

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

**Administration Building
Tuesday, December 10, 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 Jude Makulec, Mr. Anthony Dixon, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor,

Absent: Ms. June Stanford

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 specific employees; student disciplinary cases; the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students; collective bargaining matters; security procedures, school building safety and security; the purchase, sale or lease of real property; 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 5:04 p.m. to 7:04 p.m.

1. Call to Order – President Kenneth Scrivano called the regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education to order at 7:15 p.m.
2. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
Present: President Kenneth Scrivano, Vice President Tim Rollins, Secretary Jude Makulec, Mr. Anthony Dixon, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor,
Absent: Ms. June Stanford
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. 2020 National Merit Finalists
Three students in Rockford Public Schools are semifinalists in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship program. Drake Vaughan and Victoria Wu from Auburn High School and Caitlin Ehrhardt from Guilford High School have test scores that place them in a group of approximately 16,000 academically talented high school seniors across the country. The National Merit Scholarship Program honors students who show exceptional academic ability and potential for success in rigorous college studies. These students can continue in the competition for some 7,600 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$31 million that will be offered next spring.
 - B. State Qualifiers
IESA boys & Girls cross country
Boys and girls cross country runners from Eisenhower Middle School and Maria Montessori School combined teams this year to be the Musteagles – a combination of the Montessori Mustangs and the Eisenhower Eagles. The team qualified to compete in the IESA State Meet in October.
The girls team includes: Mady Hefty, Lena Andrews, Madison Harmsen, Hanna Holmes, Sofi Teske, Kaiya Durso and Briley Harmsen
The boys' team includes: Brandon Lawson – who finished 20th in the state), Jack Hefty, Landon Bachta, Gavin Osbourne, Conner Schroeder, Micah Stanley and Derek Ekstrom
Individual competitors at the IESA State Meet include eighth graders Sawyer Johnson and Anthony Fulbright from Thurgood Marshall School.
IESA & IHSA Girls Golf
Rockford Public Schools sent three golfers to compete in the IESA State Girls Golf Tournament: Eighth graders Ashley Ferry and Madilyn Johnson represented Thurgood Marshall School, and seventh grader Leah Hunter represented Eisenhower Middle School.
At the IHSA level, Guilford senior Katelyn Sayyalinh made a return trip to the IHSA State Girls Golf Tournament where she tied for 12th place.
IHSA Girls Swimming
Auburn High School junior Ali Cushing qualified for the IHSA State Swimming Tournament in both the 100- and 200-

yard freestyle. The November meet marked Ali's second trip to compete at state. Auburn senior Lydia Pryztulski qualified in the 100-yard breaststroke.

IHSA Girls tennis

The Register Star predicted this year's NIC-10 tennis season would be "The Year of Auburn," and the Knights didn't disappoint. Auburn High School sent six students to compete in the IHSA State Girls Tennis Tournament: junior Phuong Pham and junior Belen Nevenhoven both qualified in singles play. In doubles play, junior Paris Thompson and freshman Amy Park, and sophomores Madeline Harned and Alyssa Trapp all qualified.

Guilford High School sophomore exchange student Cristina Gelabert also qualified for the state tournament, and Guilford junior Kasey Aucutt qualified for the state tournament a second time.

In doubles, Paris Thompson and Amy Park made it all the way to the third round of the consolation bracket – which is an exciting and impressive run.

Auburn's Belen Nevenhoven finished in fourth place last year as a sophomore. This year, she won second place in the Class 2A State Tennis Finals. Her second place finish is the highest for any high school girls tennis player from Rockford.

Congratulations to all the teachers, staff and coaches who support these students, and congratulations to all the parents, family members and friends for helping them find success

5. Petitions & Communications

Mr. Scrivano read the guidelines.

- Nancy Gdowski spoke of the District's low-test scores and her unhappiness with them.
- Haliya Mora spoke of concerns with students being disrespectful, and unacceptable behavior.
- Javin Davis spoke of how student attendance, GPAs were affected by the ransomware attack.
- Noah Walker spoke of low GPAs and graduation rates, and students who aren't motivated or engaged.
- Lana Daly spoke of the need to increase reading FTEs at Auburn.

6. Board Member Comments

- Mr. Connor thanked students for attending the Board meeting and how they can make a difference.
- Mrs. Makulec spoke of how students can have an impact by attending the Code of Conduct meetings that take place once a year. These are scheduled at Flinn Middle School. Parents, students and staff are welcomed to attend.
- Mr. Seigel spoke of his appreciation for the students coming to and speaking at the meetings, their willingness, and their courage.

7. *Consent Items

- A. Meeting Minutes: Special Board Meeting 11-26-19
- B. Payroll
- C. Accounts Payable
- D. Purchase Orders
- E. ~~Expense Reimbursement – K. Scrivano – pulled by Mr. Scrivano~~
- F. Contracts Under
- G. Construction Bid Request Log
- H. Travel

8. *Recurring Contract

- A. Annual Approval of Schools' Title I, 1003(a) School Improvement Plans – Dr. Woulfe
- B. Youth Services Network – Dr. Matthew Vosberg, Deputy Superintendent, on behalf of Lewis Lemon Elementary School
- C. ~~Larson & Darby – Recommendation on Approval of Contract for Architectural Design and Engineering Services – Michael Phillips, Executive Director of Facilities – pulled by Mrs. Makulec~~
- D. ~~Richard L. Johnson Associates – Recommendation on Approval of Contract for Architectural Design, Interior Design and Construction Administration Services – Michael Phillips, Executive Director of Facilities – pulled by Mrs. Makulec~~
- E. Addendum to Consulting Agreement – Accounting Services – Ms. Michelle R. Jahr, CPA, Chief Financial Officer
- F. Addendum to Consulting Agreement – HI Interpreter – Mrs. Jennifer Lawrence, Executive Director of Special Education
- G. Recurring Contract for IL Empower Services with ULLC – Dr. Woulfe

9. *Other Consent

- A. ~~Intergovernmental Agreement for City Police Services – Earl Dotson, Jr., Chief of Communications & Fred Diehl, Director of Security Services – pulled by Mr. Connor~~

B. Worker's Compensation Settlement Agreement – NR

C. Worker's Compensation Settlement Agreement – SM

D. 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: Ms. Stanford

Approved: 6-0-1

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to approve Consent item pulled 7E, Expense Reimbursement for K. Scrivano.

