

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

**Administration Building**  
**Tuesday, April 9, 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. Anthony Dixon (*arr. 5:13 p.m.*), Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor

Absent: Mr. Jaime Escobedo

**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 5:02 p.m. until 6:24 p.m.

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1. Call to Order – President Kenneth Scrivano called the regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education to order at 7:01 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  
Absent: Mr. Jaime Escobedo  
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. Public Hearing to Adopt the FY2018-2019 Amended Budget  
A. Public Hearing to Adopt the FY2018-2019 Amended Budget  
There were no speakers.
  5. Recognition  
A. State-level Competitors  
IESA Boys Wrestling  
Two RPS 205 students qualified for the IESA State Wrestling tournament in March. Lincoln Middle School eighth grader Qasem Ali won the IESA Class AA DeKalb Sectional at 119 pounds to advance to the state competition. Flinn Middle School eighth grader Mason Crowe also advanced to the state competition after taking second in the 155-pound division at sectionals.  
Auburn High School – IHSA Class 2A State Scholastic Bowl Tournament  
Auburn's Scholastic Bowl team made its 18th consecutive trip downstate in March to once again compete for the state title. The championship this year ended in a tiebreaker – sudden death – with a science question. The Knights lost 430-390 to University of Illinois Laboratory High School from Urbana in the title round. The team includes Captain Ethan Strombeck, Leif Verace, Lilly Chavez, Justin Abel, Luca Barba, Andy Granath and Henry Thomas. Nevagay Abel and Linda Greene coach the team.  
East High School – IHSA Class 4A State Boys Basketball Tournament  
The team will be recognized at a future meeting.
  6. Petitions & Communications  
Mr. Scrivano read the guidelines.
    - David Woosley expressed his concerns regarding the demolition of tennis courts at Guilford.
    - Nancy Gdowski spoke of her unhappiness with the District.
    - John Torrence spoke in support of retaining five tennis courts at Guilford.
  7. Board Member Comments
    - Mr. Connor attended the Student Ambassador Celebration and spoke highly of the students who participate in the program. He encouraged people to attend the Student Lead Tours and thanked parents, teachers, and staff for their support.
    - Mr. Dixon spoke and agreed with Mr. Connor's comments.

- Mr. Scrivano spoke of when Dr. Vosberg introduced Kalamazoo Promise program to the District, and its success of awarding scholarships to students of Kalamazoo Public Schools. This led to the creation of Rockford Promise, which will award \$280,000 in scholarships to 30 Rockford Public School students. This event takes place April 26, 2019 at Rock Valley College.

8. \*Consent Items

- A. Meeting Minutes: 3/21/19
- B. Payroll
- C. Accounts Payable
- D. Purchase Orders
- E. Contracts Under \$10,000
- F. Construction Bid Request Log
- G. Travel

9. \*Bid Recommendation

- A. ~~IFB 19-21 Masonry Restoration at Jefferson, Guilford, and Eisenhower Schools~~ – pulled by Mr. Rollins
- B. IFB 19-22 Masonry Restoration at Brookview, Nashold, Beyer, and Carlson Schools
- C. ~~RFP 19-24 New School Buses – Rebid~~ – pulled by Administration
- D. IFB 19-25 Oil for School Buses

10. \*Recurring Contracts

- A. ~~Extended Day Programming – Summer 2019~~ – pulled by Mr. Seigel
- B. Illinois Association of School Administrators – Dr. Vosberg, Deputy Superintendent on behalf of Welsh and Carlson Elementary Schools
- C. Center for Sight and Hearing Impaired – Jennifer Lawrence, Executive Director of Special Education

11. \*Other Consent

- A. Workers' Compensation Settlement Agreement - WH
- B. Freedom of Information Log

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

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

**Absent:** Mr. Escobedo

**Approved: 6-0-1**

**Motion** by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mr. Dixon to **approve** item 9A pulled Bid Recommendation, IFB 19-21 Masonry Restoration at Jefferson, Guilford, and Eisenhower Schools

Power washing and sealing the masonry is not included as it was not part of the Facilities Master Plan.

