

School District of River Falls Regular Board Meeting

April 15, 2024 - 6:00 PM

District Office

852 E Division Street

River Falls, Wisconsin 54022

Personnel Committee members: Stacy Johnson Myers (Chair), Alison Page, & Alan Tuchtenhagen

A quorum of the Board may be present for information-gathering purposes only.

Agendas can be viewed at <https://www.rfsd.k12.wi.us/district/school-board.cfm> or at <https://meetings.boardbook.org/Public/Organization/1447>

1. **CALL TO ORDER - 6:00 PM IN THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM**
2. **MANNER OF PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF MEETING**
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
4. **HEARING OF VISITORS OR DELEGATIONS**
5. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**
 - A. **Wildcat Pride Awards**
 1. Cindy Holbrook
Description: In recognition of her years of service on the River Falls Board of Education.
 2. Robert Casey
Description: In recognition of his years of service on the River Falls Board of Education.
 - B. **Superintendent, Administrative, and Student Representative Reports**
 1. **Administrative Reports related to Building-Level SMART Goals 2023-24**
 - a. Rocky Branch and Westside Elementary
Description: Presentation Link
 2. Superintendent Report
Description: School Forest Update
 - C. **School Board Election Report - April 2, 2024** **3**
Description: Congratulations to re-elected Board Member Alan Tuchtenhagen and newly elected David Bo Hirstein and Monica LaVold. Alan, David, and Monica will each serve a 3-year term.
6. **ACTION ITEMS**
 - A. **Approval of Minutes, bills, and recommended employment** **6**
Description: The following have been submitted for approval:
Item 1: March 25, 2024, Regular Board of Education meeting minutes
Item 2: Bills submitted for payment
Item 3: Pursuant to Board Policy which references Wisconsin Statutes Sections 111, 118, 121, all employees who require Wisconsin state certification shall be recommended by the superintendent to the Board of Education for approval. All recommendations presented at this time are pursuant to approved Board policies and accompanying administrative procedures.
Recommended Action: Approve minutes, bills, and employment as presented.
 - B. **Consideration and/or Action to approve the School Forest Handbook** **16**
Description: District Administration will present the School Forest Handbook for approval.
Recommended Action: Approve the School Forest Handbook.
 - C. **Consideration and/or Action to approve April 1, 2024 Educational Program Committee recommendations** **40**
Description: The Educational Program Committee met on April 1, 2024, to hear a cybersecurity update and a community education & communications update. The high school professional learning community (PLC)₁

update and the River Falls School District Library Media Plan approval were tabled.

Recommended Action: No action, informational only.

D. Consideration and/or Action to approve April 8, 2024 Finance & Facilities Committee recommendations **42**

Description: The Finance and Facilities Committee met on April 8, 2024, to hear the 2023-24 Budget update, to review the 22-23 audit report, and finally to hear a Design & Planning Team update. The committee also went into closed session for a debt issuance discussion.

Recommended Action: No action, informational only.

E. Consideration and/or Action to approve April 8, 2024 Personnel Committee recommendations **45**

Description: The Personnel Committee met on April 8, 2024, to hear a certified staffing update, to discuss the certified staffing plan, to approve sending letters of intent to certified staff, to review revisions to policies 522.1 Alcohol and Drug-Free Workplace and 523.3 Employee Assistance Program. The Computer Workstation Technician, Software and Staff Development Facilitator, and Supervisor of Information Technology Services job description revisions were tabled. The committee also went into closed session to discuss the resignation of an employee and to discuss 2024-25 contract negotiations.

Recommended Action: Approve sending letters of intent to certified staff.

F. Consideration and/or Action to approve the second reading of revised School Board Policies 522.1 Alcohol and Drug-Free Workplace and 523.3 Employee Assistance Program **49**

Description: The first readings of revised policies 522.1 Drug-Free Workplace and 523.3 Employee Assistance Program were approved at the February 19, 2024, Regular Board Meeting.

Recommended Action:

1. Approve the second reading of revised School Board Policy 522.1 Alcohol and Drug-Free Workplace.
2. Approve the second reading of revised School Board Policy 523.3 Employee Assistance Program.

G. Proposed/suggested items for the next regular and future Board meeting agenda(s)

Description: As always, Board members will be given the opportunity to suggest items for future Board member agendas.

Recommended Action: As needed.

H. Schedule next Board/Committee meetings

Description: Upcoming Board meeting dates, times, and locations will be reviewed.

Recommended Action: Set the meeting schedule as follows:

Educational Program Committee meeting: Monday, May 6, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

Finance and Facilities Committee meeting: Monday, May 13, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

Personnel Committee meeting: Monday, May 13, 2024, 7:00 p.m. (or immediately following Finance and Facilities)

Regular Board meeting: Monday, May 20, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

Board of Education Retreat: Monday, June 3, 2024, 3:00 p.m.

All of the above meetings will be held at the District Office Conference Room, 852 E. Division Street unless noted otherwise.

I. CONSIDERATION OF ADJOURNING TO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO WIS. STAT. SEC. 19.85(1)(C), WHICH PERMITS CONVENING IN CLOSED SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING THE EMPLOYMENT, PROMOTION, COMPENSATION OR PERFORMANCE EVALUATION DATA OF ANY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE OVER WHICH THE GOVERNMENTAL BODY HAS JURISDICTION OR EXERCISES RESPONSIBILITY, TO DISCUSS 2024-25 CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS. ROLL CALL VOTE REQUIRED.

7. CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION

8. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION AND AFFIRM ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION IF NECESSARY

9. ADJOURN

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF RIVER FALLS
River Falls, Wisconsin 54022
2024 School Board Election Results
April 2, 2024

Official Results

	Townships							City of River Falls				Totals
	Clifton <i>Pierce</i>	Kinnic- Kinnic <i>St Croix</i>	Martell Ward 1 <i>Pierce</i>	Pleasant Valley <i>St Croix</i>	River Falls <i>Pierce</i>	Rush River <i>St Croix</i>	Troy <i>St Croix</i>	District 1 Wards <i>St. Croix</i> 1-5	District 2 Wards <i>Pierce</i> 10-13	District 3 Wards <i>Pierce</i> 6-9	District 4 Wards <i>Pierce</i> 14-18	
Alan Tuchtenhagen*	152	195	77	15	382	0	328	486	163	540	481	2819
Crystal DuBois	146	219	80	14	307	0	360	419	118	310	298	2271
David Bo Hirstein*	201	227	86	15	398	0	401	590	180	613	521	3232
Monica LaVold*	139	197	70	14	336	0	297	474	163	514	442	2646
Write-In All others	15	7	11	0	19	0	4	12	4	29	16	117
Totals	653	845	324	58	1442	0	1390	1981	628	2006	1758	11085

* Has been elected to a three-year term according to **official** election results.



BOARD OF CANVASSERS (April 8, 2024)

1. Rebecca Ferguson Rebecca Ferguson
2. Sue Fritz Sue Fritz
3. Jenny Karras Jenny Karras



STATEMENT OF THE BOARD OF CANVASSERS

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF RIVER FALLS

We, the undersigned members of the Board of Canvassers of the School District of River Falls, do certify that the annexed and within tabular statement is true and correct as compiled by us from the original returns made to the school district clerk by the several towns, villages, and election districts in said school district, of the 2024 spring election held Tuesday, April 2, 2024.

The number of votes given for the election of candidates for school board are as follows:

Alan Tuchtenhagen	<u>2819</u>
Crystal DuBois	<u>2271</u>
David Bo Hirstein	<u>3232</u>
Monica LaVold	<u>2646</u>
Scattered Write-Ins	<u>117</u>

Witness our hands at the Office of the School Clerk at River Falls, Wisconsin, this 8th day of April, 2024.

BOARD OF CANVASSERS

Signed:

1. Rebecca Ferguson Rebecca Ferguson
2. Sue Fritz Sue Fritz
3. Jenny Karras Jenny Karras





CERTIFICATE OF DETERMINATION OF PERSONS ELECTED

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF RIVER FALLS

We, the undersigned Board of Canvassers of the School District of River Falls, do determine and certify that the following named persons having received the greatest number of votes as candidates for the office of school board member (as compiled from the original 2024 spring election returns made to the school board clerk of said district and as compared by us) are hereby declared to be elected to the School Board of the School District of River Falls.

David Bo Hirstein	River Falls Board of Education	(three-year term)
Alan Tuchtenhagen	River Falls Board of Education	(three-year term)
Monica LaVold	River Falls Board of Education	(three-year term)

Witness our hands at the Office of the School Clerk at River Falls, Wisconsin, this 8th day of April, 2024.

BOARD OF CANVASSERS

Signed:

1. Rebecca Ferguson Rebecca Ferguson
2. Sue Fritz Sue Fritz
3. Jenny Karras Jenny Karras



School District of River Falls
Regular Board Meeting
Monday, March 25, 2024 - 6:00 PM
District Office, 852 E Division Street
River Falls, Wisconsin 54022

The regularly scheduled meeting of the River Falls Board of Education was called to order on Monday, March 25, 2024 at the District Office, 852 E Division Street, River Falls, Wisconsin 54022. President Johnson Myers called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. It was ascertained that notice of the meeting had been properly posted in the appointed locations, and sent to the *Star-Observer*, *Pierce County Journal*, WEVR Radio Station, and the *Eau Claire Leader-Telegram*.

PRESENT

President Stacy Johnson Myers, Vice President Cindy Holbrook, Clerk Alan Tuchtenhagen, Treasurer Mike Miller, members Lindsey Curtis, Alison Page, and student representative Anika Hovland. Also present were Superintendent Jamie Benson, Director of Human Resources and Leadership Development David Bell, Director of Academic Services Nate Schurman, and Director of Finance & Facilities Lynette Coy. Director of Student Services Mark Inouye, River Falls High School Principal Kit Luedtke, Renaissance Charter Academy Coordinator Chris Silver, Meyer Middle School Principal Mark Chapin, Westside Elementary Principal Chris Kamrath, Rocky Branch Principal Ashley Bingenheimer, and Greenwood Principal Kate Skappel. Meyer Middle School Teacher Jenny Luedtke and Meyer Middle School Counselor Samantha Dusek.

HEARING OF VISITORS OR DELEGATIONS - None

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Wildcat Pride Awards

1. The River Falls Lions Club was honored for their consistent support of our students' well-being and mental health through their generous donations.
2. Meyer Middle School was recognized for being named a 2024 State School of Character. Rocky Branch Elementary and Westside Elementary were recognized for being named 2024 Honorable Mentions.

Spotlight on Education

FFA Creed Presentation

As part of their preparation for the upcoming competition season, Kendra O'Connor and Olivia Luther, members of Future Farmers of America, shared a brief history of the FFA Creed and recited it.

A. Superintendent, Administrative, and Student Representative Reports

1. Student Representative Reports

Hovland updated the Board on spring activities at the high school, including the recent trip to State by the Mock Trial team.

2. Administrative Reports related to Building-Level SMART Goals 2023-24

a. River Falls High School/Renaissance Charter Academy

Luedtke provided an update on the high school's SMART goals, which included the progress made on the senior exit interviews. Silver provided an update on REN's SMART goals and mentioned that all the juniors and seniors have successfully completed the financial literacy curriculum.

b. Meyer Middle School

Chapin provided an update on the middle school's SMART goals, including progress made on the upcoming rollout of standards-based grading in the fall.

3. Superintendent Report

Benson shared the draft timeline for the facility construction projects and thanked the community for supporting the referendum.

