

**ROCKFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS  
Meeting Minutes**

**Administration Building  
Tuesday, April 24, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education was called to order by President Kenneth Scrivano at 5:00 p.m.

Present: President Kenneth Scrivano, Vice President Jude Makulec, Secretary Michael Connor, Mr. Anthony Dixon (arr. 5:02 p.m.), Mr. Tim Rollins, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Jaime Escobedo

Absent: None

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel that the Board **hold** an executive session to consider the appointment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of employees; the discipline of students; pending or imminent litigation; collective bargaining matters; or other matters provided for pursuant to §2 (c) of the Open Meetings Act.

**Approved: 6-0-1**

The Board was in executive session from 5:01 p.m. until 6:54 p.m.

1. Call to Order – *President Kenneth Scrivano called the regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education to order at 7:09 p.m.*
2. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call  
Present: President Kenneth Scrivano, Vice President Jude Makulec, Secretary Michael Connor, Mr. Anthony Dixon, Mr. Tim Rollins, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Jaime Escobedo  
Absent: None  
*Mr. Scrivano thanked RPS 205 graduate, Rod Weddle, and Alan Leon who are working behind the scenes to produce the Board's broadcast on Channel 20.*
4. Recognition
  - A. Golden Apple Foundation Awards – Earl Dotson, Jr.  
Six RPS 205 teachers were finalists for the 2018 Golden Apple Award. They were Heather Geary of Whitehead Elementary School, Jean Johnson of Marshall Elementary School, Laura Johnson of Nashold Early Childhood Center, Sylvia Landreth of Fairview Early Childhood Center, and Fort Zackary III of Carlson Elementary School. The Golden Apple Award winner was Rachel Huetson, a first grade teacher at Nelson Elementary School.  
Amber Miller, Principal at Johnson Elementary School received the Golden Apple Foundation Puri Family Outstanding Principal Award.  
They will be celebrated at the Annual Golden Apple Awards Banquet.
  - B. REBA Basketball Champions – Earl Dotson, Jr.  
The Rockford Elementary Basketball Association (REBA) just finished its twenty-seventh year. The basketball program is open to District fourth and fifth graders. This year, forty-eight teams participated. Springcreek Elementary Girls' team defeated Whitehead Elementary in the championship. The STEAM Academy at Haskell Boys' team defeated Froberg for the championship.  
Mr. Scrivano recognized Ms. Fromm for Administrative Assistant's Day.
5. Petitions & Communications  
There were no speakers.
6. Board Member Comments
  - Mr. Escobedo spoke of the SAT prep sponsored by a local company. He spoke of the great opportunity for students.
7. \*Consent Items
  - A. Meeting Minutes: 04/10/18
  - B. Payroll
  - C. Accounts-Payable
  - D. Purchase Orders

- E. Construction Bid Request Log
- F. Contracts Under \$10,000
- G. Travel

8. \*Bid Recommendations

- A. IFB 18-25 Stage Curtains and Rigging
- B. RFP 18-27 Digital Fingerprinting Equipment
- C. ~~IFB 18-34 Marshall HVAC Controls – Rebid~~ – pulled by Mrs. Makulec
- D. ~~IFB 18-36 Flooring at Auburn, East and Guilford High Schools~~ – pulled by Mrs. Makulec
- E. ~~IFB 18-38 Flooring at Eisenhower, Riverdahl and Marshall School~~ – pulled by Mrs. Makulec
- F. IFB 18-43 Bloom and Brookview Asbestos Abatement
- G. IFB 18-44 Flinn MS Asbestos Abatement
- H. IFB 18-45 Marshall MS Asbestos Abatement
- I. IFB 18-46 Athletic Trainer – Rebid
- J. IFB 18-47 Interactive Whiteboard Equipment

9. Recurring Contracts

- A. Workplace – Addendum to Consulting Agreement – Ms. Michelle R. Jahr, CPA, Chief Financial Officer
- B. FY 18 Audit Services-Sikich LLP – Ms. Michelle R. Jahr, CPA, Chief Financial Officer

10. \*Other Consent

- A. Resolution and Notice of Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget for 2018-2019 – Ms. Michelle R. Jahr, CPA, Chief Financial Officer
- B. Monthly Investment Report-March 2018 – Ms. Michelle R. Jahr, CPA, Chief Financial Officer
- C. Financial Results: March 2018 – Ms. Michelle R. Jahr, Chief Financial Officer
- D. Workers’ Compensation Settlement Agreement – KA
- E. Workers’ Compensation Settlement Agreement – KA
- F. Housing Incentive Resolution-Administrators – Atty. Lori Hoadley
- G. REA Memorandum of Understanding-RPS Family Attendance – Atty. Lori Hoadley
- H. REA Memorandum of Understanding-RPS Employer-Assisted Housing Program – Atty. Lori Hoadley
- I. New School Construction Change Order Logs – Kevin Behling, Executive Director of Design & Construction
- J. Freedom of Information Log

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Consent items not pulled.

