effective for the 2024-2025 school year.

Motion: R. Moreno  
Second: S. Ficker

Dr. Riordan stated that Ms. Jooste has been in her current Division Chair role for over six years and has done a tremendous job. She will be responsible for students entering from 8<sup>th</sup> grade through graduation.

Dr. Riordan also stated that Dr. Schwarz will remain in her current role that is being renamed Director of Student Services.

Dr. Riordan took the opportunity to compliment Mr. Erickson, Director of Information & Educational Technology, who took on the role when it was a faceless position and has advanced it to what it is today.

*The Board congratulated Ms. Jooste.*

Aye: A. Creger, S. Ficker, R. McKinley, R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, J. Brodinski  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

- H. Approved request for a leave of absence according to the provisions of the Family Medical Leave Act for Ms. Susan Schroeder, maintenance staff, beginning September 12, 2023 through November 9, 2023.

Motion: A. Creger  
Second: R. McKinley  
Aye: S. Ficker, R. McKinley, R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, J. Brodinski, A. Creger  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

- I. Approved the hire of Mr. Matthew Moran, Rampage Literary Magazine sponsor, effective for the 2023-2024 school year.

Motion: L. O'Dowd  
Second: R. McKinley  
Aye: R. McKinley, R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, J. Brodinski, A. Creger, S. Ficker  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

## **8. OLD BUSINESS**

There was no *Old Business* at this meeting.

## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no *New Business* at this meeting.

## **10. CATEGORICAL REPORTS**

A. Student Reports – No Report

B. Administration –

Ms. Schultz, Principal

ABC7 Chicago Flyover

Congratulations to our entire RAM FAM for the amazing work we did together to bring the ABC7 trophy to Reavis High School.

It has been a fun few weeks showcasing our students and staff and the things we do to build a courageous culture! Reavis filmed three Friday flyovers, welcomed 800 students and families to the flyover airing, and gathered Friday in the pool to receive the award.

Art Students

Reavis High School, Dist 220 proudly recognizes three (3) amazing art students for earning a perfect score on a college-level Advanced Placement® (AP®) Exam in spring 2023.

Senior Samantha Arguellez is 1 of 308 students - out of 25,000 Drawing portfolios submitted to receive a perfect score!

Senior Gabriella Speck is 1 of 308 students - out of 25,000 Drawing portfolios submitted to receive a perfect score!

Junior Diana Ruby Valdes is 1 of 337 students - out of 49,000 2-D Art and Design portfolios submitted to receive a perfect score!

“AP courses and exams are college-level, requiring great focus and persistence among participating students,” said Trevor Packer, head of the Advanced Placement Program. The Reavis Fine Arts Department has a history of talented students who score 4’s & 5’s on their AP portfolios, but even for a traditionally excellent program, 3 PERFECT scores are unprecedented! Congratulations to Samantha, Gabriella, and Diana, and to their families on this incredible accomplishment!

PTC Conference

We hosted PTC on Tuesday, October 10 from 1-7pm; parents were able to schedule appointments with teachers or choose walk-ins when availability existed. We offered three, 30 minute parent universities that provided professional development opportunities for parents in the areas of attendance, ELL, and advanced placement testing. Thank you to our teachers: Katy Cunningham, Mike Jebens, Krystyna Nasinska, Teresa Zoltek-Kwak, and Kelly Miller for leading that professional development for our families.

Parent-teacher conferences were held last week and it was another fall success. Anytime we can have parents in the building and ask questions about curriculum, provided important feedback.

Ms. Jastrzebowski, Director of Guidance, Deans & Security

Recently, the School Counseling department held their Senior Parent night presentation. The presentation began in the library with College and Career Counselor, Lindsay O'Donnell, explaining the college application process. We then had a second presentation going on simultaneously in Spanish. The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) sent a bilingual representative to impart this very important information to our students and parents. Our families were very appreciative of this event. In addition, the College and Career Center is busy with College visits, ISAC assisting students in completing their FAFSA ID and planning student FT to local 150 operating engineers training facility in Wilmington.

Kelly Miller, out of the Dean's office, is leading the Tier I attendance committee. Last week Kelly partnered with Principal Schultz to meet with all students to review the September tardy data. The Senior class is in the lead with the least amount of total tardies. In addition, the Tier I committee is in the process of preparing for our Turkey to Tinsel Attendance Trot that aims at getting teachers and students competing to win the trophy for best 1st period attendance. We know from pre-Covid data that motivating people and keeping it fun helps us sustain small incremental changes that lead to school wide sustained improvements.

Dr. Schwarz, Director of Support Services

This school year, in an effort to promote continued mental health awareness post pandemic, Reavis High School will be partnering with an organization called Impactful. This organization has reimagined learning regarding important topics for school communities through award winning films. Beginning next week, our faculty will be previewing the film Angst; this film focuses on spreading awareness around anxiety. Throughout the school year, we will be planning opportunities for not only our faculty, but students and the community to view the film. We will also be incorporating supplemental materials and resources available through Impactful when supporting students learning to cope with anxiety.

Mr. Erickson, Information & Educational Technology Director

Our techs continue to upgrade the audio visual tech in classrooms throughout the school. We are currently finished with Social Studies and World Languages hallway and are now tackling the English and Consumer Sciences wings.

Also, this spring, students will be taking the SAT digitally on their Chromebooks for the first time ever. In preparation, we did a test run with nearly 100 juniors and sophomores this month. Our network, I'm happy to say, was able to handle the traffic and we look forward to a successful testing season in a few months from now.