B. Wisconsin Association of School Boards - Board of Directors Update

Board member Alan Tuchtenhagen provided a WASB Board of Directors update including some upcoming meeting dates that may be of interest to the other board members.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Johnson Myers reviewed the minutes, bills, and recommended employment items on the Agenda. Curtis moved, seconded by Holbrook that the Board approve the following:

1. The Minutes from the February 19, 2024 Regular Board of Education meeting.
 2. Accounts Payable and Payroll payments in the amount of \$3,727,802.69.
 3. Pursuant to Board Policy which references Wisconsin Statutes Sections 111, 118, and 121, approval of the following employment recommendations: 1. Recommended approval of the employment of Kara Reich as part-time long term substitute Physical Therapist effective approximately March 4, 2024 through June 4, 2024 (for MiKayla Sanocki). 2. Recommended approval of the employment of Heather Vogel as part-time long term substitute Physical Therapist effective approximately March 4, 2024 through June 4, 2024 (for MiKayla Sanocki). 3. Recommended approval of the employment of Melissa Fierro as full-time long term substitute 8th Grade Math Teacher at Meyer Middle School effective approximately March 8, 2024 through May 24, 2024 (for Lindsay McLain). 4. Recommended approval of the employment of Reagan Stocker as full-time limited term substitute School Counselor at River Falls High School effective March 11, 2024 through June 7, 2024. 5. Recommended approval of the employment of Annabel Reimers as full-time long term substitute 1st Grade Teacher at Westside Elementary School effective approximately March 13, 2024 through May 31, 2024 (for Alyssa Schluessler). 6. Recommended approval of the hiring of the following short-term, on call Substitute Teachers: a. Myah Olson b. Katherine Keehr c. Savanna Frie d. Carissa Nelson e. Heather Lane f. Michael Stoskopf g. Evan Pechacek 7. Recommended acceptance of the resignation of Emma Fowler as full-time School Counselor at River Falls High School effective the end of the 2023-24 year. 8. Recommended acceptance of the resignation of Molly Chapman as full-time Special Education Teacher at River Falls Public Montessori Elementary School effective the end of the 2023-24 year. 9. Recommended acceptance of the resignation of Lauren Thomforde as full-time Kindergarten Teacher at Rocky Branch Elementary School effective the end of the 2023-24 year. 10. Recommended acceptance of the resignation of Riley Sutton as full-time 7th Grade Math Teacher at Meyer Middle School effective the end of the 2023-24 year. 11. Recommended acceptance of the resignation of Rita Sommerfeldt as full-time Kindergarten Teacher at Rocky Branch Elementary School effective the end of the 2023-24 year. Ms. Sommerfeldt will retire after 32 years of service with the district. 12. Recommended acceptance of the resignation of Pam Friede as full-time 4th Grade Teacher at Rocky Branch Elementary School effective the end of the 2023-24 year. Ms. Friede will retire after 33 years of service with the district. 13. Recommended acceptance of the resignation of John Witt as full-time 7th Grade Math Teacher at Meyer Middle School effective the end of the 2023-24 year. Mr. Witt will retire after 34 years of service with the district. 14. Recommended acceptance of the resignation of Lisa Lockie as full-time Health Teacher at Meyer Middle School effective the end of the 2023-24 year. Ms. Lockie will retire after 35 years of service with the district.
- Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

B. Consideration and/or Action to approve March 4, 2024 Educational Program Committee recommendations

The Educational Program Committee met on March 4, 2024, to hear a summer school update, to approve the 2024-25 RF4C Provider Contract, to approve the adoption of Collaborative Classroom as the K-5 ELA resource for 2024-30, and to approve the CESA 11 Shared Services Contract for 2024-25.

1. Miller motioned, seconded by Page to approve the RF4C Provider Contract for the 2024-25 school year. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).
2. Page motioned, seconded by Holbrook to approve the adoption of Collaborative Classroom as the K-5 ELA resource for the 2024-30 school years. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).
3. Tuchtenhagen motioned, seconded by Curtis to approve the 2024-25 CESA 11 Shared Services Contract for the 2024-25 school year. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

C. Consideration and/or Action to approve March 11, 2024 Finance & Facilities Committee recommendations

The Finance and Facilities Committee met on March 11, 2024 to hear a 2023-2024 budget update, to hear an updated 2024-25 budget projection, and to approve the Food Service Management Services Contract for 2024-25.

Miller motioned, seconded by Page to approve the Food Service Management Services Contract with Chartwells for the 2024-25 school year. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

D. Consideration and/or Action to approve March 11, 2024 Personnel Committee recommendations

The Personnel Committee met on March 11, 2024 to review the 2025-26 school calendar, to approve the 2024-25 health and dental Insurance provider, to approve updates to policies 535.1 Professional Staff Time Schedules and 535.3 Job Sharing. The RF4C Coordinator job description revision was tabled until May. The committee also went into closed session to discuss the preliminary nonrenewal of certified staff and the 2024-25 contract negotiations.

1. Curtis motioned, seconded by Holbrook to approve Health Partners as the health and dental provider for the 2024-25 school year. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).
2. Johnson Myers motioned, seconded by Page to approve the first reading of revised School Board Policy 535.1 Professional Staff Time Schedules and the first reading of revised School Board Policy 535.3 Job Sharing. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

E. Approve the second reading of revised School Board Policies 522.1 Drug Free Workplace, 522.4 Staff Conflicts of Interest, 523.1 Staff Health Examinations, 523.3 Employee Assistance Program, and 546.1 Resignation of Support Staff Members

The first readings of revised policies 522.1 Drug Free Workplace, 522.4 Staff Conflicts of Interest, 523.1 Staff Health Examinations, 523.3 Employee Assistance Program, and 546.1 Resignation of Support Staff Members were approved at the February 19, 2024, Regular Board Meeting.

Johnson Myers motioned, seconded by Page to approve the second readings of revised School Board Policy 522.1 Drug Free Workplace, revised School Board Policy 522.4 Staff Conflicts of Interest, revised School Board Policy 523.1 Staff Health Examinations, revised School Board Policy 523.3 Employee Assistance Program, and revised School Board Policy 546.1 Resignation of Support Staff Members.

Questions were raised regarding policy 522.1 Drug Free Workplace, Johnson Myers amended the motion to table this policy until further revision.

Questions were raised regarding policy 523.3 Employee Assistance Program, Johnson Myers amended the motion a second time to table this policy until further revision.

Final amended motion by Johnson Myers, seconded by Page to approve the second readings of revised School Board Policy 522.4 Staff Conflicts of Interest, revised School Board Policy 523.1 Staff Health Examinations and revised School Board Policy 546.1 Resignation of Support Staff Members. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

F. Proposed/suggested items for the next regular and future Board meeting agenda(s)

As always, Board members will be given the opportunity to suggest items for future Board member agendas. A request to visit the district's ag/farmland. The amended 2nd reading policies as mentioned above.

G. Schedule next Board/Committee meetings

Set the meeting schedule as follows:

Educational Program Committee meeting: Monday, April 1, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

Finance and Facilities Committee meeting: Monday, April 8, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

Personnel Committee meeting: Monday, April 8, 2024, 7:00 p.m. (or immediately following Finance and Facilities)

Regular Board meeting: Monday, April 15, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

Board Reorganizational meeting: Monday, April 22, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

Board of Education Retreat: Monday, June 3, 2024, 3:00 p.m.

All of the above meetings will be held at the District Office Conference Room, 852 E. Division Street unless noted otherwise.

ADJOURNMENT

President Johnson Myers declared the meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Alan Tuchtenhagen, Clerk

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF RIVER FALLS
River Falls , Wisconsin 54022

April 2024 Board Meeting

Accounts Payable	AMOUNT
Checks # 216709 - 217033	\$778,376.57
ACH # 232400001-232400004	\$4,703.53
Wires The Standard, Mn Life, Medica, EFTPS	\$5,822,456.55
Delta, WEA, Wis Deferred Comp	
EBC, HSA Bank, Payroll Taxes, WRS-Retirement	
Bond Trust Services Corp	
 NSF Ck #1000	 \$118.03
Void Ck #214894, 216203	-\$267.95

PAYROLL

Checks #	\$0.00
ACH # 997384868 - 997386107	\$1,586,639.10
Void	\$0.00

\$8,192,025.83

Actual

FNB - General Money Market Balance	\$17,148,317.22
RCU - Money Market Balance	\$115,580.04

Publication List - Checks over \$100 -Apr 2024 Meeting

POST	CHECK		INVOICE	
DATE	NUMBER	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
3/6/2024	216709	3 SCHWEET SISTERS, LLC	CE Class Pymt	\$ 823.50
3/6/2024	216710	A.M. STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING, LLC	Structural Consult	\$ 825.00
3/6/2024	216711	ABUNDANT LIFE	Teacher Payout	\$ 384.00
3/6/2024	216712	ABUNDANT LIFE	Site Payout	\$ 12,412.80
3/6/2024	216716	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, INC.	Multiple Invoices	\$ 7,016.08
3/6/2024	216717	AMES, JENNIFER	Dep/Travel Exp	\$ 645.75
3/6/2024	216718	AMUNDSON, BRIAN	Travel Expenses	\$ 693.47
3/6/2024	216720	BALDWIN LIGHTSTREAM	Internet/phone	\$ 1,601.84
3/6/2024	216721	BOARDMAN & CLARK, LLP	Legal Fees	\$ 2,068.00
3/6/2024	216722	BOSS LASER LLC	Supplies	\$ 562.00
3/6/2024	216723	BREITENBACH CORBID, HOLLY ANN	CE Class Pymt	\$ 264.48
3/6/2024	216724	BRENNER, KAILEY	CE Class Pymt	\$ 165.00
3/6/2024	216725	BRICKHOUSE MUSIC, LLC	Multiple Invoices	\$ 414.54
3/6/2024	216726	BROECKAERT, KIMBERLY	CE Class Pymt	\$ 257.84
3/6/2024	216727	C & L COMMUNICATIONS INC	Feb Locates	\$ 1,381.25
3/6/2024	216728	CARPENTER ST CROIX VALLEY	Field Trip	\$ 340.00
3/6/2024	216729	CARTIER, CHELSEA	Reim supplies	\$ 160.09
3/6/2024	216732	CESA 11	Multiple Invoices	\$ 24,310.33
3/6/2024	216733	CHILD CENTER	Teacher Payout	\$ 288.00
3/6/2024	216734	CHILD CENTER	Site Payout	\$ 9,309.60
3/6/2024	216736	CINTAS	BG Expense	\$ 291.77
3/6/2024	216737	CITY OF RIVER FALLS	Prop Chargebacks	\$ 389.21
3/6/2024	216738	CORIANDER LIVING COLLECTIVE LLC	CE Class Pymt	\$ 119.70
3/6/2024	216739	COY, LYNETTE	Travel Expenses	\$ 167.00
3/6/2024	216740	CRAIL, DAVID	Multiple Invoices	\$ 223.07
3/6/2024	216741	CRANSTON, MATTHEW	Travel Expenses	\$ 482.48
3/6/2024	216743	DICK'S MARKET	Multiple Invoices	\$ 2,978.02
3/6/2024	216744	DONOVAN GROUP	Ref Videos/Mailers	\$ 7,000.00
3/6/2024	216746	EAU CLAIRE MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL	Forensic Tourn	\$ 605.00
3/6/2024	216747	EAU CLAIRE NORTH HIGH SCHOOL	BBB Semi Final	\$ 238.00
3/6/2024	216748	EWELL EDUCATIONAL SERVICES INC	Entry Fee	\$ 350.00
3/6/2024	216749	EXPRESS SERVICES INC	Sub Fulfillment	\$ 1,225.92
3/6/2024	216750	FAMILY FRESH - SPARTANNASH	Multiple Invoices	\$ 245.15
3/6/2024	216751	FELLING, MEGAN	Wellness Grant	\$ 450.00
3/6/2024	216754	FOOD SERVICE-SDRF	MS Conferences	\$ 465.00
3/6/2024	216755	FOREST SAFETY INSTRUCTION LLC	CE Class Payment	\$ 1,300.00
3/6/2024	216756	GRAHAM, JACQUELINE	Reim supplies	\$ 462.35
3/6/2024	216757	HARRIS	Service Call	\$ 5,339.44
3/6/2024	216762	HUEBSCH	Multiple Invoices	\$ 2,031.09
3/6/2024	216763	IDENTISYS INC	Badges	\$ 107.50
3/6/2024	216764	INOUYE, MARK	Travel Expenses	\$ 661.13
3/6/2024	216765	JACOB'S LADDER	Teacher Payout	\$ 832.00
3/6/2024	216766	JACOB'S LADDER	Site Payout	\$ 26,894.40
3/6/2024	216767	JOHNSON, BILLIE JO	Reim supplies	\$ 121.00