**Approved: Unanimously**

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Bid Recommendations pulled 8C, 8D, 8E, IFB 18-34 Marshall HVAC Controls, Rebid, IFB 18-36 Flooring at Auburn, East and Guilford High Schools, IFB 18-38 Flooring at Eisenhower, Riverdahl and Marshall Schools.

Administration was asked to provide Board members a complete a report detailing the funds remaining in the Facilities Master Plan including the Health/Life Safety dollars. This would include funds for all of the District’s facilities. Atty. Hoadley stated an end of year comprehensive report for the Facilities Plan will include deferred maintenance and health/life safety.

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

**Approved: Unanimously**

11. \*Closed Session Consent Items

- A. Appointment of Starla Copeland as 10 Month Elementary Certified Dean
- B. Appointment of Angelique Malone as 10 Month Assistant Principal 6-8
- C. Appointment of Todd Schmidt as Executive Director of Operations
- D. HR Organizational Report & Addendum

12. \*Closed Session Consent Items – Student Discipline

*“Unless otherwise modified below, the Board adopts and accepts the hearing officer’s findings and recommendations in the following cases in which the students expelled or suspended are prohibited from being on school grounds and school-sponsored activities without the prior written permission of the principal.”*

- A. GDM-2031-18 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the second trimester of the 2018-2019 school year.

- B. GDM-2032-18 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year and the entire 2018-2019 school year.
- C. GDM-2033-18 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year and the entire 2018-2019 school year.
- D. GDM-4175-18 – expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year.
- E. GDM-4176-18 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the first semester of the 2018-2019 school year.
- F. ~~GDM-4177-18~~ – pulled by Administration
- G. GDM-4178-18 – expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year, the entire 2018-2019 school year through April 4, 2020.
- H. GDM-4179-18 – expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year, the entire 2018-2019 school year with an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement through March 14, 2020.
- I. GDM-4180-18 – expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the first semester of the 2018-2019 school year.
- J. GDM-4181-18 – expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year, the entire 2018-2019 school year through February 12, 2020.
- K. GDM-4182-18 – expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 through the entire 2018-2019 school year.

13. \*Closed Session Consent Items – EIAs

- A. GDM-3518-18
- B. GDM-3519-18
- C. GDM-3520-18
- D. GDM-3521-18
- E. GDM-3522-18
- F. GDM-3523-18
- G. GDM-3524-18
- H. GDM-3525-18
- I. GDM-3526-18
- J. GDM-3527-18
- K. GDM-3528-18
- L. GDM-3529-18
- M. GDM-3530-18
- N. GDM-3531-18
- O. GDM-3532-18
- P. GDM-3533-18
- Q. GDM-3534-18
- R. GDM-3535-18

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Seigel to approve Closed Session Consent items not pulled.

**Approved: Unanimously**

14. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett

- A. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett
- B. Committee of the Whole

Dr. Jarrett presented to members the proposal of a Committee of the Whole. The weekly Board Update will continue. These will provide regular updates of how the Administration and District are progressing on the Strategic Plan. The weekly update will include detailed reports and allow members a chance to preview items being presented.

One Strategic Update is scheduled for June 9, 2018. This will be used to review how the District performed on 2017-2018 goals, building goals for the 2018-2019 school year, and building the calendar for report schedules, including what types and how time should be allocated for these. Twenty-two Board meetings are scheduled and would remain the same. With the implementation of a Committee of the Whole, there would be opportunities at the Regular Board meetings to have more high-level reports as regular committee reports would be eliminated. The first Tuesday of each month, whenever possible, would serve as Committee of the Whole meeting. Items needing Board approval would be vetted at the meetings for in-depth conversation. One or two full-length reports could be part the agenda. Meetings would last longer as there would be no Closed Session before the Committee of the Whole. The schedule created by Administration includes two in-depth Strategic Update meetings for a review of District goals.

Administration believes efficiency would increase as it allows Board members and administrators to have in-depth conversations. It also allows Administration to bring Board agenda items for a full presentation and first reading, eliminating two additional readings at Regular Board meetings. The next step is for Administration to meet with Board members who sit on the committees and map out the year in advance to determine the work plan.

