



ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
501 West University Drive, Rochester, Michigan

BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
October 26, 2020 ~ Adams High School, Zoom and YouTube

MINUTES

Call to Order

A Regular and Organizational Meeting, open to the public, of the Board of Education for Rochester Community Schools, Rochester, Michigan was held on Monday, October 26, 2020 at Adams High School and via Zoom and YouTube. President Kristin Bull called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Board members led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Members Present: Kristin Bull, Kevin Beers (remote), Michelle Bueltel, Mike Zabat, Barb Anness, Andrea Walker-Leidy and Scott Muska

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Dr. Robert Shaner, Debi Fragomeni, Elizabeth Davis, Carrie Lawler, Cory Heitsch, Concetta Lewis, Lori Grein, Cindy Lindner, Matt McDaniel, Amy DiCresce and approximately 400 visitors

Spotlight on Success

Musson Elementary – National Blue Ribbon School

Musson Elementary is one of 15 Michigan schools to be recognized. Two students, a teacher, a parent and paraeducator, and principal Laura Walsh spoke on behalf of receiving this award.

Dr. Shaner expressed his compliments.

Communications

A. Secretary of the Board of Education

Michelle Bueltel shared that 32 email communications have been received:

District parents Lori Ann Baggot, Jennifer Heitchue, Lyndsay Bohannon, Stephanie Tigges, Simone Sojda, Natalie Pascualinotto, Marie VanBuskirk, Caren Stajninger, Michelle Rhen, Deanna Harless, Brandon and Danielle Kennedy, Meghan Murphy (2), Alexandra Sviridova, Julie Doelle, Vito Graziano, Kimberlee Davis,

Marissa Miller, Nicole Guy, Anne George, Catherine Agarwal and Lesley Nottle addressed the board regarding return to school learning options.

District parents Laura Cassar and Stephanie Flater addressed the board regarding pool rentals.

District parent Mallory Molnar addressed the board regarding specials schedules at the elementary level.

District parent Peter Albert addressed the board regarding the social and emotional health of district students

District parents Jamie Hilliard and Desire Zenas addressed the board regarding mask requirements for students.

District parent Amie Ackerman addressed the board regarding orientation for incoming freshmen.

District parent Meredith McCutcheon addressed the board regarding the meeting schedule.

District parent Alexandra Sviridova (2) addressed the board regarding instructional hour requirements.

Additional emails that were received, though not through the RCS website: District parents Charles Blackwell, Meredith McCutcheon, Brandon Hulway, Sukhi and Nitya Rai, Beatrice and Zsolt Sarkuzi, Jackie Tull, Shannon Bamberg, Bryan Dolecki, Caren Stajninger, Heather and Mike Cicco, Jenny Hulway, Elliott Ryan, Debbie Olszewski, Colleen Dykstra, Kate Fraser, Kelly Brown, Sarah Pete, Amanda Green, Marie Van Buskirt, Samantha Hillery, Jennifer Wilcox, Jessica Pitelka Opfer, Andrew Weaver, Audrey Hernandez, Todd and Sarah Miesch, Colleen Farley, Colleen Carney, Carolyn Reif, Trisha Boehler, Melissa Rambow, Kristine Belinski, Nina Ignaczak, Kim Dolenga, Susan Borowski, Joelle Kekhoua, Kim Stebbe, Emily Francis, Sara Patten, and Brian and Michelle Koscielski.

B. Student Representatives to the Board

Student representatives from ACE, Adams High School, Rochester High School, and Stoney Creek High School shared information since the start of school as well as feedback about remote learning and asynchronous learning.

C. Citizens Requesting Placement on the Agenda

Nina Ignaczak and Grace Varghese addressed the board regarding in-person learning.

D. Members of the Board of Education

Michelle Bueltel received emails from Marvin Putrus, Don Grimaudo and Kerry Conley.

E. PTA Council Update

Jennifer Wilson, PTA Council Vice President of Membership, addressed the board to provide an update which included: parent advisory group for Virtual Campus; appreciation for the RCS tech team; PTA Reflections contest; and videos from middle and high school PTA Steam teams to share with elementary STEM Plus Family event.

Consent Agenda

- A. Current Bills Payable for September 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020
- B. Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes, September 14, 2020
- C. Board of Education Work Session Minutes, September 28, 2020
- D. Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes, September 28, 2020

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented.

Moved by: Barb Anness

Supported by: Andrea Walker-Leidy

Vote: 7-0

Reports

A. Superintendent's Committee Reports

Dr. Shaner reported on the October 7, 2020, Superintendent's Steering Committee meeting. The agenda item included the condition of transportation fleet that have structural problems and the method to remedy them and acquire new buses through leasing and purchasing.

Matt McDaniel reported on the October 13, 2020, Superintendent Business, Operations and Support Advisory Committee meeting. The agenda items included the progress of the audit, budget amendment, transportation staff, August financial results, the Board of Education meeting format and the Interlocal Agreement with Oakland County.

Elizabeth Davis reported on the October 13, 2020, Superintendent Policy and Curriculum Committee meetings. The agenda items included the condition of transportation fleet that have structural problems and the method to remedy them, the Interlocal Agreement with Oakland County, budget amendment, budget projections and Board of Education meeting format.

B. Equity and Inclusion Update

Tiffany Goliday, Interim Director of Equity, Inclusion and Belonging, provided an update on the equity, cultural proficiency and inclusion work RCS has done and shared future plans for training.

Board discussion included clarification on the member makeup of the district's equity committee and how often meetings will take place.

C. Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan Update

Dr. Shaner extended his gratitude toward the RCS staff and community. He briefly reviewed the timeline and reminded the community that we are in an ever-changing environment. He also reviewed the current state of COVID cases.

Lori Grein reviewed the various ways the district communicates with our community regarding COVID reporting while adhering to state and county guidelines.

Matt McDaniel reviewed updates to food service and facility rentals (pools).

Karen Gelardi provided an update on student participation (attendance rates).

Marco Marando provided an update on asynchronous learning. Elementary teacher Melinda Young shared what planning for asynchronous learning looks like. Teacher and math curriculum consultant Susan Rapp provided an update on asynchronous learning at the secondary level and shared various lessons that actively engage students.

Todd Calcamuggio shared an overview of the distance learning committee, whose goal was to study and review live, distance-learning options for RCS and meet the needs of all learners using the hybrid learning model and beyond.

Concetta Lewis provided an update to the Special Education program and the services our students and families are receiving which included Contingency Learning Plans, individualized solutions to meet the needs of students and program scale-up.

Cindy Lindner provided an overview of the 1:1 student device deployment.

Board discussion included live distance learning, evaluating effectiveness of full remote versus hybrid, how students who are out of school due to quarantine (or other reason) are receiving instruction and Loom.

New Business

A. Human Resource Report

Elizabeth Davis presented the following recommendations:

REA RESIGNATIONS

Kurt David, School Counselor at Hart Middle School, submitted his letter of resignation effective October 2, 2020. Mr. David has been with the district since January 2020.

Michelle Kopp, Math Teacher at Virtual Campus, submitted her letter of resignation effective October 30, 2020. Ms. Kopp has been with the district since October 2012.

Jamie Peters, Resource Room Teacher at Delta Kelly Elementary, submitted her letter of resignation effective October 15, 2020. Ms. Peters has been with the district since August 2018.

REA RETIREMENTS

Beth Bowerman, Physical Education Teacher at Van Hoosen Middle School, submitted her letter of retirement effective January 11, 2020. Ms. Bowerman has been with the district since February 2001.

Annette Fieber, School Counselor at West Middle School, submitted her letter of retirement effective October 1, 2020. Ms. Fieber has been with the district since September 1989.

NEW HIRES - REA – 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Lana Attar, Speech and Language Pathologist, Districtwide
Aliaina Bos, Speech and Language Pathologist, Districtwide
Laura Cosentino, 5th Grade Teacher, Hamlin Elementary
Allison Geist, Autism Spectrum Disorder Teacher, Meadow Brook Elementary
Brooke Govern, Family Consumer Science, Stoney Creek High School
Sarah Hoover, ECSE Teacher, Baldwin Elementary
Jennifer Nye, School Counselor, West Middle School
Ryan Page, Psychologist, Districtwide
Eleonora Richardson, Cognitively Impaired Teacher, Delta Kelly Elementary
Anya Rowe, Speech and Language Pathologist, Districtwide

Motion to approve the Human Resource Report, as presented.

Moved by: Scott Muska

Supported by: Mike Zabat

Vote: 7-0

B. Contract Extension of AFSCME Local 202

Elizabeth Davis presented the recommendation that the AFSCME Local 2020 contract be extended by one year.

Motion to approve the Contract Extension of AFSCME Local 202, as presented.

Moved by: Andrea Walker-Leidy

Supported by: Michelle Bueltel

Vote: 7-0

C. Recertification of Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan

Dr. Shaner indicated there is no change to the current plan. The recertification is required every calendar month.

Board member discussion included a reminder that the plan encompasses all learning options as well as various protocols are in place to support all methods of learning.

Public comments included: Nina Ignaczak clarified a comment she made during Citizens Requesting Placement on the Agenda as well as reiterated her desire for remote learning; Andrew Weaver shared his plea that in-person learning should not be dictated by positive cases alone; Jessica Opfer expressed her appreciation for how the district is looking at distance learning, her desire for the board to hear how learning is going for all students, and her hope that the district will allow in-person/virtual/remote as three options of attending school; Brent Raymond expressed his disdain for remote learning.

Motion to approve the Recertification of Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan, as presented.

Moved by: Barb Anness

Supported by: Scott Muska

Vote: 7-0

D. Oakland Together Schools COVID Support Fund – Interlocal Agreement

Matt McDaniel shared that Rochester Community Schools will receive nearly \$1.8M from the Oakland Together Schools COVID Support Fund.

Motion to approve the Oakland Together Schools COVID Support Fund – Interlocal Agreement, as presented.

Moved by: Mike Zabat

Supported by: Scott Muska

Vote: 7-0

Additional Business

A. Citizens Present at the Meeting

None

B. Members of the Administration

Dr. Shaner congratulated the Musson staff and community for being recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School. He also thanked Cindy Lindner and her team for their work with the 1:1 initiative.

Debi Fragomeni thanked the presenters during tonight's meeting and to Tanya Regmont and Susan Demeniuk who are working tirelessly through the COVID-19 experience.

C. Members of the Board of Education

Mike Zabat thanked Adams for hosting the meeting and to the Adams PTA for the care package.

Michelle Buelteel inquired about how we are keeping track of the equity of all students' learning to ensure they are not regressing, she shared her appreciation for all the work staff is doing for students and also noted that RAYA recently held a pumpkin carving event for people to learn more about the organization.

Kevin Beers explained the reason why he was joining remotely.

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Moved by: Mike Zabat

Seconded by: Michelle Bueltel

Vote: 7-0

Respectfully submitted:

Christina Whitmore
Recording Secretary

Approved by:


Secretary, Board of Education