Ms. O'Malley, Division Chair Math & Science

Math and Science: There is no doubt that we have built, a continue to refine, robust intervention program available to our entire student body. In addition to the supports available to our students in the Resource Center, I would like to highlight some of the interventions coming out of the math and science departments, specifically the work being done in our Math Lab HRs, under the direction of Ms. Trish LoVerde and Mr. Erik Scheiner, as well as our math and science interventionists, Ms. Michelle Fox and Ms. Monica Manzke. In our Math Lab HR's students can receive extra help, as needed, from certified staff as well as student tutors. Our interventionists having been pushing into classrooms since the start of the year, providing students with targeted supports to be successful in their math and/or science courses.

I would also like to report that we recently took advantage of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's (IEPA) Hazardous Education Waste Program. At the end of September, a contractor collected roughly 190 different chemicals from our chemical storage room. These chemicals were either expired, miscellaneous, and/or no longer being used. This program contributes to the district's life safety initiative, and also helped us save on the exorbitant costs associated with chemical disposals of the sort.

Humanities Report: The US History Team attended the South Suburban Social Studies conference today. In addition to attending various professional development sessions, the group presented a session on their PLC journey, focusing on how they collaborated to transition to a skills-based curriculum and implement standards-based grading in their classroom. They articulated how their classroom both has and has not changed over the last several years, as well as the positive impact it has had on student learning. We wanted to recognize and congratulate this team, including Social Studies teachers Rosa Jutzi, Heather McCurdy, Alex Mil, and Mike



LaMantia. They represented Reavis well and we are proud of their willingness to volunteer to lead a session on this topic for teachers from other districts.

Dr. Banick, Director of Curriculum & Student Assessment

Curriculum work continues to go smoothly across many departments, with several PLC teams requesting to have extra work sessions together. In order to provide them maximum support, we are bringing in two Solution Tree consultants to join us on two different days this month. Mandy Stalets, who has done a great job presenting to our faculty in the past, will work with our Algebra and Geometry teams. Garnet Hillman is an expert who will work with two different PE teams and our Health team. The teams will work on fine tuning their assessments and grading practices with guidance from these experienced professionals.

We have renewed our efforts at school-wide Tier II interventions now that Covid 19 is behind us, and I am proud to say that our new Tier II Academic Coordinator, Kim Waters, has been doing a great job working to keep the students in the Class of 2027 on track to graduate. A month into the school year, she began to identify freshmen struggling in core academic classes, and she reached out to see how she could assist teachers, she called parents, and she met with those students during Advisory. Once the first marking period was over, we identified the freshmen who continued to struggle significantly and moved them into the Resource Homeroom, where they receive quality one-on-one tutoring and guidance not just from Ms. Waters but also Heather McCurdy, Ryan Flood, Mike LaMantia, and Kelly Miller. We are optimistic that these strong and early interventions are going to be effective getting our youngest Rams back on track.

Mr. Witting, Activities Director

Marching Band ended their season on Saturday in Naperville. Speaking of Marching Band, Mr. Witting commended Mr. Davis, Ms. Miller and Mr. Faust with the planning and execution of the formations for the ABC7 Flyover. They were able to create the formations in a software and had Marching Band members in key positions of the formations.

Chess and Mathletes are doing well this season with both in first place. Ms. Jooste and Senior Class will be carving pumpkins tomorrow. The first round of senior class photos has been completed. Second round will be in November.

The fall musical Mean Girls begins next week.

Ms. O'Dowd commented that she has been around Reavis off and on since 1971 and is continually in awe of everything that is done and is very proud to be a part of the school and serve on the Board. One of the nicest things done so far has been the Legacy Award Ceremony which was recently held. Typically, those types of awards are given to people who have passed away which a couple were and their families were present and very proud. But to be given this award and able to be present to hear what someone feels about you and how you've made an impact. Ms. O'Dowd said it was very heartwarming and she was happy to be a part of it.

Dr. Riordan, Superintendent

Dr. Riordan thanked Mr. Witting for all his work on the Legacy Award Ceremony and also acknowledged the work of Mr. Dave Brost, 1968 Reavis Graduate and retiree, who also put in a lot of time into planning the evening.

On behalf of Mr. Novak, the audit has been completed and should be ready for November agenda. Also, the property tax bills will be sent out November 1<sup>st</sup> and will be due December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Dr. Riordan concluded that there has been a lot of progress on the Fieldhouse. From the outside, you can see what the building will look like. The roofing is nearly complete. The goal is to complete the roof and have the floor poured within the next week or two. Everything still on target for the Fieldhouse to open next fall. Yesterday the gas line was connected to the Fieldhouse. By doing that, they feel air got into the gas line and the boilers in the pool area had to be shut down. They will be out tomorrow to bleed the lines and are confident the boilers will be back up running.

- C. Teachers Union – No Report
- D. Support Staff Union – No Report
- E. Maintenance Union – No Report
- F. Board Reports – No Report

#### **11. CLOSED SESSION**

Enter into Executive Session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/2, to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, dismissal or evaluation of personnel, contract negotiations, possible or imminent litigation, resident delegate concern, student disciplinary issues, and held recommendations with any required action taken in open session.

Time: 6:50 p.m.  
Motion: T. Arnold  
Second: S. Ficker  
Aye: R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, J. Brodinski, A. Creger, S. Ficker, R. McKinley  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

#### **12. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

Time: 8:35 p.m.  
Motion: T. Arnold  
Second: S. Ficker  
Aye: T. Arnold, J. Brodinski, A. Creger, S. Ficker, R. McKinley, R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

#### **13. NEW BUSINESS**

There were no motions brought up after *Closed Session*.

#### **14. ADJOURNMENT**

Time: 8:35 p.m.  
Motion: T. Arnold  
Second: S. Ficker  
Aye: J. Brodinski, A. Creger, S. Ficker, R. McKinley, R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

Signed and approved this 14th day of November, 2023.

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President

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Secretary