

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

**Administration Building  
Tuesday, February 13, 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. 5:11 p.m.) Mr. Tim Rollins, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Jaime Escobedo (arr. 5:03 p.m.)

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: 5-0-2**

The Board was in executive session from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order – *President Kenneth Scrivano called the regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education to order at 7:10 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. Recognition  
A. Auburn Students with Perfect ACT Score – Earl Dotson, Jr.  
The following four Auburn High School students recently earned a perfect score, a 36, on the ACT. Seniors Logan Power, Will Snedegar and Lucas Turner, along with junior Ethan Strombeck learned of their achievement last month.
5. Petitions & Communications  
*Mr. Scrivano read the guidelines.*
  - Mr. Scott Suma spoke of his confidence and support of the REA bargaining team. He also spoke in support of Mr. Scrivano, Mrs. Makulec and Administration and of being transparent through the process.
6. Board Member Comments
  - Mr. Seigel gave a shout out to Catherine Ellis. She has been attending Operations Committee meetings on a monthly basis and is the point of communication between schools/Administration and Aramark.
  - Mr. Rollins gave a shout out to everyone involved in Fine Arts Week. The District has come a long way with the arts since 2011. There were a number of kids participating and a lot of work was put into it.
  - Mr. Scrivano spoke of attending the Band Concert and Elementary School Program, commenting on the fabulous participation. He also gave a shout out to the four teachers singing as a Frankie Valli quartet.
  - Mrs. Makulec spoke of the 2018 Northwestern Illinois Building Trades Career Expo taking place February 13 through February 15. This is a good opportunity for students to attend as it gives them the opportunity to participate in hands-on activities.
7. \*Consent Items
  - A. Meeting Minutes: 01/23/18
  - 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 18-14 New School Buses~~ – pulled by Mr. Rollins
- B. ~~IFB 18-17 Bloom & Brookview Window Replacement~~ – pulled by Mr. Rollins
- C. ~~IFB 18-18 Roosevelt & Marshall Reroofing~~ – pulled by Mr. Connor
- D. ~~IFB 18-20 Demolition of Walker Elementary School~~ – pulled by Mr. Connor

9. Recurring Contracts

- A. District Management Group Addendum for Innovation Zones
- B. K12Insight Addendum for Parent and Student Feedback

10. \*Other Consent

- A. Closed Session Minute Release
- B. 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. Rollins to approve Bid Recommendation pulled 8A, IFB 18-14 New School Buses.

Bids for school buses were received by two bidders, although there are three. The third company is a small company that only builds buses to order and these need to be ordered at least a year in advance. Mr. Rollins suggested that with the possible improvement of school finances due to the funding formula, perhaps Administration can pursue more multi-year forecasting, receiving bids from three manufacturers instead of two.

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

**Approved: Unanimously**

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to approve Bid Recommendation pulled 8B, IFB 18-17 Bloom & Brookview Window Replacement.

Administration was asked if there was a plan to repaint the area at Bloom where windows are being replaced. Mr. Behling assured Board members this would be done.

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

**Approved: Unanimously**

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to approve Bid Recommendation pulled 8C, IFB 18-18 Roosevelt & Marshall Reroofing.

The recommendation is to award the bid to H.C. Anderson for a total of \$552,500.00

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

**Approved: Unanimously**

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to approve Bid Recommendation pulled 8D, IFB 18-20 Demolition of Walker Elementary School.

The bids were lower than what was projected. Mr. Connor gave a shout out to the Operations Teams for managing this. He also spoke of this being a difficult journey for community members and appreciated everyone who was involved in the process.

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

**Approved: Unanimously**

11. \*Closed Session Consent Items

- A. 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-2024-18 – 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-2025-18– 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.
- C. GDM-2026-18– 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 trimester of the 2018-2019 school year.
- D. GDM-2027-18– 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.
- E. GDM-4145-18 – expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year.
- F. GDM-4146-18 – expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the first semester of the 2018-2019 school year.
- G. GDM-4147-18 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year.
- H. GDM-4148-18 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the entire 2018-2019 school year.
- I. GDM-4149-18 – expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the first semester of the 2018-2019 school year.
- J. GDM-4150-18 – expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the first semester of the 2018-2019 school year.
- K. GDM-4151-18 – expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the entire 2018-2019 school year.
- L. GDM-4152-18 – expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the entire 2018-2019 school year.
- M. GDM-4153-18 – expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the entire 2018-2019 school year.