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

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

**Absent:** Mr. Escobedo

**Approved: 6-0-1**

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** item 10A pulled Recurring Contract, Extended Day Programming.

It was recommended that the program would benefit with collaborating with Administration members. Improvement & Innovation (INI) works with all departments, although this was not in the PDSA. Dr. Woulfe stated INI collaborates with all departments. Program revisions take place.

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

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

**Absent:** Mr. Escobedo

**Approved: 6-0-1**

12. \*Closed Session Consent Items

- A. Appointment of Cory Shrank as 12 Month Principal at Flinn Middle School
- B. Appointment of Jessica Graefe as 12 Month Program Administrator for Special Education
- C. Appointment of Brian Doering as 10 Month Assistant Principal at Maria Montessori at Marsh School
- D. HR Organizational Report & Addendum

13. \*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-4262-19 – expelled for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year through the entire 2019-2020 school year – pulled by Mr. Dixon~~
- B. ~~GDM-4263-19 – expelled for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year through the first semester of the 2019-2020 school year – pulled by Mr. Dixon~~
- C. ~~GDM-4264-19 – expelled for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year through the entire 2019-2020 school year. – pulled by Mr. Dixon~~
- D. GDM-4265-19 – 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.

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

- A. GDM-1045-19
- B. GDM-3800-19
- C. GDM-3816-19
- D. GDM-3817-19
- E. GDM-3818-19
- F. GDM-3819-19
- G. GDM-3822-19
- H. GDM-3823-19
- I. GDM-3827-19
- J. GDM-3828-19
- K. GDM-3829-19
- L. GDM-3830-19
- M. GDM-3831-19
- N. GDM-3832-19
- O. GDM-3833-19
- P. GDM-3834-19
- Q. GDM-3835-19
- R. GDM-3836-19
- S. GDM-3837-19
- T. GDM-3838-19
- U. GDM-3839-19
- V. GDM-3840-19
- W. GDM-3841-19
- X. GDM-3842-19
- Y. GDM-3843-19
- Z. GDM-3844-19
- AA. GDM-3845-19
- BB. GDM-3846-19
- CC. GDM-3847-19
- DD. GDM-3848-19
- EE. GDM-3849-19
- FF. GDM-3851-19
- GG. GDM-3852-19

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

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

**Abstain:** Mr. Dixon

**Absent:** Mr. Escobedo

**Approved: 5-1-1**

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to approve Closed Session Consent items pulled, 13A-13D, Student Discipline.

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

**Abstain:** Mr. Dixon

**Absent:** Mr. Escobedo

**Approved: 5-1-1**

15. Superintendent's Report

- A. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett  
Dr. Jarrett ceded his time to Mrs. Spurling and Mr. Parker

B. Fine Arts Report – Mrs. Bonnie Spurling, Director of Fine Arts  
Mrs. Spurling gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting programming, retention, partnerships, and fiscal responsibility. Programming highlights include additional District wide programs (Mariachi Band, High School & Elementary Choir, fifth grade band, adding workshops to All City Festivals, and summer camps for theater, Mariachi band, and choir. Secondary enrollment continues to grow with 7,502 student enrolled in the current school year. Recruitment and retention continue to be important. Partnerships include many local venues and clinicians. The Band Grandpa program is very successful serving eleven schools. Instrument inventory took place before the school year, and instruments that cannot be used are repurposed and auctioned off. Old banners from Fine Arts Week were made into totes and sold at the Fine Arts Banquet. To view the full presentation, please click on this link: [Fine Arts Report](#).