Publication List - Checks over \$100 -Apr 2024 Meeting

3/6/2024	216770	KILKARNEY HILLS GOLF COURSE	Swim/Dive Banq	\$ 1,051.20
3/6/2024	216771	KUSS, RICHARD	CE Class Pymt	\$ 166.53
3/6/2024	216772	KWIK TRIP, INC.	Fuel	\$ 3,084.69
3/6/2024	216773	LASSEN, JASON	Officiating Fees	\$ 154.40
3/6/2024	216775	LHB, INC.	Room Design	\$ 600.75
3/6/2024	216777	LITTLE ADVENTURES 1	Teacher Payout	\$ 272.00
3/6/2024	216778	LITTLE ADVENTURES 1	Site Payout	\$ 8,792.40
3/6/2024	216779	LITTLE ADVENTURES 2	Teacher Payout	\$ 480.00
3/6/2024	216780	LITTLE ADVENTURES 2	Site Payout	\$ 15,516.00
3/6/2024	216782	LOFFLER COMPANIES, INC.	Multiple Invoices	\$ 670.11
3/6/2024	216783	LOOMIS, CAMERON	Travel Expenses	\$ 535.76
3/6/2024	216785	MACKIN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES	Multiple Invoices	\$ 5,965.77
3/6/2024	216786	MAZZEI, ABBY	Reim mileage	\$ 187.21
3/6/2024	216787	MENARDS	Bookcase supplies	\$ 148.81
3/6/2024	216788	MERIDIAN CONSULTING GROUP	Health & Safety	\$ 1,440.00
3/6/2024	216789	MIDWEST BUS PARTS INC	Multiple Invoices	\$ 208.16
3/6/2024	216790	MILLER, MIKE	Travel Expense	\$ 273.76
3/6/2024	216791	MINNESOTA COACHES, INC./HASTINGS BUS CO.	CE Guthrie Trip	\$ 678.89
3/6/2024	216793	NEO ELECTRICAL SOLUTIONS LLC	Multiple Invoices	\$ 2,416.86
3/6/2024	216797	PAOLI CLAY COMPANY, INC	Clay	\$ 1,026.00
3/6/2024	216798	PARAGON DEVELOPMENT SYSTEMS INC	Laptop	\$ 1,197.00
3/6/2024	216799	PERMA-BOUND	Multiple Invoices	\$ 692.43
3/6/2024	216800	REID, MONICA	Reim supplies	\$ 140.60
3/6/2024	216801	REINDERS	Bagged Salt	\$ 4,348.75
3/6/2024	216802	RIVER CITY DISPOSAL, INC.	Garbage/Recycling	\$ 3,209.68
3/6/2024	216803	RIVER FALLS ACE HARDWARE	Multiple Invoices	\$ 2,347.92
3/6/2024	216804	RIVER FALLS HEATING	Service Call	\$ 585.72
3/6/2024	216805	ROGERS, NANCY	Reim Mileage	\$ 217.28
3/6/2024	216807	SANOCKI, MIKAYLA	Reim Mileage	\$ 125.63
3/6/2024	216808	SECURITY CHECK ME INC	Multiple Invoices	\$ 385.00
3/6/2024	216809	SKAPPEL, KATHRYN	Reim supplies	\$ 132.90
3/6/2024	216810	SOLBERG, STACY	CE Class Pymt	\$ 540.00
3/6/2024	216811	SORENSEN, ANDREA	Multiple Invoices	\$ 194.82
3/6/2024	216812	STAPLES -(PAPER)	Multiple Invoices	\$ 1,446.78
3/6/2024	216814	STEEL TOWNE R.F.	Multiple Invoices	\$ 479.53
3/6/2024	216817	THE JOURNAL	Legal notices	\$ 797.78
3/6/2024	216818	TOTAL EXCAVATING AND GRADING LLC	Snow Removal	\$ 6,172.00
3/6/2024	216819	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY	Payroll accrual	\$ 101.68
3/6/2024	216820	THE UNIVERSITY PRESCHOOL	Teacher Payout	\$ 320.00
3/6/2024	216821	THE UNIVERSITY PRESCHOOL	Site Payout	\$ 10,344.00
3/6/2024	216822	UNITED WAY ST.CROIX VALLEY	Payroll accrual	\$ 200.00
3/6/2024	216824	UW-RIVER FALLS STUDENT BILLING	UWRF classes	\$ 636.92
3/6/2024	216825	UWRF	Climbing wall	\$ 117.50
3/6/2024	216826	WARD, ERIN	CE Class Pymt	\$ 1,543.14
3/6/2024	216828	WI HOCKEY COACHES ASSOC	BHO banquet	\$ 480.00
3/6/2024	216829	WI CENTER FOR EDUCATION PRODUCTS & SERVICE	supplies	\$ 125.00
3/6/2024	216830	WILD RIVERS CONSERVANCY-ST CROIX & NAMEKAG	Field Trip	\$ 240.00

Publication List - Checks over \$100 -Apr 2024 Meeting

3/6/2024	216831	WISCONSIN HOSA	Conf Reg	\$ 795.00
3/6/2024	216832	WI SCTF	Payroll accrual	\$ 127.51
3/6/2024	216833	WISCONSIN DEPT. OF REVENUE	Payroll accrual	\$ 241.82
3/6/2024	216834	YOURMEMBERSHIP.COM INC	Job posting	\$ 709.00
3/13/2024	216835	ACP DIRECT	Headphones	\$ 1,551.50
3/13/2024	216836	AIR COMMUNICATIONS OF WI, INC	Repeater Rent	\$ 581.28
3/13/2024	216837	ALLEN, ZACHARY	Driver Meals	\$ 120.00
3/13/2024	216842	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, INC.	Multiple Invoices	\$ 3,124.69
3/13/2024	216843	AMERICAN PRESSURE INC.	Pressure Washer	\$ 7,299.00
3/13/2024	216845	AT&T	715-425-1803 147 0	\$ 1,382.65
3/13/2024	216846	AT&T BUSINESS DIRECT	Multiple Invoices	\$ 1,682.11
3/13/2024	216847	AUTO VALUE	Multiple Invoices	\$ 166.85
3/13/2024	216849	BLB CONSULTING, LLC	Ren Map Updates	\$ 325.00
3/13/2024	216852	BROOKES PUBLISHING CO.	supplies	\$ 158.14
3/13/2024	216853	ST CROIX LANES	Field Trip	\$ 190.00
3/13/2024	216854	BUILDING CONTROLS & SOLUTIONS	Multiple Invoices	\$ 855.62
3/13/2024	216857	CANON FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.	Multiple Invoices	\$ 3,257.56
3/13/2024	216860	CHARTWELLS	Feb Invoice	\$ 199,323.84
3/13/2024	216861	CINTAS	BG Expense	\$ 294.39
3/13/2024	216862	COMPUTER INTEGRATION TECHNOLOGIES INC	Multiple Invoices	\$ 1,910.00
3/13/2024	216870	ELLS, JAMES	Driver Meals	\$ 174.00
3/13/2024	216871	EPSTEIN, GARY	Driver Meals	\$ 183.00
3/13/2024	216873	EXPRESS SERVICES INC	sub fulfillment	\$ 1,532.40
3/13/2024	216876	GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS INC	walkie battery	\$ 169.10
3/13/2024	216877	GRAINGER	Multiple Invoices	\$ 635.81
3/13/2024	216879	HARRIS	Chiller Maint	\$ 480.00
3/13/2024	216882	HILLYARD, INC.-MPLS	Multiple Invoices	\$ 4,508.82
3/13/2024	216884	HUDSON PHYSICIANS	Multiple Invoices	\$ 1,970.00
3/13/2024	216885	IDENTISYS INC	Badges	\$ 791.64
3/13/2024	216886	INTERNATIONAL FILTRATION SERVICES, INC.	Multiple Invoices	\$ 2,306.86
3/13/2024	216890	J H LARSON COMPANY	Multiple Invoices	\$ 185.58
3/13/2024	216891	JOHN HALL'S ALASKA	Multiple Invoices	\$ 12,061.00
3/13/2024	216892	JOHNSON, LEAANN	Officiating Fees	\$ 165.00
3/13/2024	216896	LAMINATION DEPOT	Laminating Film	\$ 177.96
3/13/2024	216900	LOFFLER COMPANIES, INC.	Multiple Invoices	\$ 3,060.10
3/13/2024	216901	MACKIN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES	book order	\$ 297.87
3/13/2024	216903	MASTERCARD CORPORATE CLIENTS	Multiple Invoices	\$ 16,029.43
3/13/2024	216905	MENARDS	Multiple Invoices	\$ 480.12
3/13/2024	216906	MILLER, MARY	Travel Expenses	\$ 545.91
3/13/2024	216907	MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY	Field Trip	\$ 992.00
3/13/2024	216909	MTI DISTRIBUTING INC	Mower Supplies	\$ 910.13
3/13/2024	216913	NELSON, BRIAN	Driver Meals	\$ 198.00
3/13/2024	216914	NELSON, CRAIG	Driver Meals	\$ 148.00
3/13/2024	216915	NEO ELECTRICAL SOLUTIONS LLC	Multiple Invoices	\$ 667.11
3/13/2024	216916	NORTH CENTRAL INTERNATIONAL, LLC	Multiple Invoices	\$ 596.28
3/13/2024	216917	NORTHLAND REFRIGERATION INC.	Multiple Invoices	\$ 968.50
3/13/2024	216918	NOTABLE INC	License	\$ 594.00

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Publication List - Checks over \$100 -Apr 2024 Meeting

3/13/2024	216920	OCTO LIGHTS, LLC	supplies	\$ 104.97
3/13/2024	216921	OGDEN ENGINEERING COMPANY INC	Prof services	\$ 4,625.00
3/13/2024	216923	PIONEER MANUFACTURING COMPANY	field chalk	\$ 1,320.71
3/13/2024	216926	RIVER CITY STITCH LLC	Multiple Invoices	\$ 722.00
3/13/2024	216928	RIVER FALLS MUNICIPAL	Multiple Invoices	\$ 51,282.02
3/13/2024	216929	RIVER STATES TRUCK & TRAILER, INC	Multiple Invoices	\$ 538.95
3/13/2024	216930	RIXMANN, JEFFREY	Driver Meals	\$ 206.00
3/13/2024	216931	SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEILLSVILLE	BBB Sect Final	\$ 1,736.00
3/13/2024	216932	SHIFFLER EQUIPMENT SALES INC	Restroom Lock	\$ 123.00
3/13/2024	216933	SIEMENS INDUSTRY, INC.	Service Call	\$ 1,285.00
3/13/2024	216937	STAPLES -(PAPER)	Multiple Invoices	\$ 3,250.66
3/13/2024	216939	ST CROIX GAS	Multiple Invoices	\$ 19,652.92
3/13/2024	216940	STEEL TOWNE R.F.	Sheet Metal	\$ 277.00
3/13/2024	216941	TARASEWICZ, ERIC	Pole Rental-Track	\$ 1,146.00
3/13/2024	216943	TWIN CITY HARDWARE CO.	Door Sweeps	\$ 475.00
3/13/2024	216944	ULINE	Storage bins	\$ 269.58
3/13/2024	216945	VERIZON WIRELESS	Cell Phones	\$ 1,985.63
3/13/2024	216946	WIAA	Multiple Invoices	\$ 5,297.84
3/13/2024	216947	YALE MECHANICAL LLC	BAS Service	\$ 7,215.00
3/13/2024	216948	YOUNG, JOSEPH	tennis dues	\$ 593.99
3/27/2024	216949	ALFVEBY, DENNIS	accompanist	\$ 300.00
3/27/2024	216950	ARCHKEY TECHNOLOGIES	Multiple Invoices	\$ 462.00
3/27/2024	216952	AUTO VALUE	Multiple Invoices	\$ 103.93
3/27/2024	216955	BRANDVOLD, KARIN	reim wheelchair	\$ 619.00
3/27/2024	216957	BUREAU OF ED. & RESEARCH	Conf Reg	\$ 279.00
3/27/2024	216958	CAMPBELL, GARY	Multiple Invoices	\$ 159.00
3/27/2024	216959	CESA 9	WVS Classes	\$ 24,260.00
3/27/2024	216960	CINTAS	Multiple Invoices	\$ 902.96
3/27/2024	216961	COMPUTER INTEGRATION TECHNOLOGIES INC	Multiple Invoices	\$ 8,208.40
3/27/2024	216963	COLLABORATIVE CLASSROOM	supplies	\$ 1,175.04
3/27/2024	216971	EXPRESS SERVICES INC	Multiple Invoices	\$ 4,728.80
3/27/2024	216972	FALLS THEATER	CATS field trip	\$ 257.50
3/27/2024	216973	FOOD SERVICE-SDRF	Multiple Invoices	\$ 507.50
3/27/2024	216974	GRAPHIC DESIGN INC.	Ref Postcards	\$ 3,712.34
3/27/2024	216975	HALLBERG ENGINEERING INC	Ren Proj Svcs	\$ 3,000.00
3/27/2024	216976	HALLMAN LINDSAY PAINT	field paint	\$ 246.60
3/27/2024	216978	HILLYARD, INC.-MPLS	Multiple Invoices	\$ 21,294.24
3/27/2024	216979	HORIZON COMMERCIAL POOLS	Pool Chemicals	\$ 1,001.70
3/27/2024	216981	IMPACT APPLICATIONS INC	subscription	\$ 1,025.00
3/27/2024	216982	INFINITE CAMPUS	Campus Workflow	\$ 962.00
3/27/2024	216984	INTERNATIONAL FILTRATION SERVICES, INC.	Multiple Invoices	\$ 464.00
3/27/2024	216985	JOHNSON, LORI	team meals	\$ 504.78
3/27/2024	216986	JOSTENS INC	Diploma covers	\$ 2,471.45
3/27/2024	216987	JUNIORS BAR AND RESTAURANT	Multiple Invoices	\$ 1,830.35
3/27/2024	216988	J W PEPPER & SON INC	Multiple Invoices	\$ 232.99
3/27/2024	216990	LAFORCE	Replace Doors	\$ 8,717.85
3/27/2024	216993	MANSFIELD OIL COMPANY OF GAINSVILLE, INC	Fuel	\$ 23,953.79

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Publication List - Checks over \$100 -Apr 2024 Meeting

