

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

**Administration Building
Tuesday, January 23, 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 (arr. 5:03 p.m.), Mr. Anthony Dixon, Mr. Tim Rollins, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Jaime Escobedo

Absent: None

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Dixon 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: 7-0-0

The Board was in executive session from 5:00 p.m. until 6:58 p.m.

1. Call to Order – President Kenneth Scrivano called the regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education to order at 7:12 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, for volunteering his time and his assistance in running the cameras for the Board Meeting.
4. Petitions & Communications
There were no speakers.
5. Board Member Comments
 - Mr. Dixon thanked Rockford schools for attending the Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration. He had the opportunity of seeing West Middle School and Auburn High School sing “I Smile” by Kirk Franklin. They also sang “This Little Light of Mine.” In addition, the students helped out with the MLK lock-in at the YMCA.
 - Mr. Seigel spoke of being mindful of the incident in Benton, Kentucky that occurred and the likelihood that more people think of these subjects and probability of not seeing these occurrences take place in our District.
6. *Consent Items
 - A. Meeting Minutes: 01/09/18
 - B. Payroll
 - C. Accounts-Payable
 - D. Purchase Orders
 - E. Contracts Under \$10,000
 - F. Travel
7. *Bid Recommendations
 - A. ~~IFB 18-14 New School Buses~~ – pulled by Administration
8. Recurring Contracts
 - A. Recurring Agreement with Regional Office of Education/KIDS for Professional Services – Dr. Woulfe
 - B. Addendum to Workplace Contract Recruiting Agreement for Vacancies Within the Rockford Public School District – Matt Zediker, Interim Chief Human Resources Officer
 - C. ~~A Connected School – Mrs. Angela Hite Carter~~ – pulled by Mrs. Makulec
9. *Other Consent

- A. Resolution Abating the Tax Heretofore Levied for the year 2017 to Pay Debt Service on Taxable General Obligation School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2016 (Qualified School Construction Bonds) – Ms. Nicole Thorn, Chief Financial Officer
- B. Monthly Investment Report: December 2017 – Ms. Michelle R. Jahr, CPA – Executive Director of Finance
- C. ~~Financial Results: December 2017 – Ms. Michelle R. Jahr, CPA – Executive Director of Finance – pulled by Mr. Rollins~~
- D. Freedom of Information Log

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

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Dixon to approve Recurring Contract pulled 8C, A Connected School.

A Connected School provides strategies assisting elementary schools in maintaining positive learning environments. Schools in the Empowerment Zone have benefited from this. Work continues with fifth grade transition to middle school. This is the last year of the contract. The criteria may be viewed by following this link: [A Connected School](#).

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to approve Other Consent item 9C, Financial Results: December 2017.

Due to the Federal Tax Act that was passed, some people prepaid their property taxes in 2017 that would have been paid in 2018. Half of those funds would be applied to the current fiscal year, and not impact the District. However, the remaining half of the prepaid taxes is revenue that would be applied to the next fiscal year. Mr. Rollins advised Administration to end this current year with a surplus that is at least equal to the prepayment; the District would deficit budget for the following year with the understanding that the prepayment funds would be used to cover the revenue gap. Mr. Rollins cautioned not to prematurely spend the prepaid funds. Approximately 1,800 people prepaid their taxes. Administration and Board members will discuss this.

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

Approved: Unanimously

10. *Closed Session Consent Items

- A. Appointment of Monica McWilliams as 10 Month Assistant K-5 Principal at Riverdahl Elementary School
- B. Appointment of Michelle Griesman as 10 Month Assistant Principal at Jefferson High School
- C. Appointment of John Rossato as 10 Month Assistant Principal at Jefferson High School
- D. ~~Residency Hearing Conclusion re: Student X's Residency Dispute~~ pulled by Mr. Seigel
- E. HR Organizational Report & Addendum

11. *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-2023-18 – is expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the first semester of the 2018-2019 school year.
- B. GDM-4139-18 – is expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year, the entire 2018-2019 school year through the first semester of the 2019-2020 school year.
- C. GDM-4140-18 – is expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year, the entire 2018-2019 school year through the first semester of the 2019-2020 school year.
- D. GDM-4141-18 – is expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the first semester of the 2018-2019 school year.
- E. GDM-4142-18 – is expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the first semester of the 2018-2019 school year.
- F. GDM-4143-18 – is expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the first semester of the 2018-2019 school year.

