

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

**Administration Building**  
**Tuesday, January 28, 2020**

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 (arr. 5:24 p.m.), Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor, Ms. June Stanford

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 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 5:05 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order – President Kenneth Scrivano called the regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education to order at 7:16 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, Ms. June Stanford  
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. Petitions & Communications  
Mr. Scrivano read the guidelines.
  - Sara Dorner, Labor Representative of AFSCME (American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees) spoke of the importance of Paraprofessionals in the classroom.
  - Dylan Ladd and Julie Hindenburg, West Middle School CAPA teachers, expressed their appreciation for Board Members support, effort, and involvement with the CAPA programs.
  - Kate Schnell spoke of the middle schools data reports and the District's performance.
  - Nancy Gdowski expressed her unhappiness with District leadership.
5. Board Member Comments
  - Mr. Connor spoke of attending Lincoln Middle School's Parent University and thanked parents and staff for their efforts. The Student ambassadors did a great job and he hopes they do this again.
  - Mrs. Makulec gave kudos to the District high schools for their participation in the Illinois State Ice Sculpting competition. Roosevelt's was Calamari, Auburn's - Top Knot, Jefferson – Sleeping Siren, East's Freddie was Committee's Choice, and Guilford's Hackin' Kracken came in third in the high school competition and won the White Spirit award. Their sculpture made fun of the District's recent ransomware attack.
  - Mr. Seigel echoed comments of the CAPA speakers and the great productions that have been presented by students. The skills students have learned with these productions are those they can carry with them.
  - Mr. Scrivano spoke of attending West Middle School's "Lion King, Jr." and was as good as anything seen at the Coronado Theatre. The collaboration between West and Auburn CAPA programs was wonderful, the music was great. He thanked the adults who helped coordinate the production.
6. \*Consent Items
  - A. Meeting Minutes: Special Board Meeting 01-28-2020
  - B. Payroll
  - C. Accounts Payable
  - D. Purchase Orders
  - E. ~~Contracts Under \$10,000~~ – pulled by Mrs. Makulec

F. Travel

7. \*Bid Recommendations

A. IFB 20-10 Asbestos Abatement at Kennedy MS/Wilson ASPIRE

B. IFB 20-11 Asbestos Abatement at Flinn MS

8. \*Recurring Contracts

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

B. CDW-G Statement of Work for Staff Augmentation for Computer Deployment

C. ~~AT&T CompleteLink 2-Year Pricing Schedule Renewal~~ – pulled by Mr. Rollins

D. ~~AT&T Dedicated Internet 3-Year Pricing Schedule Renewal~~ – pulled by Mr. Rollins

9. \*Other Consent

A. RPS Managed Work Change Order

B. Monthly Cash and Investment – December 2019 – Jamie Murray – Executive Director of Finance

C. Financial Results: December 2019 – Ms. Jamie Murray, CPA, Executive Director of Finance

D. Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Second Quarter Treasurer's Report – Ms. Michelle R. Jahr, CPA – Chief Financial Officer

E. 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. Seigel to **approve** Consent item pulled 6E, Contracts Under \$10,000.

Administration was asked for clarity with the contract for Paula Kluth. This is for Early Childhood consulting services for training for inclusion practices. Dr. Vosberg also spoke of professional development opportunities at the Regional Office of Education, Poverty Simulation for Teachers. This program simulates what it is like to grow up in poverty and how to navigate to go to job interviews, chores, tasks, while living in a high poverty situation.

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

**Approved: Unanimously**

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to **approve** items 8C and 8D, Recurring Contracts pulled AT&T CompleteLink 2 Year Pricing Schedule Renewal and AT&T Dedicated Internet 3 Year Pricing Schedule Renewal. Everything has been included on these schedules in reference to the last renewal of these contracts.

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

**Approved: Unanimously**

10. \*Closed Session Consent Items

A. 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-4338-20 – expelled for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year through the entire 2020-2021 school year.

B. GDM-4346-20 – expelled for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year through the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year.

