

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

**Administration Building
Tuesday, April 23, 2019**

President Kenneth Scrivano called the regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education to order at 5:02 p.m.

Present: President Kenneth Scrivano, Vice President Tim Rollins, Secretary Michael Connor, Mrs. Jude Makulec, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor, Mr. Jaime Escobedo

Absent: Mr. Anthony Dixon

Motion by Mr. Rollins 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 5:02 p.m. until 6:40 p.m.

1. Call to Order – President Kenneth Scrivano called the regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education to order at 7:03 p.m.
2. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
Present: President Kenneth Scrivano, Vice President Tim Rollins, Secretary Michael Connor, Mrs. Jude Makulec, Mr. Anthony Dixon, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Jaime Escobedo
Absent: None
Mr. Scrivano thanked Conner Childers and RPS 205 graduate Rod Weddle who are working behind the scenes to produce the Board's broadcast on Channel 20.
4. Recognition
 - A. Golden Apple Award Winners, REBA Tournament Winners, East High School Boys Basketball
The East High School Boys Basketball team will be recognized at a later date.

Golden Apple Award winners
Every year, the Golden Apple Foundation recognizes 20 teachers in Boone and Winnebago counties as finalists for the Golden Apple Award for excellence in teaching. This year, Rockford Public Schools had six finalists.
Congratulations to:
-Jessica Gerrond, East High School
-Amanda McCallister, Roosevelt Community Education Center
-Mark J. Peterson, Auburn High School
-Molly Priest, Eisenhower Middle School
-Stephanie Valderrama, RESA Middle School
-Melissa Wolf, Guilford High School
All six finalists will be recognized this Friday (April 26) at the annual Golden Apple banquet.
East High School Assistant Principal Rachel Lathrop will also be recognized at the banquet after winning the new Investing in Excellence: Assistant Principal Development Program from the Golden Apple Foundation! She will attend Harvard's New and Aspiring Leaders Program at The Harvard Graduate School of Education.

REBA Tournament winners
The Rockford Elementary Basketball Association just finished its 27th year in Rockford Public Schools. The basketball program is open to the district's fourth and fifth graders, and this year, 51 teams and approximately 800 students participated.
Congratulations to this year's champions, Ellis Elementary School's boys team came in first place in the REBA Boys Championship; and Brookview Elementary School's girls team came in first place in the REBA Girls Championship.
5. Petitions & Communications
Mr. Scrivano read the guidelines.
 - Eric Czerwin spoke about the Act of God days and the REA's offer.
 - Ramona Drozek spoke of the Act of God days.

- Lana Daly spoke in support of the Read 180 proposal.
- Nancy Gdowski spoke in support of the Read 180 proposal.
- Shandy Jackson spoke of lack of building security at Eisenhower Middle School.
- Amanda McCallister spoke of school safety and teachers.
- Tina May spoke of bullying and being mean.
- Ruby Lumeli spoke of racism.

6. Board Member Comments

- Mrs. Makulec spoke of the Act of Gods days. Currently, there MOUs to make up the two days have not been in Board member packets. She asked Administration if the District has or will require teacher to make up the days. Attorney Hoadley stated Administration is currently in negotiations with the REA regarding this matter.
- Mr. Dixon gave a special shout out, as it is his son's birthday.
- Mr. Escobedo reminded everyone the District is at a very critical point this year as scores continue to drop. Many issues need to be addressed and student achievement scores need to rise.
- Mr. Scrivano congratulated the Golden Apple winners and greatly enjoyed watching their surprise. This is a great accomplishment. Mr. Scrivano spoke of Administrative Assistant's Day, which is April 24. The District has many great assistants and recognized and thanked Ms. Fromm who is the Board's assistant.

