

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

**Administration Building**  
**Tuesday, March 9, 2021**

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), Ms. Denise Pearson (via Zoom), Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor, Ms. June Stanford

Absent: None

**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 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 5:48 p.m. to 6:52 p.m.

1. Call to Order – President Scrivano called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:07 p.m.
  - A. Roll Call  
Present: President Kenneth Scrivano, Vice President Tim Rollins, Secretary Jude Makulec (via Zoom), Ms. Denise Pearson, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor, Ms. June Stanford  
Absent: None  
Mr. Scrivano thanked Conner Childers who produces 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.
2. Recognitions
  - A. Scholastic Art & Writing Competition Winners – Earl Dotson, Jr.  
*These were presented during Report and Action on Items that Proceeded through the Internal/External Stakeholders Relations Committee of the agenda.*
3. Petitions & Communications

Mr. Scrivano read the guidelines.

  - Marie Theisen spoke regarding issues with high school mathematics especially with remote learners.
  - Trevor Christopher spoke in opposition to his dismissal with the District.
  - Shavina Baker, Principal of Jackson Charter School, gave a brief update.
  - Sofia Buchanan spoke in support of Trevor Christopher.
4. Board Member Comments
  - Mrs. Makulec urged people using Amazon to change to Amazon Smile. Amazon Smile donates a portion of sales to the charity the purchaser designates. She chose Rockford Promise and urged everyone to do the same.
5. Superintendent’s Report
  - A. Superintendent’s Report  
Dr. Jarrett made an announcement to the community that the District is looking for two RPS seniors to take part in the RAMM scholarship for Rockford University teachers that the District is currently working on. Earl Dotson Jr., Chief Communications Officer and Dr. Jarrett, through the Masonic Lodge, and his family have created a matching fund to target two RAMM scholars. Last year, two scholars were chosen for the Rockford University pathway. This is a full tuition scholarship to RU for four years; upon entrance into the District, a master’s degree program. Dr. Jarrett stated they are looking for one or two applicants for the upcoming year. He urged people if they are aware of a student that is interested
6. Report and \*Action on Items that Proceeded through the Internal/External Stakeholder Committee
  - A. Follow up on Items Presented at Committee of the Whole  
There were no follow up items. Mr. Seigel presented Recognitions.

Students from Auburn, Jefferson and Roosevelt high schools were recently named winners in the 2021 Scholastic Art and Writing competition. The following students received awards in one of three categories: Gold Key or Silver Key Award winners, plus honorable mention.

The top 10-15 % of all entries receive Honorable Mention. From Auburn High School: **Jacklyn Solis**; and from Jefferson High School: **Berlinda Martinez** and **Michelle Perez**.

**Silver Key Awards** are given to the top 7-10% of all entries. From Auburn High School: **Dalila Rodriguez** and **Leva Surantas**; and from Roosevelt: **Liberty Schaefer**.

**Gold Key Awards** are given to the top 5-to-7% of all entries. All Gold Key works are forwarded to New York City to compete for inclusion in the national Scholastic Art and Writing exhibition. Congratulations to following Gold Key Award winners, all from Jefferson High School: **Arturo Carrillo**, **Hailey Greenwell**, and **Chizya Richardson-Norman**. Chizya received three Gold Key Awards.

Report and \*Action on Items that Proceeded through the Performance Monitoring Committee

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

Mrs. Makulec presented an additional item that was added to the Board agenda; the rental fee waiver for Winnebago County Health Department in order to conduct a vaccine clinic at Ellis Elementary School. She also previewed items on the March 30 agenda including bids for custodial services and wellness provider.

Mrs. Dettman gave a brief update for the Summer 2021 Programs. Service contracts include the Rockford Park District, Discovery Center, Burpee, and Severson Dells. Teachers will be embedded in community centers to provide small group or 1:1 skill building in reading, math, and inquiry. In addition, credit recovery programs will be provided. Learning Continuity and Transitions for middle school students will take place, including inviting eighth grade students to participate in Step Up, a transitional program to prepare them for high school. To view the presentation, please click on this link: [Summer 2021 Programs](#).

7. Report and \*Action on Items that Proceeded through the Planning and Development Committee

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

The Fleet Vehicle Lease was discussed and is in the Consent portion of the agenda for a vote.

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

There were no follow up items. Mr. Scrivano opened discussion regarding how Board consent items should be presented during the Committee of the Whole meeting. Many pros and cons were spoken to regarding the amount of detail needed to preview consent items. Some members appreciate the detail while others did not. Discussion and details of upcoming consent items was felt to be unnecessary by some. Committee chairs could highlight items at the Committee of the Whole meeting then ask members if they have any questions. Additional comments included committee chairperson setting up priorities for items needing extensive discussion. Mr. Scrivano added discussion of items at the Committee of the Whole is important and added Ombudsman as an example. He also expressed his appreciation for being given the heads-up on an item, which helps him prepare for the Board meeting. Mr. Scrivano ended the discussion speaking to the many ideas, comments, and suggestions from Board members that were helpful and there is still much to learn.

9. \*Consent Agenda – Performance Monitoring Committee

A. Payroll

B. Accounts Payable

C. Purchase Orders

D. IFB 21-13 West M.S. Pool Renovations

E. IFB 21-14 West M.S. HVAC Upgrades and Interior Finishes

F. IFB 21-15 Rolling Green School Asbestos Abatement Project

G. IFB 21-16 Summerdale Early Childhood Center Asbestos Abatement Project

H. IFB 21-19 Diesel Fuel

I. Winnebago County Health Department Facility Rental Fee Waiver – Michael Phillips, Chief Operations Officer

J. Project Search – Brett Vosburgh

K. Recurring Contract for Grant-Funded Summer Programming – Dr. Travis Woulfe

L. Recurring Contracts: AT&T IPFlex Phone Circuits Pricing Schedule

M. Recurring Contract: Ombudsman – Innovative Learning Center

10. \*Consent Agenda – Planning and Development Committee

A. Fleet Vehicle Lease Agreement with Enterprise Fleet Management – Michael Phillips, Chief Operations Officer

11. \*Consent Agenda – Governance Committee

A. Meeting Minutes: 02/23/21

- B. Contract Purchase Orders
- C. Revised – 2021-2022 Academic Calendar – Dr. Matthew Vosberg, Deputy Superintendent
- D. Freedom of Information Log

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

**Approved: Unanimously**

\*Closed Session Consent Items

- A. Resolution Authorizing Reclassification of a Certified District Administrator
- B. Resolution Authorizing Dismissal of Certain Non-Certified Educational Support Staff (RIF)
- C. Salary Adjustment for Non-Bargaining Employees
- D. HR Organization Report & Addendum

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

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

**Abstain:** Ms. Pearson

**Approved: 6-0-1**

12. \*Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline – Suspension Appeals and Expulsions

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-4372-21 is expelled for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year

13. \*Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline – EIAs

- A. GDM-8211-21
- B. GDM-8212-21
- C. GDM-8213-21

14. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

- A. Board Member Action Steps

- Mr. Scrivano commented to continue to talk to committee chairs to see how progress is going with reporting of consent items. The Board is learning, working together, and he expressed his appreciation for their collaboration and thought for making the meetings meaningful and helpful.

15. Adjournment

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

**Adjournment: 8:11 p.m.**

Approved:

President: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_