

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

**Administration Building
Tuesday, June 22, 2021**

President Jude Makulec called the regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education to order at 5:02 p.m.

Present: President Jude Makulec, Vice President Tim Rollins, Secretary June Stanford, Ms. Denise Pearson, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor

Absent: Ms. Kamrin Muhammad

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Ms. Pearson 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 6:01 p.m. to 6:57 p.m.

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1. Call to Order – President Makulec called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:12 p.m.
 - A. Roll Call
 2. Present: President Jude Makulec, Vice President Tim Rollins, Secretary June Stanford, Ms. Denise Pearson, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor
Absent: Ms. Kamrin Muhammad
Mrs. Makulec thanked Conner Childers who produces the Board’s broadcast on Channel 20, Zoom, and YouTube Live.
 - A. Pledge of Allegiance
 - B. 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.
 3. Public Hearing
 - A. Notice of Public Hearing on the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Use of ARP ESSER Funds
There were no speakers.
 4. Petitions & Communications
Mrs. Makulec read the guidelines.
 - Mr. Michael O’Neil spoke of Critical Race Theory and Sex Education.
 5. Board Member Comments
 - Ms. Pearson congratulated the 2021 graduates and extended a special thank you to Mr. Barthel and Mr. Phillips for their behind the scenes guidance. She stated the need for better communication and directives with graduation ceremonies. She also spoke of the Juneteenth celebration thanking Mr. Earl Dotson, Jr., Communications, for all who came out, and the opportunity to share with the community about the District. Ms. Pearson also thanked Mrs. LaNesha Sterling for the organization and set-up.
 - Mrs. Makulec thanked Ms. Pearson and Ms. Muhammad for representing the District at the Juneteenth Celebration.
 6. Superintendent’s Report
 - A. Superintendent’s Report
 - B. System-Wide Framework
Dr. Jarrett ceded his time to Mrs. Dettman. Mrs. Dettman began with directing members to the supporting documents, the summary of the Scorecard changes, and the System-Wide Framework draft handbook. The update includes a review of the year’s work beginning with the focus; advance the District’s equity imperative, and raise student achievement. The System-Wide Framework consists of four key components: Standards, Quality, Accountability, Continuous Improvement. Continuous improvement included changes to the Scorecard made due to the pandemic. Secondly, changes were made to the 2021-22 school year and beyond to better align the Board goals and increase attention on survey results. Standards included identifying three areas of commitment: Relationships, listening to students, families and staff believing their partnership is critical to the District’s improvement; Instruction, prioritizing active learning, safety, and relationships to help students grow; Strategic Decisions, use of disaggregated data to build equitable learning environments to serve all students well. Standards of Practice were created that schools will pursue.

Standards of Service are being created to central office departments to pursue in support of schools. Quality is the third component that will consist of cycles of inquiry occurring three times annually with school leadership, school supervision and other District leadership to ask questions of what is really asking what is taking place in schools on a regular basis. Once the Chief of Schools is welcomed on Cabinet, it will be developed in partnership with principals. Accountability is the next component and centers around the question if there is downward movement. Two key components are identified to give a summative designation for schools that are the School Scorecard and the Standards of Practice. The scores of each place schools in a three, four, or five year track. Standards of Service are created allowing schools to score Central Office departments on their execution of the standards and integrate them into the Central Office evaluation. Next steps include developing a communications plan and launch for the 2021-2022 school year, test data collection tools in schools, expand listening systems, development the Quality component in partnership with the Chief of Schools, design supporting data system infrastructure for district level, school level, and classroom level dashboards, design supporting human resources infrastructure to help all employees identify their role in the district's success, aligned to our district goals and Standards, and develop the accountability infrastructure under the Board's direction. To view the presentation and the attachments, please click on the link: [System-Framework](#). Dr. Jarrett spoke of an e-mail sent to members regarding the possibility of bringing forward assistant principal positions at the Early Childhood level. Before adding those positions, he stated he would ensure Dr. Psaltis and Mrs. Nelson were available to answer any questions. The controversy is making Fund 10, or State and locally funded dollars support a program that is essentially funded by State dollars. Three reasons for Dr. Jarrett's support are adding an assistant principal adds a huge impact to retention and attraction of high quality principals and succession planning, it allows the complete core functions of the principalship including up to seventy (70) required staff evaluations, and strong early childhood outcomes would impact kindergarten readiness that would lead to an increase in third grade literacy/numeracy issues. The investment is \$400,000 of District dollars and would be an addition to the tentative budget. Ms. Jahr spoke of bringing forward new requests to Board members at a Committee of the Whole meeting.

