

**RICE LAKE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
700 Augusta Street
Rice Lake, WI 54868**

Policy and Legislative Advocacy Committee Minutes

**Monday, May 7, 2018
5:30 p.m.
Board Room at Administration Office**

MINUTES

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Present – Committee Members: Abbey Fischer, Keven Jensen, Lorrie Parkman, Gary Spear
Absent- NA
District Staff – Randy Drost, Superintendent
Others: Don Cuskey
- III. **NOTICE OF POSTING:** Randy Drost announced that notice of the meeting was communicated by public notice as required by 19.84 of WI statutes.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes from Thursday, April 19, 2018:** Gary Spear and Abbey Fischer motion to approve the meeting minutes from Thursday, April 19, 2018. All present voting yes. Motion approved.
- V. **REVIEW THE FOLLOWING:** The board reviewed the following policies:

Policy	Title
Policy #344.4	<p>Grade Retention, Promotion, and Acceleration of Students (revise): The title of the policy will be revised to read, “<i>Grade or Subject Acceleration of Students.</i>”</p> <p>The committee requested that policy 343.3, <i>Enrollment and Credit for Middle School Students taking High School Courses</i> be referenced in policy 344.4. It was also requested that policy 342.5, <i>Gifted and Talented Program</i> be referenced in policy 344.4.</p> <p>There was a question as to whether we should reference online courses in the policy?</p>
Rule #344.4	<p>Guidelines for Grade Retention, Promotion, and Acceleration of Students (revise): The title of the rule will be revised to read, “<i>Grade or Subject Acceleration</i>” to match the policy.</p> <p>The bullets under #5 on the first page will be split out to define the criteria for grade acceleration to include all bullets; and for subject acceleration to include only the last four bullets and to eliminate the first bullet that reads,</p>

Policy	Title
	<p>“The student demonstrates intellectual ability in the superior range/category as determined by a nationally normed, individually administered measure of intellectual ability.”</p> <p>Any reference to Differentiated Education Plan (DEP) will be revised to read, “Individual Learning Plan (ILP).”</p>
Policy #344.41	<p>Grade Advancement Grades 4 and 8 (revise): The second paragraph of the policy will be moved to just above the last paragraph on the last page.</p> <p>Under the section for retention criteria, number 1 and 2 will be switched. In addition, in this section, number 4 will be revised to read as the wording reads in the Rule 344.41, Letter A, #2(b).</p>
Rule #344.41	<p>Grade Advancement Implementation Procedures Grades 4 and 8 (revise): The committee requested the rule be revised to include roman numerals with steps for grades 1-8 and moving steps for grades 9-12 to the end of the rule???</p> <p>Under letter A, #2 (b), this language will also be used in the policy #4. Under letter B. Promotion and Retention Decisions, letter b., revise this language to be similar to the steps in the kindergarten rule indicating the process in April, May and June. There was also discussion about including summer school remedial options and online courses.</p> <p>Under letter C, #1, letters a and b will be switched. In addition, under letter C, #1, letter c, the last section will be reworded to read, <i>“Based on the information presented, the majority of the team will decide upon grade promotion or grade retention. If a consensus decision is not achieved, the Director of Instruction and Learning will appeal to the District Administrator.”</i></p> <p>It was requested that the appeal process be revised to be similar to the kindergarten appeal process.</p> <p>Under letter D, this will be broken up to include the language for Promotion and Retention Decisions and Criteria for students in grades 1-3 &5 (using elementary/kindergarten language); and Promotion and Retention Decisions and Criteria for students in grades 6 & 7 (using the River Falls model to develop the language).</p> <p>Under the Promotion and Retention Decisions and Criteria for Students in grades 9-12, we will incorporate the following language, <i>“The Rice Lake Area School District establishes the following credit accumulation totals to determine achieved grade level placement at RLHS. Gr. 10=5 credits, Gr. 11=10 credits, and Gr. 12=16 credits. This section will be moved to the bottom of the rule.</i></p> <p>Under the section titled, Retention with the Voluntary Support of the Student’s Parent(s) or Guardian(s), #1, the first sentence will be revised to read, <i>“In any situation in which there may be mutual District and family agreement to retain a student, the majority of the building assessment team,</i></p>

Policy	Title
	<p><i>in consultation with classroom teachers and other relevant staff, must conclude on behalf of the District that the weight of the relevant and available information suggests that the students' overall welfare is likely to be at least as equally well-served by retention as compared to promotion."</i></p> <p>Under the section titled, Parent Notification and Appeals of Promotion/Retention Decisions, #1 will be revised to be similar to the Kindergarten appeal process. The suggestion was to reword #1 to read, "<i>If the District decides to involuntarily retain a student, either the building principal, Director of Instruction and Learning, or Director of Pupil Services will promptly notify the student's parent or guardian of the decision.</i>"</p> <p>Also, the last sentence under the section titled, Parent Notification and Appeals of Promotion/Retention Decision, will read, "<i>Such appeals should be submitted in writing to the Office of the District Administrator as soon as reasonably possible after the parent or guardian is informed of the District's decision, but no later than July 1.</i>"</p>
Policy #344.42	<p>Grade Advancement Kindergarten (revise): The first sentence will be revised to read, "<i>A student may not advance from Kindergarten to First Grade unless the student has met the established criteria.</i>" The reference to the September 1, 2011 date will be deleted.</p> <p>The committee decided to leave letter C. <i>Teacher Recommendation Criteria</i> in the policy.</p>
Rule #344.42	<p>Grade Advancement Implementation Procedures Kindergarten (revise): Under the section of Promotion, #1, letter a, it was requested more clarification be added regarding the criteria required. In addition, under Promotion, #2 will be added back into the rule and revised. Letter b, iv) will be revised to read, "<i>Consideration of overall development</i>". It was requested this section be revised to reflect the universal screening process similar to rule 344.41.</p> <p>Under the section of Other Academic Criteria, Randy will revise this to be similar to the others. In addition, the Appeal Process will be added back into the rule and will be directed to the District Administrator not the Board of Education.</p>

VI. **LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY UPDATE:** The committee discussed the Blue Ribbon Commission upcoming hearing on School Funding. A public hearing is scheduled for Monday, May 21, 2018 in Turtle Lake.

VII. **OTHER:** The committee was informed of an upcoming mental health and education meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 8, 2018.

They discussed when to invite representatives such as J. Bewley and R. Quinn to meet with the board and tour district facilities. There was also discussion about inviting the governor

to discuss financial support for schools. The committee would like to prepare an update on where we are and where we want to be to discuss with the governor.

VIII. Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 12, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the Administration Office.

IX. ADJOURN: A motion to adjourn was made at 8:16 p.m. by Abbey Fischer and seconded by Gary Spear.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Randy Drost.