3/27/2024	216994	MEI MEI'S COOKIES & CREAMERY	SC Activity	\$ 108.00
3/27/2024	216995	MENARDS	Multiple Invoices	\$ 2,802.90
3/27/2024	216996	MIDWEST BUS PARTS INC	BG SUPPLIES	\$ 527.80
3/27/2024	216997	MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY	Field Trip	\$ 984.00
3/27/2024	216998	MINUTEMAN PRESS	Multiple Invoices	\$ 4,553.36
3/27/2024	217000	NASCO EDUCATION LLC	Supplies	\$ 270.16
3/27/2024	217001	NATIONAL ART EDUCATION ASSN	Conf Fee	\$ 285.00
3/27/2024	217002	NATIONAL TIME & SIGNAL CORPORATION	Clocks	\$ 1,034.58
3/27/2024	217003	NEO ELECTRICAL SOLUTIONS LLC	Multiple Invoices	\$ 2,218.85
3/27/2024	217004	O'ROURKE MEDIA GROUP-MINNESOTA, LLC	Multiple Invoices	\$ 121.90
3/27/2024	217006	PARAGON DEVELOPMENT SYSTEMS INC	Chromebooks	\$ 547.92
3/27/2024	217008	RF REN PROJECT, LLC	rent/insurance	\$ 18,109.91
3/27/2024	217009	RIVER CITY DISPOSAL, INC.	HS Dugout	\$ 447.15
3/27/2024	217010	RIVER STATES TRUCK & TRAILER, INC	Multiple Invoices	\$ 7,541.47
3/27/2024	217012	SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIRS - 15	Bookfair inv	\$ 1,631.20
3/27/2024	217016	STAPLES -(PAPER)	Multiple Invoices	\$ 2,552.62
3/27/2024	217017	STEP SAVER, INC.	Multiple Invoices	\$ 361.50
3/27/2024	217018	SUPERIOR AUTOMOTIVE	Lift Inspections	\$ 375.00
3/27/2024	217019	T-MOBILE	Multiple Invoices	\$ 672.20
3/27/2024	217020	TWIN CITY FILTER SERVICE, INC	Filters	\$ 977.85
3/27/2024	217022	ULINE	Shelving-FACS	\$ 810.00
3/27/2024	217023	UNITED WAY ST.CROIX VALLEY	Multiple Invoices	\$ 200.00
3/27/2024	217026	UW-RIVER FALLS STUDENT BILLING	Multiple Invoices	\$ 33,789.01
3/27/2024	217027	VAN PELT, GABRIEL	Reim supplies	\$ 144.00
3/27/2024	217029	WASBO	Conf Reg	\$ 410.00
3/27/2024	217030	WI SCTF	Payroll accrual	\$ 127.51
3/27/2024	217031	WISCONSIN DEPT. OF REVENUE	Payroll accrual	\$ 162.39
3/27/2024	217032	WSMA	supplies	\$ 809.90
3/27/2024	217033	YALE MECHANICAL LLC	BAS Programming	\$ 5,037.00
3/29/2024	232400004	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, INC.	Multiple Invoices	\$ 4,703.53

RIVER FALLS BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Monday, April 15, 2024

Personnel Agenda:

1. Recommended approval of the employment of Heidi Link as Assistant Principal at River Falls High School effective July 1, 2024 (replaces Taryl Graetz). Ms. Link earned bachelor's degree from UW-LaCrosse and her master's degree from Hamline University. She has 18 years of experience (New Richmond and Forest Lake MN).
2. Recommended approval of the employment of Ryan Huppert as 1.0 FTE 7th Grade Math Teacher at Meyer Middle School effective August 20, 2024 (replaces John Witt). Mr. Huppert earned his bachelor's degree from UW-River Falls and his master's degree from St. Mary's University of MN. He has 21 years of experience (Hudson) and his salary will be based on level G3M of the salary ladder.
3. Recommended approval of the employment of Hannah Slowiak as 1.0 FTE Kindergarten Teacher at Rocky Branch Elementary School effective August 20, 2024 (replaces Lauren Thomforde). Ms. Slowiak earned her bachelor's degree from UW-Madison and her master's degree from Concordia University. She has six years of experience (Madison, Grafton, Mequon WI) and her salary will be based on level B2M of the salary ladder.
4. Recommended approval of the employment of Erin Elsenpeter as 1.0 FTE Kindergarten Teacher at Rocky Branch Elementary School effective August 20, 2024 (replaces Rita Sommerfeldt). Ms. Elsenpeter earned her bachelor's degree from UW-River Falls and has 14 years of experience (Baldwin-Woodville and Prescott). Her salary will be based on level E1 of the salary ladder.
5. Recommended approval of the employment of Katrina Hostetler as 1.0 FTE Upper Elementary Teacher at River Falls Public Montessori Elementary School effective August 20, 2024 (replaces Mitch Burow). Ms. Hostetler earned her bachelor's degree from UW-River Falls and has six years of experience (Platteville WI). Her salary will be based on level C2 of the salary ladder.
6. Recommended approval of the transfer of employment for Bernadette Zuber from Library Media Specialist to Health Teacher at Meyer Middle School effective August 26, 2024 (replaces Lisa Lockie).
7. Recommended approval of the transfer of employment for Billie Jo Johnson from Science Teacher to Library Media Specialist at Meyer Middle School effective August 26, 2024 (replaces Bernadette Zuber).
8. Recommended approval of the transfer of employment for Abigail Lerum from Math Enrichment Teacher to 7th Grade Math Teacher at Meyer Middle School effective August 26, 2024 (replaces Riley Sutton).
9. Recommended approval of the hiring of the following short-term, on call Substitute Teachers:
 - a. Benjamin Schmitt
 - b. Eric Johnson
10. Recommended acceptance of the resignation of Spencer Rohlinger as full-time Science Teacher at River Falls High School effective the end of the 2023-24 year.

SCHOOL FOREST HANDBOOK



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF RIVER FALLS
School Forest

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Section 1: Rationale

Mission Statement

The River Falls School Forest will inspire and cultivate a sense of care, wonder, and connection between children, families, the community, and their natural world.

Introduction

Since 1947, the School District of River Falls (SDRF) has owned a 70-acre parcel of pristine forest land along the Kinnickinnic River. The property offers a diverse outdoor educational classroom, consisting of oak and central hardwood forests, a floodplain, and a former agriculture field undergoing native prairie restoration.

After being landlocked for many years, the land became accessible in 2021 through a partnership with and the generosity of the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust (KRLT). The School Forest will have a long-lasting impact; connecting students with nature through meaningful educational opportunities, while also serving as a community asset for generations to come. The school district appreciates our partnership with KRLT.

Community members and families will have the opportunity to walk, hike, bike, fish, and relax on this land that will forever be protected and will never see any developments beyond the preservation of its natural beauty and access. All who experience these trails, signs, benches, and learning stations will gain a greater appreciation for our common home (earth).

The school forest will enable students to gain a greater appreciation for precious natural resources as they are inspired to become environmental stewards, explore career opportunities related to the natural world, and better understand the interconnectedness and the environment. Students will benefit from experiential learning in science, math, history, technology, natural resources, ecology, and the arts.

A wealth of research informs us of the social, emotional, and mental health benefits of connecting with nature. The sights, sounds, experiences, and enjoyment of time in nature are unique and cannot be duplicated. Additionally, time in nature equates to less time on social media and/or spending time on the computer or television screen. The impact on students, families, and the community will be significant and lasting.

Value Statements

The River Falls School District's School Forest is a unique educational and recreational site that expands teaching and learning opportunities in the natural environment, while also promoting increased family engagement, and enhancing the connection between the school district and the community. Through hands-on experiences, students will benefit from the following:

- gaining an ecological consciousness,
- connecting (screen-free) to nature,
- learning outdoors,
- applying outdoor experiences to the classroom,
- gaining knowledge about stewardship and environmental responsibility,
- playing and having fun outdoors,
- spending time at the Kinnickinnic River, the community's treasure.

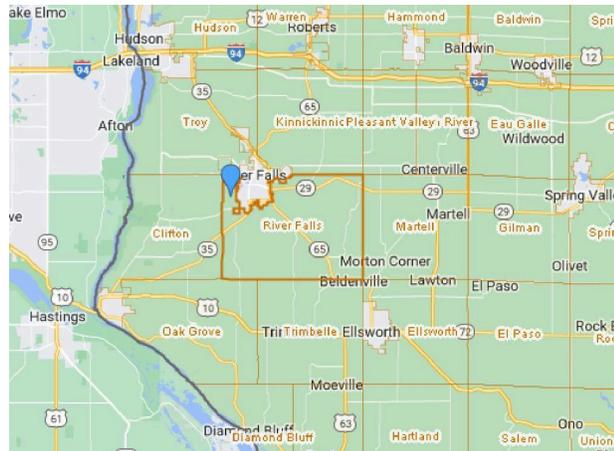
The River Falls School District maintains that by integrating environmental education into our school curriculum we will not only increase student achievement but will also:

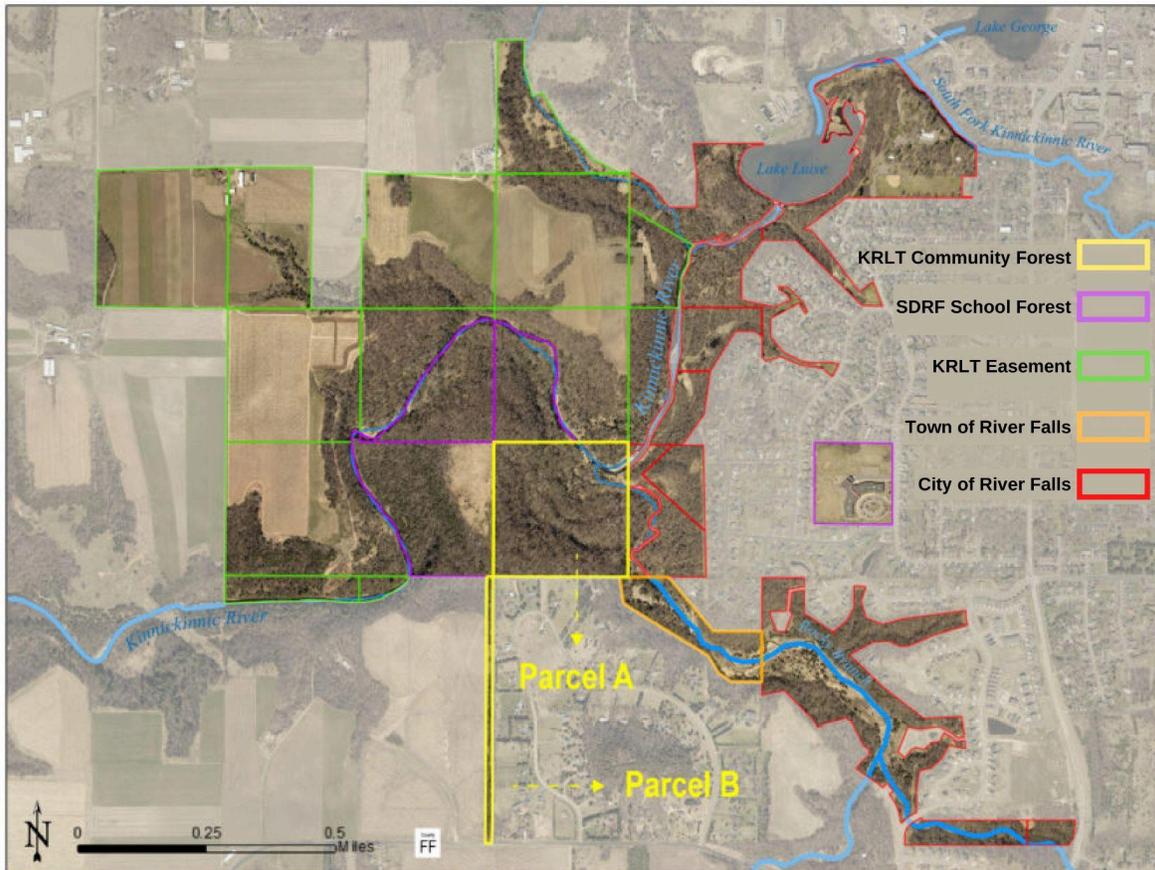
- inspire a lifelong dedication to environmental stewardship,
- help students gain a better understanding of how life is connected and how human action influences the environment.
- offer experiential learning,
- support social, emotional, and mental health benefits.

Section 2: Site Description and Location

Location

The River Falls School Forest consists of three parcels of land totaling 70 acres in the town of River Falls in Pierce County, which is approximately two miles south of River Falls. The land is bordered to the north by the Kinnickinnic River.





Cartography by Johnathan Van Roekel - 12/22/19 - UTM 15N - Sources: US Census, KRLT, ESRI

Legal Description

The School Forest is that part of the Southeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$), lying Easterly of the Kinnickinnic River, the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$), lying Easterly of the Kinnickinnic River, the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$), lying Easterly of the Kinnickinnic River of Section Eleven (11), Town of River falls. All in Township Twenty-Seven (27) North, Range Nineteen (19) West, Pierce County, Wisconsin.

