

ROCKFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS
Meeting Minutes

Administration Building
Tuesday, July 13, 2021

Secretary June Stanford called the regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Secretary June Stanford, Ms. Kamrin Muhammad, Ms. Denise Pearson, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor

Absent: President Jude Makulec, Vice President Tim Rollins

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: 5-0-2

The Board was in executive session from 6:01 p.m. to 7:04 p.m.

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1. Call to Order – Secretary June Stanford called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:15 p.m.
 - A. Roll Call
Present: Secretary June Stanford, Ms. Kamrin Muhammad, Ms. Denise Pearson, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor
Absent: President Jude Makulec, Vice President Tim Rollins
Ms. Stanford 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
Mr. Seigel presented the recognitions
 - A. State Qualifiers – Earl Dotson, Jr., Chief Communications Officer
IHSA State Tournament Qualifiers: Boys Tennis
Rockford Public Schools sent eight student athletes to compete at the IHSA Boys State Tennis Tournament in June, after Auburn High School’s boys tennis team won the IHSA sectional tournament by two points over Hononegah High School, with Guilford High School taking third.
Guilford sent three players to the IHSA state tennis tournament: Joe Gesmer finished third in singles play at IHSA Sectional tournament, and the doubles team of Jeff Snedegar and Drew Stadelman finished third in sectionals to qualify for the state meet. In doubles play, Jeff Snedegar and Drew Stadelman defeated their first opponents from Orland Park Sandburg but were ultimately defeated in the second round, followed by a second-round loss in the consolation bracket.
Auburn sent two doubles teams to the IHSA state tennis tournament: Drew Licari and Sharankumar Kamaraj, and Isaac Bernsten and Dhruv Ramaswami. NIC-10 singles champion Chris Park also advanced to the state tournament in singles play.
Auburn’s doubles team of Drew Licari and Sharankumar Kamaraj competed four times, winning in the first round before losing their second match and competing in the consolation bracket. Ultimately the Knights lost in the third round of the consolation bracket – and won twice and lost twice in the state tournament.
IHSA State Track Meet: Girls Qualifiers
Guilford High School sent several runners to compete in the IHSA Class 3A State Track meet!
Guilford’s Carreanna Curtis, A’Yana Gray, Riyyah Chatman and Jolena Site won the 4x100-meter relay at the Antioch sectional to qualify for state.
Carreanna Curtis, A’Yana Gray and Jolena Site then joined Anastasia Bruce to win the 4×200 relay with a 1:47.45.
Carreanna Curtis, A’Yana Gray then ran with Mikayla Durkin and Audrey Ryan to take second in the 4×400-meter relay for another Guilford-state-qualifying team.
Guilford A’Tiq Muhammad took first at the sectional meet in the long jump to qualify for state.

At the IHSA Boys State Meet, Guilford's A'Tiq Muhammad and East's Makarious Luster each brought back sixth-place medals, the first medals won by RPS 205 athletes since 2017! Guilford's Muhammad finished sixth in the long jump with a leap of 6.76 meters. East's Luster finished sixth in the 400 meters with a personal record of :49.89. East sprinter Marquez Gray was 10th in the 100 meters and 11th in the 200. East's Hunter Scanlon finished 11th in the discus with a throw of 45.27 meters.

3. Petitions & Communications

Mrs. Makulec read the guidelines.

- Mr. Michael O'Toole spoke of Critical Race Theory and Sex Education.
- Kym Shimmins spoke of being a proud RPS teacher and proud REA (Rockford Education Association) member.
- Erik Czerwin commented of being a proud RPS teacher and proud member of the REA.
- Matt Hotopp spoke of why he teaches.
- Todd Wilson spoke of the pride he has in teaching.
- Stephanie Valderama spoke in support of students, teachers, and the impact teachers make.
- Stephen Brooke spoke of being proud of being a teacher in the District and thanked everyone.
- Shawn Bladel spoke in opposition to students wearing masks in school.
- Heather Bladel spoke in opposition to mask requirements for students.
- Brandi Richardson spoke in opposition to the mask mandate for students.
- Greg Taylor spoke in support of renaming Guilford High School's track to the Lee Marks Memorial Track.
- Rachel Swanson spoke of making mask wearing optional for students.
- Jim McIlroy spoke of mask wearing and in opposition to any mask wearing mandates.
- Chris Magee spoke of being proud of teaching and her colleagues.
- Karen Marks spoke in support of the Lee Marks Memorial Track and being the face behind the support.
- Anthony Wilson spoke in support of naming the track at Guilford to the Lee Marks Memorial Track.