C. GDM-4347-20 – expelled for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year through the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year.

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

A. GDM-1076-20

B. GDM-1077-20

C. GDM-8028-20

D. GDM-8029-20

E. GDM-8030-20

F. GDM-8033-20

G. GDM-8034-20

H. GDM-8035-20

I. GDM-8039-20

J. GDM-8040-20

K. GDM-8043-20

L. GDM-8044-20

M. GDM-8045-20

- N. GDM-8046-20
- O. GDM-8049-20
- P. GDM-8050-20
- Q. GDM-8051-20
- R. GDM-8052-20
- S. GDM-8053-20

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

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

**Abstain:** Mr. Dixon

**Approved: 6-0-1**

13. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett

Dr. Jarrett ceded his time to Mr. Wilson Bailey for the Facilities Update and Dr. Psaltis for the School Data Presentation.

B. Facilities Update

Mr. Wilson Bailey, Director of Facilities, presented the update to Board Members beginning with Life Safety projects. Data included the number of work orders received and completed. Seventy one percent are complete, and five locations reached their 60 day benchmark. Year over year statistics for life safety work order were reviewed. In addition, the year over year breakdown of work orders was presented. To view the presentation, please click on this link: [Facilities Update](#).

C. School Data Presentation – Special Programs

Dr. Psaltis presented the data for Special Programs to Board Members. The report began with overall strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats for all the programs. Programs include the Gifted Academies at Marshall Elementary, Thurgood Marshall, Auburn High School, CAPA Academy at West Middle School and Auburn High School, Maria Montessori, Barbour Two-Way Language Academy, and STEAM Academy at Haskell. The 2019 ELA percent proficiency, ELA growth, math percent proficiency, and math growth percentage for elementary and middle school were presented in relation to the District's traditional schools. SAT comparison data for the Gifted and CAPA programs were also presented in relation to the District's high schools. Each program was then presented separately with their strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and strengths. Board and Administration members conducted a robust discussion regarding the scores. To view the presentation, please click on this link: [Special Programs](#).

14. Action Items

A. Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement for Assessment Complaint Intervention – Atty. Lori Hoadley

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** item 14A, Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement for Assessment Complain Intervention.

**Approved: Unanimously**

B. Purchasing Consortia – NASPO – Dane Youngblood, Director of Purchasing

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** item 14B, Purchasing Consortia – NASPO.

**Approved: Unanimously**

C. Accruent – Recommendation on Approval of Contract for Facilities Condition Assessment and VFA Capital Planning Software – Michael Phillips, Executive Director of Facilities

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** item 14C, Accruent – Recommendation on Approval of Contract for Facilities Condition Assessment and VFA Capital Planning Software.

**Approved: Unanimously**

D. Illinois Resource Center – Dr. Matthew Vosberg, Deputy Superintendent on behalf of Jefferson High School

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** item 14D, Illinois Resource Center.

**Approved: Unanimously**

15. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

A. Public School Works: A State Mandated Training Platform

Mrs. Diana Alt presented the proposal to Board Members. The current training program does not include a process to monitor mandated training and is not compatible with District system. Public School Works will help achieve compliance across the District, ensure mandates are completed, provide accurate and timely reports, and track and communicate progress towards completion. The total fiscal impact to the District is \$91,908 for three years. To view the presentation, please click on this link: [Public School Works](#).

This will return as an action item at the February 11, 2020 regular meeting.

B. Unified Talent Contract (addendum to PowerSchool Contract for Evaluation and Professional Development Software)

Mrs. Jeske presented the proposal to Board Members. The current evaluation system does not support the needs of staff, has not been successful in the pilot phase, and does not communicate with existing systems. In addition, the current platform has critical errors that have caused issues. Unified Talent is an addendum to PowerSchool with a total fiscal impact of \$199,830 for three years. Professional development will be provided by Unified Talent for two full days of training employees. Human Resources and Talent Development will hold group training for the ten pilot schools. To view the presentation, please click on this link: [Unified Talent Contract](#).