- G. GDM-4144-18 – is expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the first semester of the 2018-2019 school year.
- H. GDM-5005-18 – the three day suspension is affirmed.
- I. GDM-5006-18 – the four day suspension is affirmed.

12. *Closed Session Consent Items – EIAs

- A. GDM-1011-18
- B. GDM-1012-18
- C. GDM-1013-18
- D. GDM-1014-18
- E. GDM-3414-18
- F. GDM-3421-18
- G. GDM-3422-18
- H. GDM-3423-18
- I. GDM-3424-18
- J. GDM-3425-18
- K. GDM-3426-18
- L. GDM-3427-18
- M. GDM-3428-18
- N. GDM-3429-18
- O. GDM-3430-18
- P. GDM-3431-18
- Q. GDM-3432-18
- R. GDM-3435-18
- S. GDM-3436-18
- T. GDM-3437-18

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

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Closed Session Consent item pulled 10D, Residency Hearing Conclusion re: Student X's Residency Dispute.

Yeas: Mr. Connor, Mr. Escobedo, Mr. Dixon, Mr. Rollins, Mr. Scrivano, Mrs. Makulec

Nays: Mr. Seigel

Approved: 6-1-0

13. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett

- A. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett

Dr. Jarrett gave updates on the following items. Currently Dr. Woulfe and his team are working on the application for the FY2019 21st Century After School Learning Program request for proposals. The District will work with priority, focus, and middle schools, along with community partners, on the application. Dr. Jarrett also spoke of Dr. Woulfe's work with the Evidence Based Model and will attend training with the CFO. The District is still on track with slight increases in school funding, which puts it at a 61% adequacy level.

The District is partners with three charter schools. Dr. Jarrett and staff members will visit Galapagos Charter School on January 24, 2018. Visits are being arranged with Legacy and Jackson Schools. The District is 17 months away from making a decision on renewal with Legacy and Galapagos.

Two Board members along with staff are part of the District Leadership Team. The team will be reviewing a draft with its union partners, Board members, principals, teachers, of what a balanced scorecard will look like in the District for Early Childhood, elementary schools, middle and high schools. A first draft is being developed by the following teams: Dr. Monson's, principals, Chief Academic Officer.

The budget development will be processed differently this year. Dr. Jarrett encouraged Board and community members to attend the Finance Committee meetings as the process has been changed. Ms. Thorn and her team will be presenting the original budget assumptions at the February meeting; however, a deeper investigation will be made in the Operations budget, eventually working through all parts, including schools, services, etc. The Administration is continuing its work towards zero budgeting.

14.

Committee Reports

A. Education Committee – Mrs. Makulec

The committee met Tuesday January 16, 2018. Agenda items included the following:

Curriculum Redesign Progress Update that covered how to drive academic achievement and articulated outcomes. The five year plan started in 2015. The complete presentation can be viewed by following this link: [Curriculum Redesign Progress Update](#).

Reading Horizons Implementation – eighty nine (89) percent of teacher and ninety seven (97) percent of principals are trained and monthly training sessions continue. The metrics and presentation may be viewed by following this link: [Reading Horizons](#).

Early Childhood Grant Update – current funding sources were reviewed with members. In addition discussion included increasing classrooms and facility use. The presentation can be viewed by following this link: [Early Childhood](#).

The committee will meet Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

B. Finance Committee – Mr. Rollins

The committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The committee will meet Monday, February 5, 2018, at 5:30 p.m.

C. Operations Committee – Mr. Connor

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

15.

*Action Items

A. Resolution Affirming and Revising Board Policy 5.20; General Personnel, Anti-Harassment/Anti-Discrimination Policy – Atty. Hoadley

Motion by Mr. Seigel seconded by Mr. Dixon to **approve** item 15A, Resolution Affirming and Revising Board Policy 5.20; General Personnel, Anti-Harassment/Anti-Discrimination Policy.

Approved: Unanimously

B. Contract with Melanie Rick/Focus Five- Dr. Woulfe

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** item 15B, Contract with Melanie Rick/Focus Five.

Approved: Unanimously

16.

Adjournment

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

Adjournment: 7:48 p.m.

Approved: 2/23/18

President: Kenneth J. Scrivano /s/

Secretary: Michael S. Connor /s/

/ljf