Directions to the 70-acre parcel from River Falls

- Travel south on Main Street (HWY 35) in the City of River Falls, Wisconsin.
- Turn right on County Road FF.
- Travel on FF until you see the dog park (W10225 County Road FF).
- Travel approximately 100 yards past the dog park, to a gravel parking lot on the right.

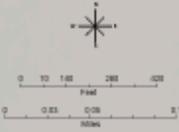
The gravel parking lot is the head of the main access road to the school forest. Approximately one half mile walk down the access road is a “four corner” location with clear signage indicating trails to the school forest property.

All Are Welcome!



Legend

- Upland Trail (0.34 MI)
- Confluence Trail (0.37 MI)
- Prairie Loop (0.45 MI)
- Highland Forest Loop (0.7MI)
- Old Farm Road (0.45 MI)
- Access Trail (0.5 MI)
- Lowland Trail (1.0 MI)
- City of River Falls Trails
- Public Land Boundaries
- City of River Falls
- KRLT - The Community Forest
- SDRF - School Forest



Public Use Rules & Regulations:

Permitted:

- Hiking, Fishing, Cross Country Skiing, Snowshoeing
- Wildlife Observation and Photography
- Environmental Education and Interpretation
- Foraging Wild Edibles
- Biking: School Forest: Limited to Prairie Loop only; The Community Forest: Permitted.

Prohibited:

- Unleashed Pets
- Littering
- Horseback Riding
- Unauthorized Motorized Vehicles
- Camping, Campfires, & Overnight Use
- Storage of Personal Property & Unapproved Structures
- Hunting and Trapping are Prohibited on the School Forest
- Firearms and Other Weapons Except for Legal Hunting Activities on The Community Forest (See Back of Kiosk for Hunting Rules)



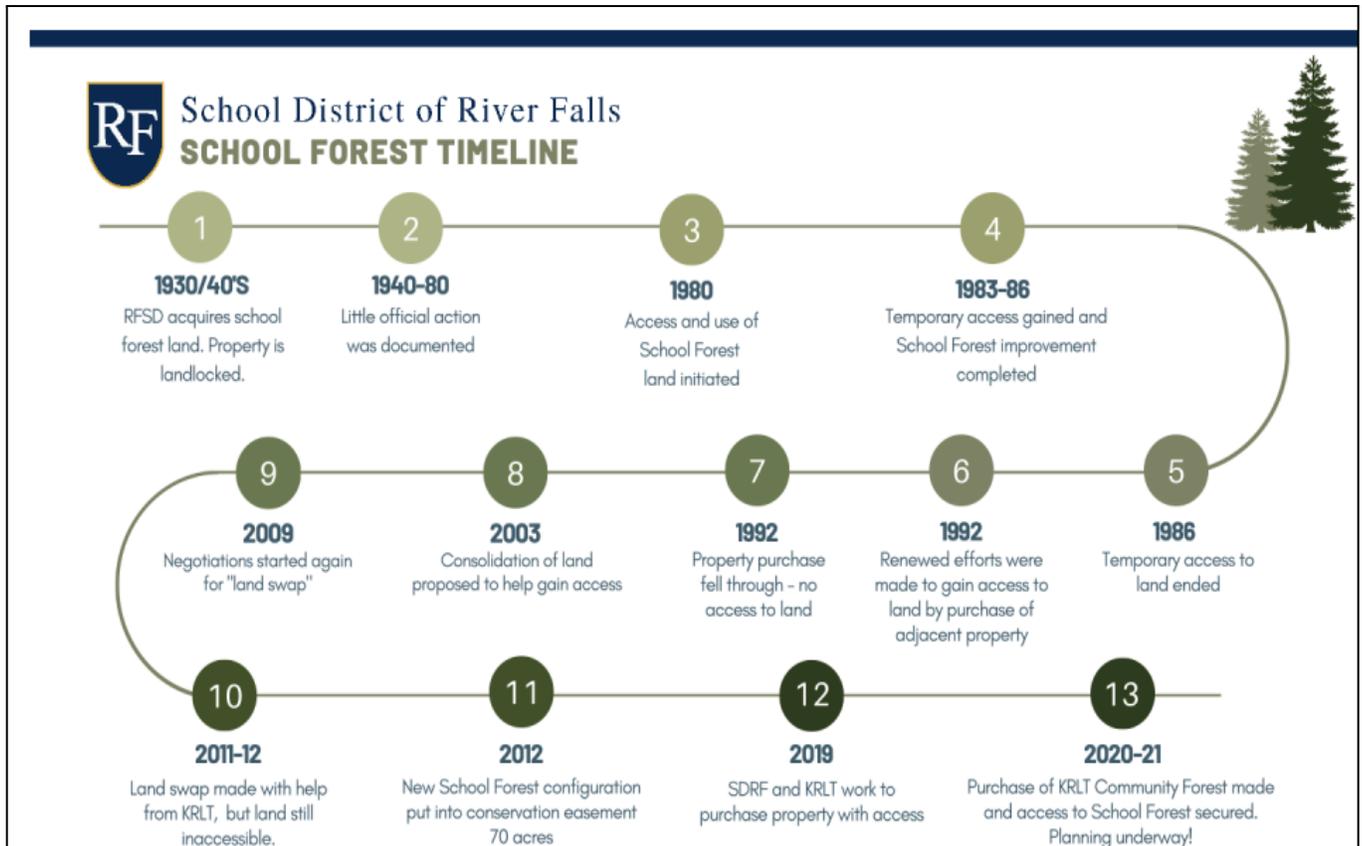
Scan for More Information

2023

Parking Lot

County Highway FF

Site History



Flora and Fauna

The School Forest has a blend of hardwood deciduous trees, coniferous trees, basswood, aspen, dogwood, honeysuckle, a prairie, bluff/hillside terrain, and the Kinnickinnic River, a Class I Trout Stream, with brown trout and brook trout.

Wildlife found in the area includes whitetail deer, foxes, rabbits, coyotes, skunks, badgers, chipmunks, squirrels, and raccoons. A wide variety of birds are seen on the property such as robins, chickadees, woodpeckers, cardinals, crows, red-tailed hawks, grackles, owls, sparrows, cedar waxwing, and blue jays.

Section 3: Educational Connections

Needs Assessment

On April 27, 2021, the School Forest Advisory Committee met at the Glen Park Shelter in River Falls. Present were: Mallory Deziel, Jamie Benson, Nate Brown, Ben Toppel, Becky Cunningham, Chuck Eaton, Charlene Brooks, Dale Jorgenson, Gretchen Marshall (L.E.A.F), JW Matheson, Stacy Johnson Myers, Chad Smurawa, Justin Kania, Jennifer Peterson, Scott Imrie, and Mike Noreen.

The meeting was facilitated by Gretchen Marshall (Forestry and Outdoor Education Specialist with [L.E.A.F.](#)) shared PowerPoint w/notes ([LINK](#)). During the meeting a school forest needs assessment was completed as we shared our mission, values, and vision for the future.

The following list includes our needs assessment in alignment to our vision:

- Building/Learning Center/Gathering Space (classroom, lab, work-station, kitchen, separate restroom, fireplace, solar, equipment storage)
- Partnerships (UWRF, families, city, KRLT, Rotary)
- Trails (education, hiking, biking) Trail design (include some ADA accessibility)
- Accessibility for all
- Signs/Kiosk (wayfinding, trail branding, informational)
- Curriculum (K-12)
- Habitat Development, River Access, Staff/Coordinator, Removal of Invasive Species, Maple Syrup, Tracking Animals, Tree Identification
- Place for learning (shelter/building and trail learning stations)
- Safe river access
- Maps
- Learning stations
- Compliance with easements
- Respect neighbors
- Sustainability Plan
- School Forest sub-committees
 - Fundraising
 - Curriculum
 - Trail development
 - Forest management
 - Site usage (trail design, signage, access, bathroom)
 - Handbook
- Short-term and Long-term goals
- Establish “Advisory Committee”

Survey of Teachers: February 2022 ([LINK](#))

Specific Educational Opportunities

- Integrated curriculum options
Ex: Math and Science
Ex: Writing and Art
Ex: History and Reading
- Ecology
- Geology
- Compare and contrast writing
- Creative writing
- Math connections:
measurement, area, and
acreage
- Physical fitness: cross-country
skiing, snowshoeing, hiking
- Animal tracks and signs
- Appreciation of nature
- Arbor Day celebrations
- Art – drawing, painting
- Biodiversity
- Bird watching
- Building background
knowledge for reading and
other studies
- Community Education
- Data collection and analysis
- Food chain studies
- Land use history
- Leadership activities
- Life-cycle investigations
- Management plan
development
- Mapping
- Multi-sense observations
- Navigation skills
- Outdoor safety
- Phenology
- Photography
- Plant identification and
classification
- Soil analysis
- Stewardship projects
- Team building activities
- Weather and climate
observations
- Wildlife
identification and
classification
- Habitat studies
- Hands-on learning
- Invasive species:
identification and control
- Forest management
- Forest regeneration
- Forest surveys

Section 4: Sustaining the School Forest Program

Advisory Committee

Benson, Jamie - Administrator

Kaminski, Lauren - Co-School Forest Coordinator

Sanocki, MiKayla - Co-School Forest Coordinator

Barry, Rainbow - Staff

Brown, Nate - Staff

Cunningham, Becky - Staff

Deziel, Mallory - Staff

Toppel, Ben - Staff

Brathol, Dale - Community Member

Fritz, Sue - Community Member

Ireland, Dennis - Community Member

Kolpin, Barb - Community Member

Wilson, Rick - Community Member

Kania, Justin - DNR

Engel, Marty - KRLT

Leonard, Steve - KRLT

Juneau, Kevin - UW-River Falls

Noreen, Mike - City of River Falls

Long-Range Goals

In order for the River Falls School Forest to mature as an outdoor classroom to enhance and extend the regular classroom curriculum and help our students develop an appreciation and connection to the land, much needs to be done. Our goals are many and work will continue. Potential developments include:

- Improve access to the property in terms of a driveway/easement road off County Road FF leading to the school forest.
- Improve the prairie trail to include access for all people including those with limited mobility access.
- Add a permanent facility for educational opportunities and related indoor activities.
- Establish a gathering space for large groups.
- Construct permanent restroom facilities.
- Build storage - either within the facility or separate structure.
- Construct learning stations embedded within the trail system.
- Post signage for all trails.
- Upgrade and expand the existing trail system.

- Develop an annual maintenance plan.
- Establish a School Forest coordinator position to support teachers, curriculum, community outreach, and grant writing.
- Provide training and support for interested school staff to make their teaching on site more effective.
- Develop PK-12 grade curriculum (Sample Template Appendix A) and purchase related instructional resources.
- Expand the support base of volunteers for the school property.
- Update the school forest management plan to provide a diverse and sustainable environment.
- Offer community education courses related to the environment and school forest.
- Create a sustainable funding plan.

Chronology of Progress and Future Goals

Goal	Timeline	Resources
Clear & improve access road	May 2022	KRLT, City of River Falls, & volunteers
Regrade of "Old Farm Road" Trail	August 2022	Pierce County Land Conservation
Regrade of Prairie Loop Trail/ADA Accessible		
Secure a storage trailer	Winter 2023	River Falls Rotary
Implement prairie restoration and seeding plan	Started December 2022	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Create a joint KRLT/RFSD map		City of RF (Tyler Galde), KRLT
Begin student field trips	May 2023	
Install sign at parking lot kiosk	July 2023	Collaboration with KRLT
Install trail marker signs		
Create/Install sign at 4-Corners		Collaboration with KRLT
Develop a user handbook		
Develop a website	Summer 2023	
Achieve a gravel easement road and bus turnaround road	Spring 2024	

Goal	Timeline	Resources
Build a learning facility/indoor classroom		KRLT Easement Approval
Offer a Fall tour of the school forest for staff		
Develop trails	Trail Development Committee	Equipment and tools
Build permanent restroom facilities		KRLT Easement Approval
Organize a Friends of the School Forest group	Volunteers	
Upgrade existing trails and continue trail development	Trail Development Committee	Equipment and tools. Wood chips.
Continue to develop and implement the school forest curriculum		Education Committee Interested staff
Offer inservice for teachers related to school forest curriculum		CIVIC organizations Private Donations
Obtain donations for an indoor classroom		
Obtain necessary tools and equipment for forest maintenance		
Purchase all-terrain wheelchair	February 2024	Dennis and Carol Ireland Donation

Funding Sources

- Conservation easement grant from DNR (\$15,000 of \$35,000 remaining funds).
- Pierce County DHS Grant (\$18,000) - spendable Jan. 1, 2024 - Aug 31, 2024.
- Potential civic group investment.
- Possible fundraisers/donations/grants.
- School district funding will be considered and prioritized with all other district programs.