This will return as an action item at the February 11, 2020 regular meeting.

C. Housing for Aspiring Teacher

Ms. Bell presented the proposal to Board Members. Currently, there is a national teacher shortage. The housing for aspiring teacher would offer housing for 10 aspiring teachers for one year in exchange to committing to work for Rockford Public Schools an additional two years after they complete their student teaching. Aspiring teachers would be able to choose their residence; however, the District would present them with a selection of apartment complexes that have current contracts with other local businesses to provide housing for their staff. All locations will be located within the District's boundaries. The fiscal impact to the District is \$200,000 that includes Medicare, FICA, and IMRF. To view the information, please click on this link: [Housing for Aspiring Teachers](#).

This will return for a vote at the February 11, 2020 regular meeting.

D. Professional Development for K-5 and 9-12 Teachers (National Geographic)

The proposal is for professional development K-5 and 9-12 ESL teachers to develop their knowledge and skills with the programs. The total fiscal impact is \$10,400. To view the materials, please click on this link: [PD - National Geographic](#).

This will return as an action item at the February 11, 2020 regular meeting.

**Atty. Hoadley presented the following policies. Below is the summary of changes:**

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

F. Board Policy 2.105 Board of Education; Ethics and Gift Ban

G. Resolution Affirming and Revising Board Policy 2.110 Board of Education

H. Board Policy 2.200 Board of Education; Type of Board of Education Meetings

I. Board Policy 2.260 Board of Education; Uniform Grievance Procedure

J. Board Policy 4.12 Operational Services; Personally Identifiable Information Protection

K. Board Policy 5.50 General Personnel; Drug-and-Alcohol-Free Workplace; E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition

The proposed changes to Board policies are being recommended to align the District's policies with changes in State and Federal law.

***2.20 Board of Education; Powers and Duties of the Board of Education***

The Policy is updated to include the Board's enumerated power to terminate an employee who has willfully or negligently failed to report an instance of suspected child abuse or neglect.

***2.105 Board of Education; Ethics and Gift Ban; and***

***2.110 Board of Education; Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers; and***

***2.260 Board of Education; Uniform Grievance Procedure***

Under the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act school districts must, by resolution, amend their policies "to provide for a mechanism for reporting and independent review of allegations of sexual harassment made against an elected official of the governmental unit by another elected official of a governmental unit The Board Policies are being revised to articulate this requirement and they are accompanied by the resolution.

***2.200 Board of Education; Types of Board Meetings***

Policy revisions are made to further describe the permissible reasons for closed meetings held to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees or independent contractors. However, the statute excludes from closed session are discussions involving any increase in compensation to a specific employee that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act (i.e., lump sum payments to non-bargaining unit employees who have given notice of their intent to retire).

***4.12 Operational Services; Personally Identifiable Information Protection***

Language was added to this Policy to address the treatment of personally identifiable information under grant awards. This includes the statutory requirement to train employees and contractors on handling and securing personally identifiable information.

**5.50 General Personnel; Drug-and Alcohol-Free Workplace; E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition**  
The Policy is revised to reflect the legalization of marijuana. In addition, language specifically prohibiting e-cigarettes was added to this Policy. E-cigarette use is also prohibited in Board Policy 8.30 *Visitors to and Conduct on School Property*.

These will be return as action items at the February 11, 2020 regular meeting.

L. Board Member Action Steps

Dr. Psaltis was asked to follow up with the percentage of students at Barbour Two-Way Language Academy whose heritage language is Spanish and per pupil funding for each program.

Mrs. Makulec asked Administration to thank Dr. Psaltis for the time and effort she put into her presentation and for including materials requested by Board Members.

Mr. Seigel asked for feedback on preventative maintenance completion by in-house staff and vendors.

16. Adjournment

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

**Adjournment: 9:52 p.m.**

Approved: 02-11-20

President: *Kenneth J. Scrivano /s/*

Secretary: *Jude Makulec /s/*