7. *Consent Items

- A. Meeting Minutes: 4/09/19
- B. Payroll
- C. Accounts Payable
- D. Purchase Orders
- E. Construction Bid Request Log
- F. Travel

8. *Bid Recommendation

- A. RFP 19-24 New School Buses – Rebid
- B. IFB 19-27 Interactive Whiteboard and Projection Equipment
- C. IFB 19-34 Walk-In Freezer Replacement at Flinn M.S.

9. *Recurring Contracts

- A. Graduation Ceremonies at Rock Valley College

10. *Other Consent

- A. Monthly Investment Report- March 2019 – Mrs. Jamie Murray, CPA – Executive Director of Finance
- B. Financial Results: March 2019 – Ms. Jamie Murray, CPA – Executive Director of Finance
- C. Continuous Public Official Bonds and Payment of Premiums – Ms. Michelle R. Jahr, CPA, Chief Financial Officer
- D. RPS Managed Work Change Order
- E. New School Construction Change Order Logs
- F. IHSA Renewal 2019-2020
- G. Resolution and Notice of Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget for 2019-2020 – Michelle R. Jahr, CPA, Chief Financial Officer and Michele Sather, Executive Director of Budget
- H. Workers' Compensation Settlement Agreement – LC
- I. MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) Multi-Classroom Leader Model
- J. Closed Session Minutes Release
- K. Freedom of Information Log

Motion by Mr. Seigel seconded by Mr. Rollins to **approve** Consent Items not pulled

Approved: Approved

11. *Closed Session Consent Items

- A. Appointment of Annmarie Wieczorek as 10 Month Middle School Dean at Lincoln
- B. Appointment of Ruth Sanchez as 12 Month Dean of Bilingual and Multicultural
- C. Salary Adjustment for Non-Bargaining Employees and Updated Salary Ranges
- D. Resolution Authorizing Notice to Remedy – Claudia Marshall
- E. 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 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-4266-19 – expelled for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year through the entire 2019-2020 school year.
- B. GDM-4267-19 – expelled for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year, the entire 2019-2020 school year through the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year.
- C. GDM-4268-19 – expelled for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year through the entire 2019-2020 school year.
- D. GDM-4269-19 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year through the entire 2019-2020 school year.
- E. GDM-4270-19 – is expelled for the remainder of the 201

13. Closed Session Consent Items – Student Discipline (EIAs)

- A. GDM-1046-19
- B. ~~GDM-1047-19~~ – Pulled by Administration
- C. GDM-3854-19
- D. GDM-3855-19
- E. GDM-3856-19
- F. GDM-3857-19
- G. GDM-3858-19
- H. GDM-3859-19
- I. GDM-3860-19
- J. GDM-3861-19
- K. GDM-3862-19
- L. GDM-3863-19
- M. GDM-3864-19
- N. GDM-3865-19
- O. GDM-3866-19
- P. GDM-3867-19
- Q. GDM-3868-19
- R. GDM-3869-19
- S. GDM-3870-19
- T. GDM-3871-19

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

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

Abstain: Mr. Dixon

Approved: 6-0-1

14. Superintendent’s Report

A. Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Jarrett

Dr. Jarrett gave a brief update before ceding his time to Ms. Slotten-Beauchamp. He spoke of “Those Who Excel” banquet, and recognition given to Board President Mr. Scrivano. He acknowledged the Golden Apple Award winners and looks to forward to recognizing them at the upcoming banquet. In addition, on April 26, 2019, Rockford Promise will be awarding thirty-one full scholarships to District students.

B. Nutrition Services Update – Renee Slotten-Beauchamp – Executive Director of Nutrition Services

Ms. Slotten-Beauchamp gave a presentation for Nutrition Services. A three-year plan was presented in 2017 and the department is restructured. The focus this year began with setting aggressive goals. The first goal was supplies and food costs. Nutrition Services is part of a national food-buying group, HPS. The department moved from using two distributors to one. Substantial savings were realized, approximately \$550,000. Ms. Slotten-Beauchamp is working with HPS for a better pricing with supplies. The second goal is to increase breakfast participation. The goal is forty percent, and currently the District is at thirty four percent. The department also examined percentage of lunches served, and the goal is seventy-eight percent participation, with current participation rate of eighty-two percent. Salad bars are now implemented at a few schools. The department also focused on improving employee skill level. Field and staff supervisors have worked with staff for better service, food presentation, and quality. Trends include quality food/branding, made to order, clean-labeled products, Grab n Go/Bento meals, diversified menus, and mini products. To view the presentation, please click on this link: [Nutrition Services](#).