Site Management

The primary concern for developing the School Forest land is student learning, yet community use will also be welcomed and encouraged. Site management goals include:

- Involve students, staff and community in all aspects of management as much as possible.
- Continue a forest management plan that maintains forest health, provides wildlife habitat, and educational and recreational opportunities.
- Remove invasive species.
- Control poison ivy in heavy traffic areas.
- Complete and improve the trail system with minimally invasive signage.
- Add a driveway and parking lot access.
- Build restroom facilities.
- Provide indoor classroom areas (building) for learning opportunities.

Proper site management and development will make it possible for staff, students and the community to fully utilize and benefit from the property. It should:

- Encourage staff to plan and implement lessons on the land.
- Allow community organizations (scouts, 4-H, etc.) to provide programming there.
- Enable all students to experience the school forest.
- Provide students, staff and community with stewardship opportunities.

Land Management Committee Review and Recommendations

Stand 1 – Overgrown farm field on top with some dogwood encroachment. A string of aspen, cool season grasses, and a few trails. The south area has several large oaks and a few hardwoods beginning to grow.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Convert farm field to prairie or pollinator habitat.
- Coordinate with Trails and Facilities committees to: avoid trails through the prairie; establish a perimeter trail as a fire break around the prairie; add a trail to a future facility.
- Keep aspen out of the prairie area.
- Consider organizing a class for students about growing prairie or pollinator habitat seeds.
- Sacrifice hardwoods for a bus turn-around.
- Explore whether students can learn to pull garlic mustard and black swallow-wort, an invasive whose leaves are fatal to monarch caterpillars

that mistake it for milkweed. We could also involve family groups; identify best practices for pulling and provide instruction.

Stand 2 – Logging road from the top going down to the river. River bottom fluvial soils are nutrient poor resulting in poor tree structure; not favorable for the production of timber. Two terraces formed by the river; streaks of red cedar understory along one terrace; bur oak on the other. Honeysuckle, buckthorn, and dame's rocket present.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Regrade/seed the logging road, tipping it toward the channel to the south to reduce washout. Follow BMPs.
- Plant white pine, swamp white oak, and perhaps tamarack; protect from competition.
- Collect black walnuts from around the RF area, spread them on the forest floor for squirrels to plant; then track where they grow. Students could be involved in this project.

Stand 3 – Steep slope. Ironwood, muscle tree, and black cherry in the understory. Some large oaks and a few maples. Buckthorn, garlic mustard, honeysuckle

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Control invasive species
- Buffer bur oaks to release the canopy

Stand 4 – North facing. Remnant of large oaks, no regeneration. Ironwood. Buckthorn, not a lot.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Cut ironwood to promote oak regeneration
- Plant oak trees
- Use herbicides to control buckthorn

Stand 5 – Huge oaks; the largest 40" diameter; some linden – American basswood. Functionally intact forest; not much regeneration. Rocky soil probably wasn't grazed or plowed; mossy rock outcropping. Snags, debris on ground. One gigantic pine; saw an eagle flying and wonder if there is a nest in this tree. Some buckthorn, but not as much as in other areas.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Cut understory a bit
- Thin the stand a bit
- Manage buckthorn while it's controllable
- Establish a tree/wildlife corridor bridging KRLT and School Forest properties

Stand 6 – Larger (not huge) trees; heavy crowns; not much understory. West end is more open with smaller oak. Middle and east end – bigger oaks. Flat area has two

trails that cross; open, no brush. Buckthorn next to the grassy area, but not a lot. Downed trees in the middle. A legitimate oak stand. Large elm by section line fencing. Overall, little quality wood for harvest; we could selectively cut trees

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Open up the canopy to encourage oak undergrowth
- Visit in spring to see more of what's growing
- Remove barbed wire fence for safety
- Oaks are at the end of their lifespan; buffer to prevent maples from taking over

Access Road

- Plant conifers along the east side development (KRLT plans to accomplish).
- Plant small groups of trees, shrubs and plants along the west side of the access road; planting a full row of trees on the west will cause snow to drop just beyond the trees and onto the road.
- Create a wildlife corridor; plant for habitat diversity
- Establish a windbreak at the bus stop; teachers would be pleased
- Remove buckthorn and other invasives along the road
- Install a gate at the entrance to discourage inappropriate use, especially teen parties

NEXT STEPS:

1. Draft a management plan.
2. Share recommendations with Trails and Facilities committees.
3. Walk through the School Forest each spring (approximately the 3rd week of May) to see what is growing and the extent of seedlings and garlic mustard.
4. Continue buckthorn control.
5. Research certification needed for chemical invasive control.
<https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/pat/certification-categories/> \$40 to \$60 for prep materials and proctored exam. Ask WWOA West Central Chapter if it would sponsor a couple of WWOA members getting certified.

Facilities

Currently in place:

- A dirt access driveway (KRLT 10 -12' wide easement road) ½ mile to our school forest
- Trail improvements
- Porta potties rented as needed
- Picnic tables
- Some signage – more needs to be done
- Enclosed trailer (donated by Rotary)

Needed:

- Gravel for the access/easement road

- Permanent restrooms
- Learning facility/enclosed classroom area
- Additional signage (directional and informational)
- Storage for materials
- Trails extended and improved

Note: Must comply with easements (or obtain amendment(s)).

Sample photos for future classroom/building options and/or ideas:



Communication Plan

It is essential to work closely with the River Falls School District administration, School Board, staff, students, and community so that they are aware of the resources and opportunities available to enrich the educational program and lives of the students involved.

- An updated webpage will be maintained and contain history, photos and up-to-date information regarding the use of the forest.
- School forest updates will be shared at School Board Meetings (at least) annually.

- Bi-monthly (or quarterly) e-newsletter to Friends of the School Forest and shared in RFSD e-newsletter.
- Teachers will receive in-service training on environmental education curriculum.
- The media will be notified of events, such as teacher training, community events, and project completion.
- Staff meetings and emails will inform staff members of activities at the school forest.
- Share information and updates via the School District of River Falls Facebook page.
- Outreach to local community groups, such as Rotary, Lions Club, etc.
- Maintain communication with Kinnickinnic River Land Trust, City of River Falls, Town of River Falls, etc.

Assessment

The School Forest program will be reviewed annually using the following methods:

- Following each visit to the school forest, teachers will be asked to fill out an evaluation form. The form will be a short survey asking about the number of students, activities involved in and success (or not) of educational activities, and how to improve the forest and curriculum.
- Track the total number of classes using the school forest for educational purposes.
- Conduct student surveys.
- Annual walk-through by KRLT for monitoring purposes and easement compliance.

The results of these surveys will be reviewed by the School Forest Committee in the spring so that issues can be addressed over the summer. Results will be shared with the River Falls School District administration and School Board. Modifications will be made to the educational and management plan as needed.

District Commitment

The River Falls School Board has approved this handbook and supports the mission of our school forest. The District remains committed to supporting and sustaining environmental education for our students while also maintaining necessary partnerships to ensure long-term, sustainable school forest community use.

Policy / Procedure(s)

Field Trips – [LINK](#)

Sustaining the School Forest Program – Resources, support, contact information

RESOURCES:

[LINK: How to Grow a School Forest \(LEAF Planning document for development of school forest\)](#)

Resource	Contact Name
School Forest Coordinator(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Schedule and Calendar of Events - Field Trip Planning & Guidance - Coordinate Volunteers - Educational Activities and Resources 	Lauren Kaminski, MiKayla Sanocki
All Terrain Wheelchair (ATW)	Dennis Ireland
Busing / Transportation	Todd Burnap, Karen Swenson
Volunteer Opportunities Friends of the School Forest	
Curriculum	Nate Schurman
Land Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Invasive & noxious species - Mowing - Trail maintenance LINK: Guide - Coordinate with DNR/USFWS/KRLT 	Dennis Ireland Barb Kolpin
Site & Facility Development	Rick Wilson, Jamie Benson

External Resources & Organizations

Resource	Contact Information
LEAF Forestry and Outdoor Education Specialist	Gretchen Marshall
DNR forester	Justin Kania

APPENDIX "A": Sample of curriculum alignment to standards

Grade Level	Content Area	Key Concepts	Enduring Understandings	Objectives	Activities	WI State Standard
4K-K	Science	1,3	We can use all of our senses to understand and appreciate nature.	Learn that nature offers many interesting and beautiful things.	Nature Hunt Nature Hunt Activity Page	A.4.1 A.4.2
4K-K	Science	1	There are many different types of trees in the school forest.	Students will differentiate between various leaf types.	Leaf Matching Game Leaf Matching Activity Lesson	A.4.1 A.4.2
1	Science	1,2,4	Trees are living things and are homes for living things	Learn the parts of a tree and what it does. Learn that trees change with the seasons Learn that trees are homes to animals and insects Learn that trees are used to make a variety of products and provide us with oxygen Explore the forest by looking for a variety of leaf shapes, colors, and sizes	1. Leaf Hunt/Hike and Leaf Collection (Looking for similarities and differences <u>Location</u> : School Forest 2. Stuffed Forest Animals: scavenger hunt for hidden animals <u>Location</u> : School Forest 3. Leaf mobiles Creating a leaf and twig mobile identifying different shapes and sizes of leaves. <u>Location</u> : School Forest then classroom	Cognition A.EL.1 C.EL.1 C.EL.2 EE A.4.2 EE A.4.3
1	Science, Literature	1,2,4	Sap is food for trees and people.	Learn how sap moves through the trees and provides energy.	The Sugaring Off Party by Jonathan London Maple syrup collection and processing. Local maple sugarers will help groups tap trees. Sap collected will be measured and boiled down in the classroom.	EE A.4.1 EE A.4.2 EE A.4.3 Sci F.4.1 CC Reading 1. 2.3.4.6
1	Science	1,2,4	Plants are living things.	Students learn that plants have similarities and differences, review the needs of plants to grow and survive, plant and observe their flower's growth.	1. Planting Violas: students will plant a viola and observe growth and changes in the plant. <u>Location</u> : Classroom 2. Forest Plant Investigation: looking for similarities and differences in leaves, color, height, etc. <u>Location</u> : School Forest	Cognition: A.EL.1 C.EL.1 C.EL.2 C.EL.3
1	Science	1	People use their five senses to group and compare living and non-living things.	Students will be able to identify living and nonliving parts of a forest	Sensing the Forest from LEAF Guide K-1 Unit	Ag.Ed. E.4.1

1	Science Reading	1	There is a wide variety of plant life.	Students will observe details in various plant populations of the forest and create a Venn Diagram to compare and contrast them.	Plant Comparisons	EE A.4.4 E.4.2
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2	Science	2,6	The arrangement of food, water, shelter, and space is important to humans and other animals.	<p>Students will be able to 1) identify the components of habitat 2) recognize how humans and other animals depend upon habitat 3) interpret the significance of loss or change in habitat in terms of people and wildlife</p> <p>Students will be able to: 1) identify the basic components of habitat as food, water, shelter, and space in a suitable arrangement; and 2) generalize that these components of habitat are needed by all animals - including people and wildlife.</p> <p>Students will be able to: 1) identify their own basic needs for food, water, shelter, and space in a suitable arrangement; and 2) generalize that wildlife and other animals have similar basic needs.</p> <p>Students will be able to: identify the materials and techniques used by at least one animal to construct its shelter; and 2) construct a model of an animal using materials collected from the natural environment.</p>	<p>Habitat Lap Sit (or variations) -From Project Wild Curriculum</p> <p>Habitacks</p> <p>What's that Habitat?</p> <p>My Kingdom for a Shelter Habitat Lesson Plans from Project Wild</p>	<p>B.B.4</p> <p>B.B.6</p>
2	Art	2	Animals, like people, share habitats and must coexist	Students will draw animals and habitats found in a deciduous forest.	What's Your Niche? P.10	

3	Science Reading	1,4,6	What happens to one organism affects others.	Describe causes and effects in nature	Read about Cause and Effect in Science textbook, Spend time observing cause and effect in the forest. Create cause and effect chart. Fallen Log Project	EE A.4.1 EE A.4.2 EE A.4.3 EE A.4.4 D.8.5
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3	Science Math	1,4,6,7	Soil is important to people and other living things	Explore content of the soil. Compare different types of soil and explain how it forms.	Collect and Graph Soil samples of various areas of the forest.	C12-C15 E.4.1 E.4.2
4	Science Math	1,6,7	It takes more than just height to make a tree champion!	Students will define height, circumference, and crown spread and measure them on a tree.	Tree Champs (Measure trees and hold a contest to find the biggest tree in the forest)	CC Math 4.MD
4	Science Art	1	Animals are grouped according to their shared characteristics.	Explore the characteristics of animals Classify animals based on symmetry	How are animals different? Practice page	EE A.4.1 EE A.4.2 EE A.4.3 EE A.4.4
5	Science Social Studies English	1,6	A variety of life forms exist in a given area.	Students will observe and identify plants, animals and landforms.	Lewis and Clark journaling	LA B.8.1 CC Writing 5:2 5:4
5	Science	1,2	Humans have an impact on the ecosystem.	Students learn about wildlife and the impact of humans.	Checks and balances game	F.8.8 F.8.9
5	Social Studies	7	Maps are useful tools.	Students will learn how to draw a to scale map.	Map the forest including trails and landmarks.	A.8.2
5	Social Studies, Language Arts, Science	1,6	Change is a process.	Students will understand how the environment and lifestyle has changed over time.	Little House in the Big Woods excerpt. Compare and contrast with Venn diagram. Pioneer games. Knot tying.	SS A.8.4 LA F.8.1 EE B.8.10
5	Physical Education	3,7		Students will learn how to read and use a compass.	Orienteering	PE1:3:A7
6	Language	7	A variety of technologies can be used to get directions.	Students will use GPS, map and compass to locate objects in the forest. Compare and contrast the methods.	After using both a GPS and a map and compass to find objects in the geocaching exercise, students will write a compare/contrast essay relating the two ways of navigation.	CC Writing Gr. 6:2,4