Comments included incorporating current community members in the proposal and the best use of the Weekly update. To gain efficiencies, Board members may have to do things differently and focus on the Strategic Initiatives.

Dr. Jarrett, Dr. Monson, and Ms. Mary Kaul will schedule meetings with Board members for additional discussion.

15. Committee Reports

A. Education Committee – Mrs. Makulec

The committee met Tuesday, April 17, 2018. Agenda items included updates for Special Programs, Fine Arts, and Alternative Education. Highlights included entry for all the programs, which includes Gifted for kindergarten, middle, and high school, CAPA auditions, and lotteries for Montessori, Two-Way Language Immersion at Barbour, and STEAM Academy at Haskell. Fine Arts update included a redesign of the 5th grade petting zoo. These will take place in the buildings; bringing fifth graders into buildings they will be attending. MusiCamp has been redesigned for sixth graders and teacher-led professional development has been added. The final update was Alternative Education. Members were presented with updates to the Student Code of Conduct. Minor behavior trends continue to decrease. Truancy at the District is eight percent below the State's eleven percent. There has been a significant reduction in out-of-school suspensions. Please click the link to view the presentation: [Education Committee](#). The committee will meet Tuesday, May 15, 2018 at 5:30.p.m.

B. Finance Committee – Mr. Rollins

The committee met Monday, April 16, 2018. Agenda items included two reports from the District's internal auditor. The first was for the District's purchasing cards. Certain staff members have these in order to make direct purchases. The report outlined areas where process was not being followed. There was no evidence of fraud. The largest area found was seventy-eight percent purchases did not have an expense log turned in. Sales tax was charged in twelve percent of the transactions even though the District is tax exempt. Purchasing consortiums report was presented to members. Currently it is unclear if consortiums are Board approved. The final presentation was the preliminary budget review of the Superintendent's and Board budgets. Both have lowered their budgets by eleven percent. Approved requests totaling \$2,772,120 have been approved this include curriculum, software license, Fine Arts Performance Uniform Rotation and Acoustic Shells, elementary assistant principals, lunch assistants at Ellis, CAPA coordinator, SmartBoards, Executive Director of Technologies, HR generalist, Raptor scanner, keyless access, and Strategic Process Auditors. Operating assumptions for FY19 were discussed. This year, many residents prepaid their property taxes due to a change in the tax code. Currently the amount paid is \$4.1MM. This results in excess revenue of \$4.1MM this year and less the same amount next year. The committee will meet Wednesday, May 16, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

C. Operations Committee – Mr. Connor

The committee has not met since the last Board meeting. It will meet Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

16. \*Action Items

A. ComEd – Agreement for Electrical Service for Constance Lane Elementary School – Kevin Behling, Executive Director of Design & Construction.

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** item 16A, ComEd – Agreement for Electrical Service for Constance Lane Elementary School.

**Approved: Unanimously**

17. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

*Administration is requesting the Board suspend the rules to consider approval of the STEAM Academy at Haskell 2018-2019 calendar alignment. This will allow Administration to communicate to families and District departments the date changes that will now align with the Academic Calendar approved 4-10-18.*

A. \*\*STEAM Academy at Haskell 2018-2019 Calendar Alignment to RPS 2018-2019 Academic Calendar

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **suspend the rules** to consider item 17A, STEAM Academy at Haskell 2018-2019 Calendar Alignment to RPS 2018-2019 Academic Calendar.

**Yeas:** Mr. Seigel, Mr. Connor, Mr. Escobedo, Mr. Dixon, Mr. Rollins, Mr. Scrivano

**Nays:** Mrs. Makulec

**Approved: 6-1-0**

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** item 17A, STEAM Academy at Haskell 2018-2019 Calendar Alignment to RPS 2018-2019 Academic Calendar.

**Approved: Unanimously**

*Administration seeks to waive the rules in order to ensure the below projects are completed during the 2018 construction season*

B. \*\*Facilities Master Plan / Deferred Maintenance Plan Revision – Atty. Hoadley, Mr. Todd Schmidt, Mr. Kevin Behling

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **suspend the rules** to consider item 17B, Facilities Master Plan / Deferred Maintenance Plan Revision.

The projects presented to members are not in the Facilities Master plan, Health Life Safety, Deferred Maintenance or any plan previously approved by the Board. Approval will ensure the projects can begin at the end of the current school year and completed before the first day of school.