13. \*Closed Session Consent Items – EIAs

- A. ~~GDM-3400-18~~ – pulled by Administration
- B. GDM-3433-18
- C. GDM-3434-18
- D. GDM-3440-18
- E. GDM-3441-18
- F. GDM-3442-18
- G. GDM-3443-18
- H. GDM-3444-18
- I. GDM-3445-18
- J. GDM-3446-18
- K. GDM-3450-18
- L. GDM-3452-18
- M. GDM-3453-18
- N. GDM-3455-18
- O. GDM-3456-18
- P. GDM-3459-18
- Q. GDM-3450-18
- R. GDM-3461-18

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

**Approved: Unanimously**

14. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett

- A. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett

Dr. Jarrett discussed Evidence Based Funding. News has been received that the State is working to release the dollars. \$350MM was freed up by the State to go towards Evidence Based Funding. How the funds are distributed is very different from how it has been done in the past. Illinois looked at what evidence or research says is the adequate funding level for every school in the State. Secondly, the State examined every district and ranked them in terms of a percentage or adequacy, or how close the district is to their adequacy target. Rockford Public Schools ranked at the sixty-four percent (64%) adequacy. The range in

the State is 42% on the low end to over 200% adequacy on the high end. There are some districts in Illinois that currently through local tax, State or Federal dollars receive, get twice as much funding needed to provide an adequate education. There are some districts that receive just over forty two percent (42%) of what is needed. Rockford is much closer the forty two percent (42%) than a 200% or 100% target. In theory, this is how it will work for the next ten years. Year One, the \$350MM will be distributed according to need; there are four tiers the schools will fit in to. Administration anticipates that Rockford schools will fall into the first tier or second tier; meaning when the \$350MM is distributed, the first group of schools will receive forty nine percent (49%) of the funds before any other districts receive any funds. The next 50% will return to tier one schools and all the tier two schools. Rockford Public Schools will either be at the top of Tier One or the neediest of Tier Two. The last one percent is distributed to Tier Three and Tier Four schools. In order to get district to an adequacy target with removing dollars from wealthier district, this has to be sustained over an estimated 10-year time frame. The District's vigilance is very important. While Administration anticipates some benefit from the first year of this commitment, it's a long way to seventy, eighty, ninety or even one hundred percent of adequacy. The budget cycle has been slow in implementation. Dr. Jarrett remains hopeful the District will receive any dollars determined from Illinois State Board of Education. He and Ms. Thorn will be reporting to the Board the status of the work.

Dr. Jarrett also spoke that a zip code should not determine the wide variance for support of public education particularly when the State Constitution states the primary support of public education should come from the State.

15. Committee Reports

A. Education Committee – Mrs. Makulec

The committee has not met since the last Board meeting. Mrs. Makulec stated the update for Early Childhood would be presented at a future meeting. Mrs. Makulec also spoke of the Addendum to the K12 Insight contract, approved earlier in the meeting. Receiving input from District parents can be very challenging. The Addendum enables K12 to reach out to parents and students to receive better survey responses and inputs. The survey is to determine perceptual gaps, asking questions about academic support, school leadership, family involvement, safety and behavior. There will be a lot of on line opportunities but also focus groups. This will be piloted at Ellis, Hillman, Lathrop, Rolling Green, Nelson, and Spring Creek Elementary schools.

