

# RICHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Health, Safety and Wellness Committee

### Meeting Minutes

12.12.2024

**Meeting Called to Order: 7:15 a.m. in the District Office Boardroom.**

#### Members Present

- Craig Holje (Human Resources / Administration)
- Dan Kretsinger (Facilities & Transportation)
- Steve Lichtenburg (SFM)
- Katie Shepard (Parent)
- Michelle Whiteside (Health Services)
- Peter Fitzpatrick (Custodial)
- Cassi O'Meara (Nutrition Services)
- Eric Carter (School Board)
- Ellen Boden (Human Resources)
- Daniel Holcomb (IEA Health & Safety)
- Faith Breeden (IEA Health & Safety)

## Minutes

#### **WORKERS COMPENSATION UPDATE**

- SFM Update
  - 11 claims since September 1, 2024
    - 1 loss time
    - 10 medical only
  - 1 average day to report
  - 5 medical only injuries since last meeting
    - 1 contusion
    - 2 fractures
    - 2 strains

#### **REVIEW STUDENT INCIDENT REPORTS**

- 5 Total Incidents since last meeting
  - 1 ankle injury
  - 2 leg injuries
  - 1 cut
  - 1 arm injury on playground
- Injuries per school since last meeting
  - RHS – 1
  - RMS – 2
  - Centennial – 0
  - Central – 0
  - Sheridan – 1
  - RDLS – 1

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- STEM – 0

#### WELLNESS UPDATE

- Nutrition Services Update
  - Grant to release more share carts has been received
    - Share Table creates a space for students to place their unwanted food items for other students to take as a way to reduce waste.
    - Partnering with the Green Team to get the share carts started at the elementary schools
  - Nutrition services is going to try and add a vegetarian pizza to the menu
    - Partnered with Deeply Rooted – local company that supplies vegetarian/plant based sausage
  - Emoji based survey platform for the high school students
    - On an iPad on a stand that the students can give their feedback as they finish their meal
- Safe Routes to School Update
  - Bike education
    - Applying for 10-year safe routes to schools plan grant from Department of Transportation
    - Helpful to have a long-term plan to apply for other grants
  - Potential improvements on the roadway by RDLs and 73<sup>rd</sup>
  - Infrastructure needs at Sheridan hills, HS, and MS that would like to be addressed
- Wellness Committee Update
  - Frosty four campaign from Hennepin County
    - Want to get this out in about February and March
    - Campaign is to learn and think more about our personal wellness
  - Monthly benefits newsletter about various wellness items

#### HEALTH & SAFETY UPDATE

- Radon Testing – January 6-7 and January 9-10
  - Overview: Radon is a naturally occurring gas from the ground that can come through the cracks in the foundation and is a known carcinogen. It is recommended to test school buildings every 5 years to ensure that radon concentrations are below 4 picocuries per liter.
  - Testing will occur in all occupied spaces below or at ground level and 10% of upper rooms.
  - Test kits will be hung on the walls of occupied spaces.
  - Any tested spaces that have results above 4 picocuries per liter are then retested with a continuous radon monitor that provides hourly radon concentrations.
  - The last round of testing was conducted in 2019, and no areas sampled exceeded 4 picocuries per liter.
- CPR/First Aid/AED Training for Facilities Staff – December 27
  - 3 staff members signed up, need 5 people total to host the course

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- Course consists of an online session followed by hands on training
- Noise Monitoring Project – occurring January 14, 21, 23, and 24
  - Noise monitoring is used to determine who is required to be a part of the Hearing Conservation Program
  - Employees who are exposed to an average of 85 decibels or above during an 8 hour period exceed the OSHA threshold and should be provided hearing protection and annual audiograms
  - Departments included are music, industrial technology, grounds, maintenance, and transportation.
- Chainsaw Safety Training
  - IEA hosted a chainsaw safety training course held at Shakopee Public Schools.
  - Ethan Thompson, new grounds lead, attended the training
  - Training consisted of 1.5 hours of classroom training followed by a hands on tree cutting session
- Science Lab, Eyewash, and Fume Hood Inspections
  - Inspections were conducted in early November by IEA
  - These annual inspections are required by OSHA and the MN State Fire Code
  - IEA works with Facilities and Chemical Hygiene Officers following the inspection
- Hennepin County Hazardous Waste Report (Due 12/15)
  - Hennepin County requires all organizations with a hazardous waste license to report the amount of waste that is generated
  - This is due annually on December 15 and has been submitted
- Indoor Air Quality Walkthrough Dates – February 10-14
  - Walkthroughs are a proactive measure to monitor the air quality in classrooms and offices and identify early signs of moisture accumulation or HVAC issues
  - An IEA technician will be on site with a monitoring device that measures carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, temperature, and relative humidity.
- Indoor Air Quality Staff Survey
  - This survey is sent out prior to the walkthrough to give staff an opportunity to share their concerns
  - Submissions are sent to IEA to help identify areas of concern to staff during the walkthrough
- Health & Safety Email Concerns & Safety Suggestion Form – One inquiry regarding the date and times of the meetings
  - The email address is [health-safety@rpsmn.org](mailto:health-safety@rpsmn.org).
  - The suggestion form is located on the district website under the Facilities page.

#### FACILITIES UPDATE

- Fall/Winter Projects Overview
  - The MN state patrol is at the bus garage to do bus inspections
    - December 5 and December 12
  - Electric vehicle school bus grant from Minnesota Department of Commerce

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- Applying to get 2 electric busses to see if the district can get approved for it
- There are other costs involved that are not a part of the grant
- Challenges and additional costs with maintaining a power supply for electric busses must be addressed as well
- SFM Signs – Winter Safety
  - SFM provided signs and Richfield will continue to change signs regularly throughout the winter

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- No new topics

#### **OPEN DISCUSSION**

- 3 different reports on vehicles approaching students
  - District policy is to report directly to the police
  - Police have not identified the person doing this
  - Richfield was told that the city is increasing police presence after these reports
    - Increased awareness for police to be around the school areas more
- Filter and HEPA changes in the nurse's offices – external filter changed annually and internal changed every two years

**NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>**

**LOCATION: DISTRICT OFFICE BOARDROOM**

**TIME: 7:15 AM**