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

Abstain: Mr. Scrivano

Absent: Ms. Stanford

Approved: 5-1-1

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to approve Recurring Contracts pulled 8C and 8D, Larson & Darby – Recommendation on Approval of Contract for Architectural Design and Engineering Services, Richard L. Johnson Associates – Recommendation on Approval of Contract for Architectural Design and Construction Administration Services.

The contract for Larson & Darby is for small jobs that may occur during the current year, not to exceed \$75,000. The contract for Richard L. Johnson is for design work for the summer 2020 facility plan library renovations and interior design projects not to exceed \$93,250.

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

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

Absent: Ms. Stanford

Approved: 6-0-1

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to approve Other Consent item pulled 9A, Intergovernmental Agreement for City Police Services.

The District received positive feedback from buildings regarding police officers as they do add a lot to safety and security. Virtual roll call is done while police officers are at the buildings. Evaluations are done by the building principal and individual police are annually evaluated.

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

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

Absent: Ms. Stanford

Approved: 6-0-1

10. *Closed Session Consent Items

A. Appointment of Jesse Starr as 10 Month Assistant Principal at Constance Lane Elementary School

B. 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 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-2046-20 – expelled for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year

B. GDM-4325-20 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year through the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year.

C. GDM-4326-20 – expelled for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year through the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year.

D. GDM-4327-20 – expelled for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year through the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year.

E. GDM-4328-20 – expelled for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

F. GDM-4329-20 – expelled for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

G. GDM-4331-20 – expelled for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year through the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year.

H. GDM-4332-20 – expelled for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

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

A. GDM-1070-20

B. GDM-3963-20

C. GDM-3965-20

- D. GDM-3972-20
- E. GDM-3980-20
- F. GDM-3984-20
- G. GDM-3985-20
- H. GDM-3986-20
- I. GDM-3990-20
- J. GDM-3992-20
- K. GDM-3993-20
- L. GMD-3994-20
- M. GDM-3995-20

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

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

Absent: Ms. Stanford

Approved: 6-0-1

13. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett

Dr. Jarrett ceded his time first to Mr. Phillips, and secondly to Dr. Vosberg.

B. Fall Housing Report – Michael Phillips, Executive Director of Facilities

Mr. Phillips presented the Fall Housing Report to Board Members. There has been a slight increase in students for the current school, and an increase in Pre-K enrollment for the past two years. He also reviewed with members the capacity pressure at multiple elementary schools. Crowding issues are at Brookview, Bloom, Hillman, Riverdahl and Spring Creek, and Whitehead. The District engaged a demographer to provide a building analysis. To view the presentation, please click on this link: [Fall Housing Report](#).

C. School Data Presentation – Middle School – Dr. Matthew Vosberg, Deputy Superintendent

Dr. Vosberg reviewed the middle school data trends with Board Members. Included were attendance, IAR, 8th Grade passing Algebra 1, growth percentile, and science assessment. Strengths for the District include Algebra 1 pass rate, and ELA growth percentile. Weaknesses are math attainment, attendance, and Illinois Science Assessment.

Curriculum Instructional Leaders (CIL), PLC (professional learning communities) improvements, new leadership, strategic budgeting, District scorecard, strategic planning, and student-based funding. Threats to the District include middle school readiness, tech outage, teacher shortage, mobility and attendance. Next steps are scorecard goal setting, Sour to Four (achieving four in IAR), ELA blocking, math curriculum fidelity. The entire presentation may be viewed by clicking on this link: [Middle School Data Presentation](#).

14. Action Items

A. Petition for Detachment – Lori Hoadley, General Counsel

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to approve item 14A, Petition for Detachment.

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

Absent: Ms. Stanford

Approved: 6-0-1

15. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

Administration is requesting the Board suspend the rules to consider Doug Eadie & Company, Inc., as work is scheduled to start December 17, 2019.

A. ***Doug Eadie & Company, Inc. – Dr. Ehren Jarrett, Superintendent*

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to suspend the rules to consider item 15A, Doug Eadie & Company, Inc.

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

Absent: Ms. Stanford

Approved: 6-0-1

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to approve item 15A, Doug Eadie and Company, Inc.

Approved: 6-0-1

B. Board Member/Administration Action Steps

Administration was asked to clarify the Petition for Detachment.

The vote was not approving the detachment of properties from the District. Seven hearing officers that are appointed; two by the District, and two by the Regional Office of Education. They, the group of four, will appoint the remaining three people. They will listen to people from the District and petitioners then make a determination. There is a short timeframe, and a hearing date will be set.

16. Adjournment
Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to adjourn.

Adjournment: 8:34 p.m.

Approved: 01-14-2020

President: *Kenneth J. Scrivano /s/*

Secretary: *Jude B. Makulec /s/*