C. Athletics Report – Mr. Matt Parker, Director of Athletics

Mr. Parker gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting increase in athletics participation, continuous growth of new initiatives (eSports, Boys Volleyball & Robotics) continuous improvement through “The Players Scorecard, and expansion of community partnerships. The proposed budget summary is \$631,128 with a variance of (\$31,634). Mr. Parker also reviewed “First in 20 Years” and “First in 10 Years” accomplishments. Revenue generating events include the Tip-Off Classic, IHSA Sectionals, Rumble in the Rock, Rockford Sports Coalition, and new this year District will host two NCAA approved showcases. To view the full presentation, please click on this link: [Athletics Report](#).

16. \*Action Items

A. Resolution to Adopt 2018-2019 Amended Budget – Michelle R. Jahr, CPA, Chief Financial Officer and Michele Sather, Executive Director of Budget

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** item 16A, Resolution to Adopt 2018-2019 Amended Budget.

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

**Absent:** Mr. Escobedo

**Approved: 6-0-1**

B. Academy of Urban School Leadership (AUSL) – Dr. Matthew Vosberg, Deputy Superintendent on behalf of Conklin School

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Dixon to **approve** item 16B, Academy of Urban School Leadership (AUSL).

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

**Absent:** Mr. Escobedo

**Approved: 6-0-1**

[Board members agreed to vote for items 16C and 16D with one motion and one vote.](#)

C. Board Policy 2.20 Board of Education; Powers and Duties of the Board of Education

D. Board Policy 2.80 Board of Education; Board Member Oath and Conduct

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Dixon to **approve** items 16C and 16D, Board Policy 2.20 Board of Education; Powers and Duties of the Board of Education and Board Policy 2.80 Board of Education; Board Member Oath and Conduct.

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

**Absent:** Mr. Escobedo

**Approved: 6-0-1**

E. Akamai IT Security Platform

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** item 16E, Akamai IT Security Platform.

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

**Absent:** Mr. Escobedo

**Approved: 6-0-1**

F. US History Resource Adoption – Ms. Kari Neri, Executive Director of Curriculum and Mr. Cory Nilsen, Dean of K-12 Social Science

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Dixon to **approve** item 16F, US History Resource Adoption.

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

**Absent:** Mr. Escobedo

**Approved: 6-0-1**

17. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

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

Mr. Phillips presented to Board members FY20 additional projects for funding consideration. These consist of Health-Safety, Programmatic, life cycle, and did not meet FY-20 priorities-future facilities plan considerations. Administration is requesting approval of the life safety projects totaling \$2,510,602 and the programmatic projects of \$345,000, a total fiscal impact of \$2,855,602. Funds are budgeted in the 2018-2019 Amended Budget. Robust discussion took place regarding the tennis courts at Guilford High School. Administration will meet with Rockford Park District officials regarding this. To view the presentation, please click on this link: [FY20 Additional Projects](#). This will return for a vote at the April 23, 2019 Board meeting.

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

The proposal is to supplement the District's current messenger system to create a mobile application. This will enable parents to choose one or more schools in the District to receive targeted information. The fiscal impact is \$11,255.20 annually. The full presentation may be viewed by clicking on this link: [SchoolMessenger](#). This will return for a vote at the April 23, 2019 Board meeting.

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

The proposal is to upgrade the current Read 180 Next Generation program to Read 180 Universal. The current program will be obsolete beginning in the fall of 2019 and will not be supported by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. Implementation of English Language Arts (ELA) block schedule begins in the 2019-2020 school year. This will be used as one option in a bank of Tier 3 interventions for students identified through the MTSS process. The fiscal impact is \$321,179.62 and includes curriculum, professional development, and hosting and technical services. To view the full presentation, please click on this link: [Read 180 Universal](#).

This will return for a vote at the 4/23/19 Board meeting.

Mr. Rollins requested a discussion of how the District can get Fine Arts and Academy initiatives to interact with each other and not conflict. This will be part of the discussion in the fall with the course catalog.

18. Adjournment

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

Adjournment: 9:15 p.m.

Approved: 04/23/19

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

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

/ljf