7	Life Science	1,6,7	Classification systems are used so we can better understand and communicate about things in our world	Students will learn to use a dichotomous key to identify an organism.	Students will use various animal, plant, and fungus dichotomous keys to identify organisms in the forest.	B.8.5
7	Life Science	1,7	Science is a process of investigating and	Students will be able to collect data to contribute to a large group study.	Students will collect data for one of the following; a. Citizen Science App such as Creek Watch, Sensr, or	A.8.4, B.8.3, B.8.5, B.8.1,

			strives to provide reliable results.		sci.spy. b. Collecting data for their OWOR project.	C.8.8, E.8.4, F.8.8, G.8.3, G.8.7
7	Life Science	1,7	Information can be obtained by examining the world in different ways.	Students will be able to manage the collection and labeling of field samples for examination.	A. Students collect samples and label with collection data. B. Students examine samples under a microscope to identify microscopic organisms. C. Students compare and contrast collection data and microorganisms to find patterns in their habitats.	A.8.4, B.8.3, B.8.5, B.8.1, C.8.8, E.8.4, F.8.8, G.8.3, G.8.7
7	Life Science	1,2,4,7	Humans impact their environment either positively or negatively.	Students will be able to identify signs of stability in an ecosystem.	A. Students will collect data such as population surveys, tree borings and soil samples for a longitudinal study on the health of the school forest. B. Students will compare and contrast data to previous years.	A.8.4, B.8.3, B.8.5, B.8.1, C.8.8, E.8.4, F.8.8, G.8.3, G.8.7
7	Life Science	1,2,4,7	Humans impact their environment either positively or negatively.	Students will be able to perform techniques to improve the health of a forest.	A. Students will determine a feasible course of action for improving the health and stability of the forest. B. Students will carry out their forest improvement plans.	C.8.10, E.8.1, E.8.6, F.8.8, F.8.9, F.8.10, G.8.4, G.8.5, H.8.2
7	Math	1,4,7	Analyzing data in different ways can help identify patterns.	Students will be able to perform techniques to obtain and analyze data.	A. Students will use a sextant and triangulation to measure the height of a tree. B. Students use population samples to calculate total populations of organisms. C. Students will create graphs and analyze data to identify patterns in forest growth	B.8.4, B.8.5, C.8.3, C.8.6, F.8.9

7	Geography	1,6	Ecological development follows patterns and can help predict changes in the environment.	Students will be able to compare local ecological development to other geographical areas.	A. Students will identify the developmental stage of a forest. B. Students will identify the factors that contributed to the change in geographical areas that had environments similar to our own.	A.8.1, A.8.4 A.8.6 A.8.8
7	Geography	7	Different types of maps convey different information.	Students will be able to identify different styles of maps and ascertain information from them.	A. Students will use topographical maps to identify the elevation of the forest. B. Students will identify their location on a political map.	A.8.1, A.8.4, A.8.5, A.8.6,

7	English/L.A.	5	Writing styles differ depending on its purpose.	Students will be able to differentiate between subjective and objective writing.	A. Students will write a subjective description of the forest. B. Students will write an objective description of the forest.	CC Writing gr. 7: 2, 4, 5
7	English/L.A.	5	Inspiration for creative writing can come from one's environment.	Students will be able to identify environments that encourage their creativity..	A. Students will record inspirational thoughts for use in their environmental persuasive essay and the OWOR cocurricular project.	
7	Technology	7	Technology can connect add to our understanding and help share information	Students will be able to use portable electronic devices to collect and share data.	A. students use applications such as LeafSnap, Redwood Watch, Sensr, Project Noah, and Bio Kids to collect and share information on the forest. B. Students will use GPS and the RePicture app to locate and record growth of a tree.	ITC1.a, ITC1.c, ITC1.i,
7	Art	5	Nature can inspire art	Students will be able to draw a nature scene.	A. Students use charcoal or pencil to draw a tree. B. Students will use watercolor to paint a landscape.	A.8.3, B.8.5, C.8.6, C.8.7, E.8.5, G.8.4, H.8.2, H.8.3 I.8.2, I.8.6, J.8.2, L.8.4
8	Earth Science	6,7	Observations can help predict weather patterns	Students will be able to identify and measure aspects of the weather	A. Students will measure wind speed and temperature. B. Students will identify cloud types C. Students will share a weather forecast. based on observations.	C.8.1 C.8.2 C.8.3 C.8.4 C8.6 C8.8

8	Earth Science	6,7	Rocks can be identified by measurable characteristics.	Students will be able to identify rock types	A. Students will use streak plates to identify the hardness of a rock. B. Students will use a weak acid to determine the Ph of a rock C. Students will use a blacklight to look for rock phosphorescence.	E.8.2 E.8.5
8	Math	5,7	Algebra can be used to measure and convey information	Students will be able to determine slope of the land based on topographical data.	A. Students will measure elevation to create a topographical map. B. Students will determine slope of the land using topographical data. They will utilize indirect measurement to plot the battlefield.	CC.8.F.3 CC.8.G.9
	Math	5,7	Algebra can be used to measure and convey information	Students will be able to determine a weapon's range.	After learning about muskets and mortar, calculate the initial velocity of mortar using data from initial firearms. Using this data,	CC.8.F.3 CC.8.G.9

					select a safe location to set up the defenses for the camp on the map of the land.	
8	World History	5,7	Society and technology change over time.	Students will be able to compare and contrast different time periods	Students will interact with members of Clann Tartan reenactment group to learn about their society.	B.8.3 B.8.7 B.8.10 D.8.1 A.8.1 A.8.8
8	English/ Language Arts	5,7	Writing can be used to record history and convey thought.	Students will be able to express and reflect upon their experiences with Clann Tartan in the forest through writing.	Students will write an argumentative essay in support of or against one of the following topics connected to Clann Tartan.	8.1b
8	Literature	5,7	Storytelling is a way to pass down ideas.	After listening to storytelling, students will be able to reenact a story of their own.		
5-7	Physical Education	3	Outdoor activities improve personal health and increase camaraderie.	Students will engage in outdoor activities	Hiking the trails, pedometer work, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing scavenger hunts, and outdoor games.	PE 3:2:A4 PE 3:3:A3 PE 4:3:B1 PE 1:3:A7
5-7	Guidance	3,7	It is fun to succeed together.	Students will work together to solve a problem.	Leadership and teambuilding activities	LE1.a.9.m LE1.b.5.m LE1.b.6.m
9-12	Community Service	2,3,4	Satisfaction comes from helping out.	Students will help maintain the school forest and facilities.	Removal of invasive species. Trail upkeep.	

School District of River Falls
Educational Program Committee Meeting Report

Monday, April 1, 2024 - 6:00 PM
District Office
852 E Division Street
River Falls, Wisconsin 54022

The Board of Education’s Educational Program Committee meeting was held on Monday, April 1, 2024 at District Office, 852 E Division Street River Falls, Wisconsin 54022. Chair Tuchtenhagen called the meeting to order at **6:00 PM**. It was ascertained that notice of the meeting had been properly posted in the appointed locations, and sent to the *Star-Observer*, *Pierce County Journal*, WEVR Radio Station, and the *Eau Claire Leader-Telegram*.

PRESENT

Committee Members Alan Tuchtenhagen (Chair), Lindsey Curtis, and Cindy Holbrook were present. Board members Bob Casey, Stacy Johnson Myers, and Alison Page were present. Superintendent Jamie Benson, Director of Human Resources David Bell, and Director of Academic Services Nate Schurman were also present.

1. CALL TO ORDER - 6:00 PM

2. MANNER OF PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF MEETING

3. HEARING OF VISITORS OR DELEGATIONS

4. Cybersecurity Update

Brian Dado, Supervisor of Information Technology, provided an update on the School District of River Falls Cybersecurity.

Recommended Action: No action, information only.

5. High School Professional Learning Community (PLC) Update

The update on PLC at the high school was tabled until the May 6, 2024 Educational Program Meeting.

Recommended Action: Tabled until May 6, 2024.

6. Community Education and Communications Update

Jenny Ames, Community Education & Communications Director, gave an update on Community Education and Communications.

Recommended Action: No action, informational only.

7. Approve the River Falls School District Library Media Plan

The presentation of the District Library Media Plan was tabled until the May 6, 2024 Educational Program Meeting.

Recommended Action: Tabled until May 6, 2024.

8. PROPOSED/SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR AND FUTURE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM MEETING AGENDA(S)

Committee members suggested that a future meeting include information about the new state-wide direct admit program, summer school, as well as the two tabled items.

Recommended Action: As needed.

9. SCHEDULE NEXT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING

Upcoming committee meeting dates, times, and locations will be reviewed.

Recommended Action: Set the meeting schedule as follows:

Educational Program Committee meeting: Monday, May 6, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the District Office conference room, 852 E. Division Street.

10. **ADJOURN - 7:19 PM**

Alan Tuchtenhagen, Educational Program Committee Chair

School District of River Falls
Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting Report

Monday, April 8, 2024 - 6:00 PM

District Office

852 E Division Street

River Falls, Wisconsin 54022

The Board of Education's Finance and Facilities Committee meeting was held on Monday, April 8, 2024 at District Office, 852 E Division Street, River Falls, Wisconsin 54022. Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm. It was ascertained that notice of the meeting had been properly posted in the appointed locations, and sent to the *Star-Observer*, *Pierce County Journal*, WEVR Radio Station, and the *Eau Claire Leader-Telegram*.

PRESENT

Committee members Mike Miller (Chair), Bob Casey and Alison Page were present. Also present were Board members Cindy Holbrook, Stacy Johnson Myers, and Alan Tuchtenhagen. Superintendent Jamie Benson, Director of Human Resources David Bell, Director of Academic Services Nate Schurman and Director of Finance and Facilities Lynette Coy were also present.

1. CALL TO ORDER - 6:01 PM

2. MANNER OF PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF MEETING

3. HEARING OF VISITORS OR DELEGATIONS - None

4. 2023-24 Budget Update

The Director of Finance provided a 2023-24 Budget Update.

Action: None, informational only.

5. 2022-23 Audit Report

The Director of Finance reported on the 2022-23 Financial Audit.

Action: None, informational only.

6. Design & Planning Team Update

The Director of Finance provided an update from the Design & Planning Team regarding the referendum-funded projects.

Action: None, informational only.

7. Consideration of adjourning to closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. sec. 19.85(1)(e), which permits convening in closed session for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, for a debt issue discussion. Roll call vote required.

8. CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION – Page motioned, Casey seconded to move into closed session. Page, Casey and Miller voting aye. Convened to closed session @ 7:25 pm.

9. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION AND AFFIRM ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION IF NECESSARY

10. PROPOSED/SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR AND FUTURE FINANCE & FACILITIES MEETING AGENDA(S)

As always, committee members will be given the opportunity to suggest items for future committee and/or Board meeting agendas.

Action: None.

11. SCHEDULE NEXT FINANCE & FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

Upcoming committee meeting dates, times, and locations will be as follows.

Finance and Facilities Committee meeting, Monday, May 13, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the District Office, 852 E. Division Street.

12. **ADJOURNED** at 7:47 pm.

Mike Miller, Finance and Facilities Committee Chair

FINANCE & FACILITIES COMMITTEE CLOSED SESSION REPORT

Monday, April 8, 2024

District Administrative Office Conference Room

7:25 pm

The Finance Committee convened to executive session at 7:25 pm pursuant to WIS. STAT. SEC. 19.85(1)(e), which permits convening in closed session for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, for a debt issue discussion. Roll call vote required. Roll call vote: Page – Yes, Casey – Yes, Miller – Yes

PRESENT

- Committee Members Mike Miller, Bob Casey and Alison Page
- Board Members Alan Tuchtenhagen, Stacy Johnson Myers and Cindy Holbrook
- Superintendent Jamie Benson, Director of Finance & Facilities Lynette Coy, Director of Human Resources & Leadership Development David Bell, and Director of Academic Services Nate Schurman

1. DEBT ISSUE

The committee discussed options for the upcoming debt issue.