4. Board Member Comments

- Mr. Seigel spoke of the excitement with seeing the naming of the Lee Marks Memorial Track on the Board agenda and said he would vote yes. He also commented of a year ago, how the 2020-2021 school year would evolve, and a lot of unknowns. Much has been learned over the last year, classroom setups, teacher anxiety, and classroom set up. Presently, more is known, and the upcoming school year will look different than the previous year. He continued with the hope that the District and community can move forward with grace and understanding, and the difficulty Board members face in making a decision that could make many unhappy.
- Ms. Pearson spoke of being appreciative of the legacy of Lee Marks. She spoke of growing up and teachers living in the same neighborhood she lived in. The Marks family were part of the neighborhood, and the love they showed to children they did not teach made an impact on the lives of many of the children in the community.

5. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent's Report

There was no report.

6. *Consent Agenda – Performance Monitoring Committee

A. Payroll

B. Accounts Payable

C. Purchase Orders (FY21)

D. Purchase Orders (FY22) 6/12/2021 – 7/2/2021

E. Construction Pay Request Log

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

G. RFP 22-03 Custom Performance Uniforms

H. IFB 22-05 Marsh School Playground Grading – Rebid

I. Resolution Authorizing FY22 Depositories, Investment Managers, Dealers, and Brokers

J. Recurring Contract with SchoolWorks for Charter-Related Services – Dr. Woulfe

K. Recurring Contracts: Screencastify

L. Consolidated Contracts – School Based Spending

M. ~~Intergovernmental Agreement – Linking Talent with Opportunity~~ – pulled by Ms. Muhammad

N. Intergovernmental Agreement – Senior Semester with RVC

O. TCI – High School Economics Resource

P. Tier 1: Renaissance

7. *Consent Agenda – Planning and Development Committee

A. Tier 1: Panorama

8. *Consent Agenda – Governance Committee

- A. Meeting Minutes: 06/22/21
- B. Travel – Air Fare
- C. Contract Purchase Orders (FY21)
- D. Contract Purchase Orders (FY22)
- E. Lee Marks Memorial Track naming – Dr. Ehren Jarrett on behalf of Guilford High School
- F. Hiring Incentive for Recruitment of Bus Drivers
- G. Taxable Fringe Benefit
- H. Workers' Compensation Settlement Agreement – TJ
- I. Workers' Compensation Settlement Agreement - CG
- J. Freedom of Information Log

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

Yeas: Ms. Pearson, Ms. Muhammad, Mr. Seigel, Mr. Connor, Ms. Stanford

Absent: Mr. Rollins, Mrs. Makulec

Approved: 5-0-2

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Consent item pulled, 6M, Intergovernmental Agreement – Linking Talent with Opportunity

This IGA allows students to earn college credit and/or industry certifications as part of the Academy Model. This is conducted at District schools and is at a zero cost to students. Ms. Stanford called for the vote.

Yeas: Ms. Muhammad, Mr. Seigel, Mr. Connor, Ms. Stanford, Ms. Pearson

Absent: Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Rollins

Approved: 5-0-1

Ms. Stanford congratulated the family of Lee Marks. The track will now be named the Lee Marks Memorial Track. Mrs. Marks expressed her appreciation for everyone's consideration for the accomplishment.

9. *Closed Session Consent Items

- A. Appointment of Dr. Tiffany Brunson as 12 Month Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer
- B. Appointment of Tammy Shippert as 12 Month Executive Principal of Adaptive Learning
- C. HR Organization Report & Addendum

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

Yeas: Mr. Seigel, Mr. Connor, Ms. Stanford, Ms. Pearson, Ms. Muhammad

Absent: Mr. Rollins, Mrs. Makulec

Approved: 5-0-2

10. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

- A. Board Member Action Steps

There were no action steps.

11. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Connor second by Ms. Pearson to **adjourn**.

Adjournment: 8:09 p.m.

Approved: 08-10-21

President: *Jude B. Makulec /s/*

Secretary: *June Stanford /s/*