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

A. Board Policy 2.172 Board of Education; Use of Consultants

*From 6/8/21 – open motion on the floor by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Board Policy 2.172 Board of Education; Use of Consultants*

Mrs. Makulec called for the vote.

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

Absent: Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 6-0-1

B. Board Policy 4.60 Operational Services; Purchases and Contracts

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** item 7B, Board Policy 4.60 Operational Services; Purchases and Contracts

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

Absent: Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 6-0-1

8. *Consent Agenda – Performance Monitoring Committee

A. Payroll

B. Accounts Payable

C. Purchase Orders (FY21)

D. Purchase Orders (FY22) Issued from 4/28/2021-6/11/2021

E. Monthly Cash and Investment Report – May 2021 Jamie Murray, CPA, Executive Director of Finance

F. Financial Results: May 2021 – Ms. Jamie Murray, CPA, Executive Director of Finance

G. Construction Pay Request Log

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

I. Star Insurance Company – Workers' Compensation Stop Loss

J. Continuous Public Office Bond and Payment of Premium – Ms. Michelle R. Jahr, CPA, Chief Financial Officer

K. ~~IFB 21-41 Fairview ECC Roof Replacement~~ – pulled by Mr. Connor

L. IFB 21-42 HVAC Water Treatment Chemicals and Service

M. IFB 21-43 Snow Removal

N. IFB 21-45 Haskell School Security Vestibule Addition

O. IFB 21-46 Kitchen Equipment – Rebid

P. IFB 21-48 Cleaning and Sanitization Services for Student Chromebooks and iPads

9. *Consent Agenda – Governance Committee

A. Meeting Minutes: 06/08/21

- B. Travel – Air Fare
- C. Contract Purchase Orders (FY21)
- D. Contract Purchase Orders (FY22)
- E. 2021-2022 Illinois Association of School Boards Annual Dues – Dr. Ehren Jarrett, Superintendent
- F. Freedom of Information Log

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

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

Absent: Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 6-0-1

Motion by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mr. Connor to **approve** Consent item pulled, 8K, IFB 21-31 Fairview ECC Roof Replacement.

Comments included the bid was a good example of the importance of having buildings support education goals. Mrs. Makulec called for the vote.

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

Absent: Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 6-0-1

10. *Closed Session Consent Items

- A. Appointment of Richard Durso as 10 Month Dean at Lewis Lemon Elementary School
- B. Appointment of Kyle Heinze as 10 Month Dean at RESA Middle School
- C. Appointment of Erica Schwanke as 10 Month Assistant Principal at Washington Elementary School
- D. Appointment of Zachary Frazer as 10 Month Assistant Principal at Riverdahl Elementary School
- E. Appointment of Paula Randall as 11 Month Principal at Whitehead Elementary School
- F. Appointment of Julio Lopez as 12 Month Principal at Barbour Two Way Language Academy
- G. Appointment of Morgan Gallagher as 12 Month Chief of Schools
- H. HR Organization Report & Addendum

11. *Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline – Suspension Appeals and Expulsion

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-2057-21 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the entire 2021-2022 school year.
- B. ~~GDM 4383-21 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the entire 2021-2022 school year.~~ – pulled by Ms. Pearson
- C. ~~GDM 4386-21 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the entire 2021-2022 school year.~~ – pulled by Ms. Pearson

12. *Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline – EIAs

- A. ~~GDM 1072-21~~ – pulled by Ms. Pearson
- B. ~~GDM 8232-21~~ – pulled by Ms. Pearson
- C. ~~GDM 8233-21~~ – pulled by Ms. Pearson

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

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

Absent: Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 6-0-1

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to **approved** Closed Sessions Consent items pulled 11B, 11C, GDM-4383-21, GDM-4386-21 and 12A-12C, GDM-1072-21, GDM-8232-21, GDM-8233-21.

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

Absent: Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 6-0-1

13. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

- A. Board Member Action Steps

Mrs. Makulec opened up dialogue regarding business cards for Board members. Members conducted an extensive discussion regarding this topic. Further concerns were raised regarding calls to individual Board members; specifically if the issue raised with an individual member did not concern their sub-district, would it be shared with the specific board members. Assurances were made that they would. Mrs. Makulec ended the discussion with the business cards containing names, e-mail address, and phone number.

14. Adjournment
Motion by Mr. Connor second by Mr. Seigel to adjourn.

Adjournment: 8:13 p.m.

Approved: 07-13-21

Secretary: *June Stanford /s/*