15. *Action Items

A. FY-20 Additional Projects – Michael Phillips, Executive Director of Facilities

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** item 15A, FY-20 Additional Projects.

Administration was asked to look at ways to fund life-cycle projects that were not on the list for Board approval. The cost of removal of the escalator in the Admin building was discussed. Per Illinois State code, dormant escalators need to be removed by 2021. A new bid for the cost of removal needs to occur, as work needs to take place after business hours. Repair is not feasible, as it no longer works.

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

Approved: Unanimously

B. SchoolMessenger – Earl Dotson, Jr., Chief of Communications, Jason Barthel, Executive Director of Technology

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** SchoolMessenger.

Approved: Unanimously

C. Read 180 Universal – Jennifer Macek, Director of MTSS and Debra Overton, Dean of Literacy Support

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Dixon to **approve** Read 180 Universal.

Approved: Unanimously

D. Resolution Authorizing Appropriations Fiscal Year 2020 Tentative Budget – Michelle r. Jahr, CPA, Chief Financial officer and Michele Sather, Executive Director of Budget

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Dixon to **approve** Resolution Authorizing Appropriations Fiscal Year 2020 Tentative Budget.

Approved: Unanimously

16. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

There were no items.

17. Organization of the Board

A. Administration of Oath of Office to the New Board Members

President Kenneth J. Scrivano administered the Oath of Office to the following Board members:

Sub District B – Mr. Tim Rollins

Sub District D – Mrs. Jude Makulec

Sub District E – Mr. David Seigel

B. Adjournment Sine Die (8:08 p.m.)

Motion by Mr. Seigel seconded by Mr. Dixon to **adjourn** sine die.

Approved on voice vote

C. Selection of President Pro Tempore

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

Approved: Unanimously

D. Call to Order by President Pro Tempore

E. Election of Board President – *Mr. Connor nominated Mr. Scrivano*

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **close the nomination and cast the ballot.**

Approved: Unanimously

F. Election of Board Vice-President – *Mrs. Makulec nominated Mr. Rollins*

Motion by Mr. Seigel seconded by Mrs. Makulec to **close the nomination and cast the ballot.**

Approved Unanimously

G. Election of Board Secretary – *Mr. Seigel nominated Mrs. Makulec*

Motion by Mr. Seigel seconded by Mr. Rollins to **close the nomination and cast the ballot.**

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

Nays: Mr. Connor

Approved: 6-1-0

H. Establishment of Regular Meeting Dates and Place

Motion by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mr. Dixon to **approve** Establishment of Regular Meeting Dates and Place. *Board members reviewed the schedule. Spring break in 2020 will occur the week before the March 24, 2020 regular meeting.*

Approved: Unanimously

- Mr. Seigel spoke of it being an honor to sit with Board members and welcomed any comments and/or suggestions.
- Mr. Escobedo thanked members for their duty and spoke of voting for those to best lead the District.
- Mrs. Makulec shared this is a well prepared Board and it was and is a privilege to serve.
- Mr. Rollins spoke of being a member for eight years, how different perspectives are brought forward. Members continue to put kids first and have the ability of respectfully disagreeing.

- Mr. Dixon echoed everyone's comments. Members bring something different. Kids come first. It is important to move forward and continue dialogue.

18. Adjournment

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

Adjournment: 8:14 p.m.

Approved:

President: _____

Secretary: _____

/ljf