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

B. Finance Committee – Mr. Rollins

The committee met Monday, February 5, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. Work began at looking at Fiscal 19 budget. The Administration is bringing budget segments to the committee, giving members a high level overview. The segment covered was Operations which was reviewed by Mr. Schmidt. The process for how budgets would be presented to Board member was discussed. Mr. Rollins encouraged everyone to look at the presentation from the meeting. [Budget Presentation - Finance Committee Meeting](#). Mr. Rollins spoke of the purchase of thirty buses being budgeted. The fleet is becoming smaller and the goal is to replace ten percent a year. Earlier the purchase of thirty buses was approved, which is over the goal, as the District had buses with problematic engines. There is also a proposal to look at a system called Idle Smart which is a remote start system that could be on all the buses, a capital spending amount of \$583,480. The system could automatically start the buses when certain temperature conditions are met, or it could be done remotely through a smart phone app. This could result in personnel savings; however a more cost-benefit analysis needs to take place before approval. Also discussed was land acquisition at Haskell, Roosevelt, and West which is not part of the capital plan and more discussion is needed. The West piping issued was reviewed and the actual cost has not been determined.

Mr. Rollins spoke of the lunch aides not having an increase since 2008. Mr. Zediker updated members that Human Resources is examining those positions, but currently doesn't have a budget number.

Currently the District has a Facility and Deferred Maintenance plans, but Administration has been asked to develop a comprehensive repair maintenance plan going forward to keep the District out of any difficulties it previously experienced. A multi-year approach needs to begin to examine these issues and be more cognizant of the issues that are coming up in the next five years that will have to be paid for. If there should be extra funds, these should be set aside. After reviewing the presentations please direct questions to Ms. Thorn.

Members were viewed Evidence Based Funding formula. The ISBE has established adequacy target for resources, staff ratios. According to ISBE, the District's target for K-3 should be a ratio of 15 students to one teacher for low income students. [Evidence Based Funding Presentation](#). The committee will meet Monday, February 26, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

C. Operations Committee – Mr. Connor

The committee met Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. Agenda items included items on the current agenda; Health/Life Safety Amendments, Resolution Authorizing Sale of a Portion of Parcel at Jefferson High School, and License Agreement ShotSpotter Gunshot Location System. Committee members recommended the items for Board approval. The building disposition for Nelson Elementary School was discussed and community engagement will take place. Currently, no interest has been shown for that parcel. Discussion took place with the Facilities Plan, Health/Life Safety, and Aramark. The committee will meet Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Mrs. Makulec asked Administration to follow up with its provider regarding streaming difficulties of committee and Board meetings.

16. \*Action Items

There were no Action Items.

17. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

A. Special Education Private and Residential Placement Contracts, Hamilton Academy

B. Special Education Private and Residential Placement Contracts, Parkland Preparatory Academy

Ms. Lawrence presented both items to members. Current placement options are not available for students. Hamilton Academy is in West Dundee, IL and Parkland Preparatory Academy is in Streamwood Illinois.

Students are placed in residential placement facilities by IEP (Individual Education Program) Teams, courts, and student discipline issues. Only students with IEPs are placed in these facilities. The District provides transportation for students via Sunrise Bus Service. Reimbursement is based on categorical payments. These will return for a vote at the 2/27/18 meeting.

C. Health/Life Safety Amendments for Eisenhower MS, Jefferson HS, Lincoln MS and Roosevelt CEC – Mr. Todd Schmidt, Chief Operations Officer

D. Resolution Authorizing Sale of a Portion of Parcel at Jefferson High School – Todd Schmidt, Chief Operations Officer

E. License Agreement ShotSpotter Gunshot Location System – Todd Schmidt, Chief Operations Officer

Ms. Thorn presented the final three items. The Health/Life Safety Amendments were discussed at the February 6, 2018 Operations Committee meeting. These are to address compliance issues identified in life safety inspections. Once the amendments are approved by the Board and the State, the bidding process will begin and the District will be able to use Health/Life safety funds.

The land sale at Jefferson is to authorize the District to move forward with the sealed auction bid process.

The minimum bid is \$67,000 and sealed bids will close March 30, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. with the opening at 4:00 p.m. The parcel will be sold to the highest bidder and awarded at the April 10, 2018 Board meeting.

The final item was the License Agreement ShotSpotter Gunshot Location System. The Rockford Police Department has entered into an agreement with SST, Inc. to place acoustic sensors throughout certain areas in the City. The agreement is to allow SST, Inc., and Rockford Police Department to place sensors on District facility roofs. There is no fiscal impact to the District.

These items will return for a vote at the 2/27/18 meeting.

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

Adjournment: 8:26 p.m.

Approved: 02/27/18

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

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

/ljf