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

**Yeas:** Mr. Escobedo, Mr. Dixon, Mr. Rollins, Mr. Scrivano, Mr. Seigel, Mr. Connor

**Nays:** Mrs. Makulec

**Approved: 6-1-0**

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Dixon to **approve** item 17B, Facilities Master Plan / Deferred Maintenance Plan Revision.

Comments included:

- Future facilities plan, determining District needs and establishing priorities
- Savings from current Facilities Plan should be kept for future needs
- Priority items have been separated. These are Health/Life Safety issues that are required to be repaired to remedy work place safety issues.
- Renovation at Barbour and portable classroom installations are due to program and enrollment expansions. These are items approved at previous Board meetings.
- Items that are recommended by the Administration include programming items for the academies.
- Future land acquisition is for properties by West, Haskell, and Roosevelt schools and includes demolition.

**Motion** by Mrs. Makulec seconded by Mr. Connor to **amend the motion** to approve the items listed as Health/Life Safety totaling \$1,696,000 and program expansion items for \$150,000 for a total of \$1,846,000.

- Non-approval of the remodel at East and Guilford would have an impact.

**Motion** by Mr. Escobedo seconded by Mr. Seigel to **amend the motion** to include the Administration Recommendations for the Remodel and Furnish Room at East and Guilford for Business Academy for \$100,000.

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote for the second amendment.

**Yeas:** Mr. Escobedo

**Nays:** Mr. Scrivano, Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Seigel, Mr. Connor, Mr. Dixon, Mr. Rollins

**Motion Failed: 1-6-0**

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote for the first amendment.

**Yeas:** Mr. Rollins, Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Seigel, Mr. Connor, Mr. Escobedo, Mr. Dixon

**Nays:** Mr. Scrivano

**Approved: 6-1-0**

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote on the original motion as amended.

**Approved as Amended: Unanimously**

C. Heartland Business Systems – Earl Dotson, Jr.

Approval of the contract will ensure continued support and design of the District's website to be compliant with accessibility guidelines outlined in the Americans with Disabilities Act. The fiscal impact is \$6,800.

This will return for a vote at the May 8, 2018 meeting.

D. IGA with RRWRD for Dedication, Abandonment & Replacement of Sanitary Sewers at Constance Lane Elementary School – Kevin Behling, Executive Director of Design & Construction

Due to land acquisition and construction of Constance Lane Elementary school, Rock River Water Reclamation District (RRWRD) will dedicate the sewer main under Caitlin Street to the new facility. The District will abandon the portion no longer needed. There is no fiscal impact to the District.

This will return for a vote at the May 8, 2018 meeting.

E. Center for Sight & Hearing Impaired – Jennifer Lawrence, Executive Director of Special Education  
Currently, the District is in need of additional hearing interpreters to cover its needs. Approval of this contract will enable the District to support students and parents. The fiscal impact is \$5,000.00.  
This will return for a vote at the May 8, 2018 meeting.

F. Board Policy 2.150 Board of Education; Committees – Atty. Hoadley  
The changes to the policy reflect the Committee of the Whole, consolidating the current committees.  
This will return for a vote at the future meeting .

18. Organization of the Board

A. Adjournment Sine Die

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins for the Board to **adjourn Sine Die.**

**Approved: Unanimously**

B. Selection of President Pro Tempore

**Motion** by Mr. Scrivano seconded by Mrs. Makulec that the Board **approve** Mr. Rollins as President Pro Tempore.

**Approved: Unanimously**

C. Election of Board President – Mr. Connor nominated Mr. Scrivano.

**Motion** by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mr. Connor to **close** nominations for President.

**Approved: Unanimously**

*Mr. Scrivano was congratulated and took his seat as Board President.*

D. Election of Board Vice President – Mr. Seigel nominated Mr. Rollins

**Motion** by Mr. Scrivano seconded by Mr. Connor to **close** nominations for Vice President.

**Approved: Unanimously**

*Mr. Rollins was congratulated and took his seat as Board Vice President.*

E. Election of Board Secretary – Mr. Seigel nominated Mr. Connor.

**Motion** by Mr. Scrivano seconded by Mr. Seigel to **close** nominations for Board Secretary.

**Approved: Unanimously**

*Mr. Connor was congratulated and took his seat as Board Secretary.*

F. Establishment of Regular Meeting Dates and Place

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** the Establishment of Regular Meeting Dates and Place.

**Approved: Unanimously**

19. Adjournment:

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **adjourn.**

Adjournment: 9:18 p.m.

Approved: 05/08/18

**President: Kenneth J. Scrivano /s/**

**Secretary: Michael S. Connor /s/**

/ljf