

ROCKFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS
Meeting Minutes

Administration Building
Tuesday, October 27, 2020

President Kenneth Scrivano called the regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education to order at 5:47 p.m.

Present: President Kenneth Scrivano, Vice President Tim Rollins, Secretary Jude Makulec (*via Zoom*), Mr. Anthony Dixon, 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: 7-0-0

The Board was in executive session from 5:47 p.m. to 6:53 p.m.

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1. Call to Order – President Scrivano called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:11 p.m.
 - A. Roll Call
Present: President Kenneth Scrivano, Vice President Tim Rollins, Secretary Jude Makulec (*via Zoom*), Mr. Anthony Dixon, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor, Ms. June Stanford
Absent: Done
Mr. Scrivano thanked Conner Childers and Rod Weddle who produce the Board’s broadcast on Channel 20, Zoom, and YouTube Live.
 - B. Pledge of Allegiance
 - C. Recitation of Mission Statement: The Mission of Rockford Public School is to collaboratively engage all students in a first class education for a changing world
 - D. Board Member Comments
There were no comments.
 2. Petitions & Communications
Mr. Scrivano read the guidelines.
 - Chad Anderson, Vice President of Rockford Education Association (REA) questioned the District’s plan regarding the rising Covid positivity rates. He spoke of the difficulties with the hybrid mode, and the stress of keeping students and colleagues safe.
 3. Board Member Comments
 - Mr. Dixon expressed his thank you to Board, Administration, and community members as his resignation is effective October 31, 2020. He commented how Board members welcomed him, worked with him, and shared their knowledge. He thanked Administration for their help and support as well as building principals who shared their concerns with him. He continued by saying he feels the District is moving in the right direction, reminding everyone “we’re in this together”, and continue to work together to help student become better. He finished by thanking his wife and family for their support.
 - Mr. Rollins thanked Mr. Dixon for being on the Board and taking the time to service the District. He also spoke to the region’s positivity rate in relation to the District’s schools. His stated the Dr. Martel, Winnebago County Health Administrator, examines the data, and continues to state it is safe for children to ben in school.
 - Mr. Seigel thanked Mr. Dixon for the time and effort, and his quiet wisdom. He also encouraged residents in Sub District A to step up and “fill those shoes.”
 - Mrs. Makulec thanked Mr. Dixon for his service.
 4. Superintendent’s Report
 - A. Superintendent’s Report
 - B. Systemwide Framework for Improvement
Dr. Jarrett began by thanking Mr. Dixon for his tireless service, an individual who stepped up to serve, who has professional commitments to his family and a wonderful example to our community. He will be greatly missed. He then presented the proposal that will be brought back on a monthly basis. The purpose is to focus on how the District

can get better and how to support schools that are low performance as well as those improving. A key work for the Board is what kind of services and support can be put into place to help schools that are struggling and more freedom and flexibility to schools that are doing well. One key area of the work is Quality. Quality Peer Reviews (QPRs) is being retooled, consisting of a group of educators from around the District giving qualitative support to schools. Continuous improvement was shown in the District's School and District scorecards. New is Standards of Practice and Standards of Service. Standards of Service are Central Office responsibilities. Standards of Practice are the non-negotiables for principals and teachers as they lead their schools. The work, this year, will focus on what this system will look like, how the District can improve the Scorecard, Quality Peer Review, and how the District can build that Standards concept. Three metrics that will be followed are improving attendance, improving engagement by how much students are able to log on to their computers, be connected and completing their work, and finally passing rates. Dr. Jarrett will be returning with more information and updates to the Systemwide Framework. The Accountability portion is the Board's work with the timeline beginning January 2021 through May 2021. Quality has its own timeline, determining five schools to try out the timeline. The timeline for Continuous Improvement begins with deciding what can be included in the 2019-2020 scorecard ending deciding what can be included in the 2020-2021 scorecard. Dr. Jarrett reviewed what can be expected in the Superintendent's Report.

Comments included raising concerns that lagging indicators are what people use to judge the District and progress needs to be made on improving them. Included were the principles of improving the quality of schools through the framework. Everybody has to buy-into and understand the need for school improvement. These are difficult conversations. To view the presentation, please click on this link: [Systemwide Framework for Improvement](#).

5. Report and Action on Items that Proceeded through the Performance Monitoring Committee

A. Follow up on Items Presented at Committee of the Whole

There was no follow up.

6. Report and Action on Items that Proceeded through the Planning and Development Committee

A. Follow up on Items Presented at Committee of the Whole

A functional analysis was presented at the October 6, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting. At the November Committee of the Whole meeting, a facility assessment report, condition of buildings, will be presented. The functional analysis pointed out capacity issues at some of the District's schools including some elementary, middle, and high schools.

7. Report and Action on Items that Proceeded through the Internal/External Stakeholder Committee

A. Follow up on Items Presented at Committee of the Whole

Mr. Seigel sent out e-mails asking for ideas on Speakers Bureau and Lobbyists. He did receive some responses but would like more input especially ideas of what to speak about. He did reach out to the REA to discuss some common issues and they have agreed to meet. Coming up at the November Committee of the Whole meeting, Michael Phillips will be presenting a student attendance boundary realignment report about four specific schools to consider. Mr. Seigel will also speak about the Speakers Bureau and Lobbyists. Mr. Rollins requested Administration attach the functional analysis to the boundary change proposition.

8. Board President's Announcements and Report and Action on Items that proceeded through the Governance Committee

A. Follow up on Items Presented at Committee of the Whole

Mr. Scrivano commented that there is work to do, and lay out a plan to begin the work. It is challenging to coordinate the needed people at the right time in order to meet, but overall the new structure of the committee is making progress and is engaging more thought and input from Board members. Mr. Scrivano asked members to help Mr. Seigel with any ideas or suggestions for Speakers Bureau as that is an important part of the District's external stakeholders.

9. *Consent Items – Performance Monitoring Committee

A. Payroll

B. Accounts Payable

C. Purchase Orders

D. Monthly Cash and Investment Report – September 2020 – Jamie Murray – Executive Director of Finance

E. Financial Results: First Quarter ended September 30, 2020 – Jamie Murray – Executive Director of Finance

F. Construction Bid Request Log

G. RPS Managed Work Change Order – Scott Jensen, Director of Design and Construction

H. Recurring Contract: Learning A-Z

I. RPS 205 and PowerSchool Group, LLC

10. *Consent Items – Governance Committee

A. Meeting Minutes: 10-13-20

B. Contract Purchase Orders

C. Freedom of Information Log

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

Approved: Unanimously

11. *Closed Session Consent Items

A. Appointment of Sarah Schaefer as 10 Month Elementary Assistant Principal at the STEAM Academy at Haskell

B. Appointment of Rebecca Costello as 12 Month Director of Talent/Development/Instructional Design

C. HR Organization Report & Addendum

12. *Closed Session Consent Items – Student Discipline – EIAs

A. GDM-8198-20

B. GDM-8199-20

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to approve Closed Session Consent Items.

Approved: Unanimously

13. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

A. Board Member Action Steps

Mr. Scrivano reminded Board Members to respond to Mr. Seigel's requests for Speaker Bureau ideas.

14. Adjournment

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

Adjournment: 8:04 p.m.

Approved: 11/10/20

President: *Kenneth J. Scrivano /s/*

Secretary: *Jude B. Makulec /s/*