

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

The Rapid City Area School Board of Education held a Board of Education Meeting on Tuesday, January 6, 2026 at 5:30 PM with President Troy Carr calling the meeting to order. Board members in attendance were Katy Urban, Angela Rafferty, Christine Stephenson, Jamie Clapham, and Donna Moore. Walt Swan was absent with notice. Also in attendance were CFOO Coy Sasse and Superintendent Dr. Jami Jo Thompson.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA

URBAN moved and CLAPHAM seconded to approve the agenda as recommended by administration. MOTION CARRIED (6-0). All agenda items can be viewed at: <https://5il.co/3t16ar>

SHARING THE SUCCESS We had a well-rounded sharing the success tonight with students that volunteered, activities and state testing. Student volunteers of the semester were Suko Tinant – Stevens High School, Kamryn Staufacher – Central High School and Brady Zander – RCAA. Central girls wrestling team took home the ‘cup’ and were the champions at the LNI competition in December. Students took the state assessment testing in Spring of 2025 and the district had 4 students score a perfect 100%; Sophia Li – Math, John Davies – Math, Wilson Maung – Math and Breken Neff – Science.

OPEN FORUM State Representative Kathy Rice spoke on supporting Trenton Policky and his house bill 1008 going to the state legislature. House bill 1008 is to offer ½ credit for PE if the student is enrolled in a varsity activity.

STUDENT BOARD REPORTS Students reported on their schools respectively.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT Dr. Thompson provided a summary regarding her superintendent's entry plan within her first 6 months. Student enrollment has decreased by 1900 students in the last 10 years. The number of students who opt out has increased from 363 in the 2016/2017 school year to 513 for the 25/26 school year. Home school has also seen increase of 1300 students. This comparison is very close to the Sioux Falls School District. Private schools have been steady in the last 10 years with little change in number with exception of RC Christian and RC Catholic schools. These two schools off set each other. Kindergarten enrollment is consistent with the nationwide trend and has decreased from 1117 in 2017 to 814 in 2025. Dr. Thompson showed a slide that had multiple reasons for students that have withdrawn from school. Our overall decrease in enrollment is due to an increase in home school, students discontinue due to non-attendance, transfers to other schools and low kindergarten attendance. Her recommendation is to increase positive communication, improve attendance, become a purple star for military families, provide the best education opportunities for students and recognize the fact that public school enrollment is declining nation wide due to lower birth rates and an increase in school choice.

CFOO REPORT Mr. Sasse shared a presentation regarding State Aid and the basic support with the formula. Governor has proposed a 0% increase to public education due to a decrease in student enrollment. Enrollment numbers are down by 2%.

RAPID CITY AREA SCHOOLS

POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND EXHIBITS

URBAN moved and STEPHENSON seconded to approve Rapid City Area Schools Policies, Procedures, and Exhibits A-L as recommended by administration. Pulled to go back to policy committee were J, K and L. VOTE 6-0 First Reading:

A. DAA – Evaluation of Fiscal Management [New Policy] B. DAA-P – Evaluation of Fiscal Management Procedure [Procedure] C. DB – Annual Budget [New Policy] D. DB-E1 – Resolution for Amendment of Budget [New Exhibit] E.

DBC – Budget Planning F. DBF – Budget Hearings and Reviews G. DBJ – Budget Transfer Authority (Reviewed, no changes)

H. DFA – Revenues from Investments I.

EFA – Meal Charge Policy [New Policy] J.

JHDA – Suicide (Prevention, Intervention, Crisis Response, Postvention) K. JHDA-P – Suicide Prevention, Intervention, Crisis Response and Postvention Procedures L.

JHDA-E1 – Safety Concern Report

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGREEMENTS

URBAN moved and CLAPHAM seconded to approve the proposed agreements as presented. MOTION CARRIED (6-0).

AGREEMENT WITH AIM Master Agreement

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This Master Agreement allows RCAS to have other contracts with the AIM Institute for Learning and Research.

RCAS previously had a similar Master Agreement with this company before we used them for the science if reading PD for all of our elementary teachers in the 2024-25 school year. We want to work with this company again to help us with our DOE Literacy Grant. There is no cost for this agreement. Signing this Master Agreement will allow RCAS to work with the AIM Institute for Learning and Research as we work on our DOE Literacy Grant. This Master Agreement is a precursor to any contracts we might have with AIM to provide additional staff support for reading instruction. Having this completed will allow us to move more quickly when we are ready for a contract for AIM content, professional services, or software.

ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION

The Administration recommends that the Board of Education approve this agreement.

AGREEMENT WITH FAFSA FOR DATA ACCESS

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This is a renewal of an agreement that RCAS has had for active data sharing with the SD Board of Regents since 2022. This agreement allows authorized users to access enrolled seniors' FAFSA completion status to help us identify students who might need support in completing their FAFSA forms. molly.weisgram@sdbor.edu

This agreement is between the SD Board of Regents and Rapid City Area Schools.

The there is no cost for this agreement.

ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION

The Administration recommends that the Board of Education approve this agreement.

AGREEMENT WITH SD DEPT OF EDUCATION

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

South Dakota House Bill 1092 (2025) established reimbursement opportunities for public school districts and accredited schools to provide stipends of up to \$5,000 to qualified student teachers during the 2025-2026 school year. To access this funding, school districts must:

• Verify that the student teacher holds a valid Student Teacher Permit or Advanced Student Teacher Permit (confirmed via Educator 411 or provided documentation).

• Submit proof of payment, invoices, and the official Student Teacher Reimbursement Form to the South Dakota Department of Education no later than June 1, 2026.

• Ensure all expenditures align with the requirements outlined in Grant Agreement No. 2026G-181 between the South Dakota Department of Education and the participating school district.

The total reimbursement available per qualifying student teacher is not to exceed \$5,000, and the grant period runs from August 15, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION

The Rapid City Area School District has entered into a formal Grant Agreement (2026G-181) with the South Dakota Department of Education's Division of Accreditation and Certification to administer this program locally. Administrative responsibilities

for this agreement are:

• Responsibilities related to

• Verifying eligibility and

• Ensuring staff/volunteers follow required privacy and child-safety protocols.

• Assisting with identifying, registering, and coordinating students who may benefit from oral health care services.

• Ensuring staff/volunteers follow required privacy and child-safety protocols.

• Remitting a site partner fee of: • \$3,000 per week for a restorative clinic, or

• \$1,500 per week for a prevention-only clinic. Delta Dental will invoice the District following the visit. Additionally, a Business Associate Agreement (BAA) is included, as required under HIPAA and the HITECH Act for any work involving personally identifiable health information. The BAA defines:

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