Action: Motion by Page, second by Casey to use a Pricing Agent to review the upcoming bond issue and to negotiate the fee for Underwriter services with Baird. Motion carried unanimously.

2. ADJOURNED at 7:45 pm.

**School District of River Falls
Personnel Committee Meeting Report**

Monday, April 8, 2024 - at 7:00 PM or immediately following the 6:00 PM Finance & Facilities meeting
District Office
852 E Division Street
River Falls, Wisconsin 54022

The Board of Education's Personnel Committee meeting was held on Monday, April 8, 2024 at District Office, 852 E Division Street, River Falls, Wisconsin 54022. Chair Johnson Myers called the meeting to order at 7:47 PM. It was ascertained that notice of the meeting had been properly posted in the appointed locations, and sent to the Star-Observer, Pierce County Journal, WEVR Radio Station, and the Eau Claire Leader-Telegram.

PRESENT

Committee Members Stacy Johnson Myers (Chair), Bob Casey, and Cindy Holbrook were present. Board members Alan Tuchtenhagen, Mike Miller, and Alison Page were present. Superintendent Jamie Benson, Director of Human Resources and Leadership Development David Bell, Director of Academic Services Nate Schurman, and Director of Finance and Facilities Lynette Coy were also present.

1. CALL TO ORDER - 7:47 PM

2. MANNER OF PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF MEETING

3. HEARING OF VISITORS OR DELEGATIONS-NONE

4. CERTIFIED STAFF UPDATE

The committee discussed certified staff recruitment, selection, and hiring updates.

Action: None, informational only.

5. 2024-25 STAFFING PLAN

The committee reviewed the 2024-25 Certified Staffing Plan.

Action: Motion by Casey, second by Holbrook to approve the 2024-25 Staffing Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

6. APPROVE SENDING LETTERS OF INTENT TO CERTIFIED STAFF

Under the terms of Wisconsin Statute 118.22, on or before May 15 of the school year during which a teacher holds a contract, the Board by which the teacher is employed shall give the teacher written notice of renewal for the ensuing school year.

Action: Motion by Johnson Myers, second by Casey to approve sending 2024-25 letters of intent to certified staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

7. APPROVE REVISIONS TO COMPUTER WORKSTATION TECHNICIAN, SOFTWARE AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT FACILITATOR, AND SUPERVISOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES JOB DESCRIPTIONS

The IT department is proposing an update in the delegation of duties and responsibilities in the department. These adjustments clarify expectations and respond to recent staffing changes.

Action: None, the agenda item was tabled until May.

8. REVIEW REVISIONS TO POLICY 522.1 ALCOHOL AND DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE AND POLICY 523.3 EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE

Based on feedback at the 3/25/24 Board of Education Meeting, the administrative team recommended revisions to Policy 522.1 and Policy 523.3.

Action: Motion by Casey, second by Holbrook to approve revisions to Policy 522.1 and 523.3. Motion carried unanimously.

9. ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO WIS. STAT. SEC. 19.85(1)(C), WHICH PERMITS CONVENING IN CLOSED SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING THE EMPLOYMENT, PROMOTION, COMPENSATION OR PERFORMANCE EVALUATION DATA OF ANY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE OVER WHICH THE GOVERNMENTAL BODY HAS JURISDICTION OR EXERCISES

RESPONSIBILITY, TO DISCUSS RESIGNATION OF AN EMPLOYEE AND TO DISCUSS 2024-25 CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS. ROLL CALL VOTE REQUIRED.

Action: Motion by Johnson Myers, second by Casey to adjourn to closed session at 7:09 PM. Holbrook-Yes, Casey-Yes, and Johnson Myers-Yes.

10. **RECONVENED INTO OPEN SESSION AT 9:02 PM**

11. **AFFIRM ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

Action: Motion by Casey, second by Holbrook to approve action taken during closed session. Motion carried unanimously.

12. **PROPOSED/SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR AND FUTURE PERSONNEL MEETING AGENDA(S)**

Committee members were given the opportunity to suggest items for future committee and/or Board meeting agendas.

Action: Committee members asked for continued updates regarding the 2024-25 negotiations.

13. **SCHEDULE NEXT PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING**

Upcoming committee meeting dates, times, and locations were reviewed.

Action: Set the meeting schedule as follows:

Personnel Committee meeting, Monday, May 13, 2024, 7:00 p.m. *(or immediately following Finance & Facilities)*
The meeting will be held at the District Office, 852 E. Division Street.

14. **ADJOURNED AT 9:03 PM**

Stacy Johnson Myers, Personnel Committee Chair

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE CLOSED SESSION REPORT

Monday, April 8, 2024

District Administrative Office Conference Room

8:08 PM

The Personnel Committee convened to executive session at 8:08 PM pursuant to WIS. STAT. SEC. 19.85(1)(c), which permits convening in closed session for the purpose of considering the employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, to discuss the resignation of an employee and to discuss 2024-25 contract negotiations. Roll call vote required.

Roll call vote: Johnson Myers-Yes, Holbrook-Yes, Casey-Yes.

PRESENT

- Committee Members Bob Casey, Cindy Holbrook, and Stacy Johnson Myers.
- Board members Alan Tuchtenhagen, Mike Miller, and Alison Page.
- Superintendent Jamie Benson, Director of Human Resources and Leadership Development David Bell, and Director of Finance and Facilities Lynette Coy

1. RESIGNATION OF AN EMPLOYEE

The committee discussed a resignation request from an employee.

Action: Motion by Holbrook, second by Johnson Myers to approve the resignation request for this employee because the nature of the resignation requires such approval per handbook guidelines. Motion carried unanimously.

2. RESIGNATION OF AN EMPLOYEE

The committee discussed a resignation request from an employee.

Action: None, information only.

3. DISCUSS 2024-25 CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

Contract timelines and goals were discussed.

Action: None, information only.

4. ADJOURNED AT 9:02 PM.



Date

Name

School

Dear FIRST NAME,

Greetings! We are now entering the final two months of the present school year. I know these are busy weeks for you as you bring your students' learning to fruition for the year. On behalf of the entire school board, thank you for your efforts. We appreciate you and your work.

The school board and administration are making plans for the 2024-25 academic year. We are appreciative and relieved that the River Falls community supported the two referendum questions on the February ballot. Passing these questions allows us to go forward with a balanced budget and still maintain and strengthen existing programming. We are all fortunate to serve a community that values education.

The board understands that you and your colleagues are at the core of our district. It is through your work and relationships with students that we accomplish the district's educational mission. Thank you for all you have done and continue to do to support the young people whose education is entrusted to our school district.

On an annual basis, the school board's clerk and I reach out to you to extend an offer of continued employment for the coming school year. Please accept this letter as the school board's offer of continued employment for the 2024-2025 school year. I hope you will accept this offer and return to teach in the River Falls School District. Please use Skyward to electronically sign your letter by June 15, 2024. If you decide to decline this offer of employment, a resignation is respectfully requested.

Along with our board colleagues, _____ and I know how important you are to the school district. We recognize your tremendous work and dedication to the students and families in the River Falls community. You have our enduring thanks and appreciation.

Sincerely,

Stacy Johnson Myers, School Board President

Alan Tuchtenhagen, School Board Clerk



POLICY 522.1 ALCOHOL AND DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE (formerly GBCBA)

The School District of River Falls is committed to maintaining an alcohol and drug-free workplace. Therefore, the following activities and conduct by employees shall be strictly prohibited:

1. Manufacturing, distributing, dispensing, possession, use or selling of alcohol and controlled or illegal substances at the workplace;
2. Using or possessing drug paraphernalia (e.g., water pipes, pot pipes, roach clips, joint rollers) at the workplace for purposes prohibited by the state controlled substances law;
3. ~~Possessing, using, distributing or selling of alcoholic beverages at the workplace on school premises or while engaged in school sponsored activities;~~
4. Being under the influence of alcohol and controlled or illegal substances at the workplace;
5. Using prescription medication at the workplace in an unauthorized or illegal manner.

For the purposes of this policy, 'workplace' includes any school building, school-owned vehicle, school property, or school-related activity in which students are under the supervision of employees.

Employees engaged in the performance of a grant received directly from the federal government shall notify the Superintendent of any criminal drug statute conviction occurring in the workplace within the time period specified by law. The Superintendent shall notify the appropriate federal agency of the conviction.

Adherence to the District's drug-free workplace policy is a condition of employment. Any employee who violates this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action including, but not limited to, referral for a drug or alcohol evaluation, referral to the Employee Assistance Program, reassignment, suspension, or termination. In addition, employees who violate this policy may be referred for prosecution.

If a supervisor reasonably suspects that an employee has violated this policy, the District reserves the right to require an alcohol or drug test. Reasonable suspicion must be based on specific and accurate observations made by a supervisor. Observations include, but are not limited to, appearance, behavior, speech, or body odors of the employee. The test will be conducted in a confidential manner. Refusal to consent to testing may result in disciplinary action.

This policy does not prohibit:

- administering medication to students as outlined in Policy 453.4.
- the use of prescription medication by an employee to whom it is prescribed and in the amount prescribed.

The *Employee Handbook will include reference to this policy and information related to: the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse in the workplace, available drug or alcohol counseling, rehabilitation and employee assistance programs, and, the penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug or alcohol abuse policy violations. ~~distributed to all employees of the District.~~

**NOTE: Reference will be added upon the adoption of the 2024-25 Employee Handbook*

~~LEGAL REF~~ LEGAL REFERENCE: Wisconsin Statutes Section 125.09(2), Chapter 961 Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988 34 CFR Part 85, Subpart F (Regulations Implementing Drug Free Workplace Act)

CROSS REFERENCE: 523.11, School Bus Driver Alcohol and Drug Testing; 523.3, Employee Assistance Program; 536.2, Discipline, Dismissal or Suspension of Professional Staff Members; 546.2, Dismissal or Suspension of Support Staff Members; **Policy 453.4 Administering Medication to Students; Employee Handbook,**

DATE OF ADOPTION:: September 16, 1991

REVISED: September 18, 2000, December 19, 2005, **April 15, 2024**



POLICY 523.3 EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The School District of River Falls recognizes that a wide range of problems, including those not directly associated with one's job function, can have an effect on an employee's overall well-being and potentially job performance. In most instances, the employee will overcome such personal problems independently. In some cases, however, neither the efforts of the employee nor supervisor have the desired effect.

Therefore, it is in the interest of the employee, the employee's family, and the District to provide an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) to assist in managing the impact of personal and work-related struggles. The District will address problems within the following framework:

In other instances, normal supervisory assistance will serve either as motivation or guidance by which such problems can be resolved so that an employee's job performance will return to an acceptable level. If problems, and unsatisfactory performance or poor attendance persists over a period of time, either constantly or intermittently:

1. Employees who have a personal or family problem which they feel may affect work performance are encouraged to voluntarily contact the Human Resources Administrative Assistant for information related to utilizing the EAP.
2. Employees are assured that their job, future, and reputation will not be jeopardized by utilizing resources in the EAP.
3. The purpose of this policy is to assure employees that if personal problems are the cause of unsatisfactory job performance or poor attendance the employee will receive careful consideration and an offer of assistance to help resolve the problems in an effective and confidential manner.
4. The employee is responsible for complying with referrals for diagnosis of the personal problem and to cooperate and follow the recommendation of the diagnostician or counseling agent. If the employee refuses the offer of help and job performance or attendance problems continue, the regular disciplinary procedures will apply.
5. Employee problems causing unsatisfactory job performance will be handled in alignment with procedures outlined in the Employee Handbook. Records will be maintained within the highest degree of confidence in accordance with state law.
6. Employees referred to the program by their supervisor will be required by the District to secure adequate medical, rehabilitative counseling, or other services as may be necessary to resolve the personal problem.
7. In instances where it is necessary, accrued sick leave, vacation time, or leave of absence will be granted for treatment or rehabilitative counseling or other services as are necessary, on the same basis as is granted for ordinary other health problems in accordance with the Employee Handbook.
8. Since the employee's work performance can be affected by the problems of an employee's spouse or dependents, the EAP will be available to the families of employees as well, within the normal provisions of this policy.
9. If an employee's performance or attendance continues to be unsatisfactory after receiving the benefits of the EAP, regular disciplinary procedures will apply.

- ~~10. The district recognizes that most human problems can be successfully treated provided they are identified in early stages and referral is made to the appropriate type of care.~~
- ~~11. When an employee's job performance or attendance is unsatisfactory and the employee is unable or unwilling to correct the situation either alone or with normal supervisory assistance, this is an indication that there may be some cause outside of the realm of his/her job responsibilities which is the basis of his/her problem.~~

CROSS REFERENCE.: 522.1 Drug-Free Workplace, Employee Handbook, Current Employee Agreements

DATE OF ADOPTION: September 16, 1991

REVISED: October 15, 2007, **February 12, 2024**