

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

**Administration Building**  
**Tuesday, August 24, 2021**

Vice President Tim Rollins called the meeting to order at 5:47 p.m.

Present: Vice President Tim Rollins, Secretary June Stanford, Ms. Kamrin Muhammad, Ms. Denise Pearson, Mr. David Seigel  
(arr. 5:49 p.m.) Mr. Michael Connor

Absent: President Jude Makulec

**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: 5-0-2**

The Board was in executive session from 5:49 p.m. to 7:06 p.m.

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1. Call to Order – Vice President Tim Rollins called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:03 p.m.
    - A. Roll Call  
Present: Vice President Tim Rollins, Secretary June Stanford, Ms. Kamrin Muhammad, Ms. Denise Pearson, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor  
Absent: President Jude Makulec  
Mr. Rollins thanked Conner Childers who produces the Board’s broadcast on Channel 20, 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. Public Hearing on the Tentative 2021-2022 Budget
    - A. Public Hearing on the Tentative 2021-2022 Budget  
There were no speakers.
  3. Petitions & Communications  
There were no public speakers.
  4. Board Member Comments
    - Ms. Muhammad gave a shout-out to teachers she worked with over the summer; Ms. Kiera Burnell and Ms. Abeni Copeland both teachers at Lewis Lemon Elementary. Ms. Muhammad worked with both during the Live Learn Play initiative that the District had in place with community partners. She thanked them for addressing the learning loss for the children at Washington Park Community Center and for going over and beyond plus adding math curriculum. She also thanked them for attending Washington Park’s Black Party and passing out leftover school supplies.
    - Mr. Seigel spoke of the District and Rockford Education Association (REA) reaching an agreement and the vote taking place in the meeting to approve it. He spoke of being excited at beginning the school year with a contract with the teachers. He thanked REA President Mel Gilfillan and Vice President Chad Anderson for attending many of the Board meetings.
    - Ms. Pearson gave accolades to Ms. Ulferts at Lewis Lemon Elementary School. She had an opportunity to visit the school and met with Ms. Ulferts. The meeting included discussion their process for restorative, using Title I funds, and how equity is being addressed. Ms. Pearson spoke of the kindergarten cohort and the emphasis on reading. She praised Ms. Ulferts and her team for their efforts at Lewis Lemon.
    - Mr. Rollins spoke of this being the last Board meeting before the start of the school year. Last year was particularly challenging on many fronts. This year is not beginning completely normal; however, he welcomed back all District students, staff, and parents, and stated to look forward to a great school year.
  5. Superintendent’s Report
    - A. Superintendent’s Report  
Dr. Jarrett echoed statements made by Mr. Rollins, welcoming faculty, staff, student and their families back for another school year. More than one-hundred fifty new teachers will be welcomed on Wednesday, August 25, 2021, which will

addressed virtually by Dr. Jarrett. Teachers' Institute takes place August 31 and September 1, with students back in school September 2, 2021.

6. \*Consent Agenda – Performance Monitoring Committee

- A. Payroll
- B. Accounts Payable
- C. Purchase Orders (FY21)
- D. Purchase Orders (FY22)
- E. Air Travel
- F. Monthly Cash and Investment Report – July 2021 - Jamie Murray, CPA, Executive Director of Finance
- G. Construction Pay Request Log 2020-2021
- H. RPS Managed Work Change Order Logs – Scott Jensen Director of Design and Construction
- I. IFB 22-02 CNA/DSP/BT/RN Staffing Coverage
- J. Sunbelt VocoVision Speech Pathologist
- K. National Equity Project-BELE District Network
- L. Zephyr Government Strategies – Dr. Ehren Jarrett, Superintendent

7. \*Consent Agenda – Governance Committee

- A. Meeting Minutes: 08/10/21
- B. Contract Purchase Orders
- C. ~~REA Collective Bargaining Agreement~~ – pulled by Mr. Rollins
- D. ~~Freedom of Information Log~~ – pulled by Ms. Pearson

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

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

**Absent:** Mrs. Makulec

**Approved: 6-0-1**

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Consent item pulled, 7C, REA Collective Bargaining Agreement. Administration was asked to give a summary. Mr. Zediker gave the update. Changes are health insurance premium cost will increase two percent each year over the length of the agreement, beginning with fourteen percent this year to twenty percent by year four. The workday is normalized for all teachers regardless of the grade level they teach; which is early childhood through high school. The workday will be the same with more planning period professional time to work with colleagues. Site based governance is implemented at buildings that allows opportunities and processes that buildings can vote on be creative to meet the needs of students in their buildings. Steps and lanes continue to be implemented across the salary schedule, with the base salary for each increased by \$2,000 for each year of the contract in addition to the steps and lanes earned. Missed planning period pay will be raised from \$22.50 to \$27.50. Mr. Rollins called for the vote.

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

**Abstain:** Mr. Rollins

**Absent:** Mrs. Makulec

**Approved: 5-1-1**

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Consent item pulled 7D, Freedom of Information Log.

Ms. Pearson spoke of her excitement with the changes and supports the team. She asked community members for their support and share the efforts to change the narrative of the District.

Mr. Rollins called for the vote.

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

**Absent:** Mrs. Makulec

**Approved: 6-0-1**

8. \*Closed Session Consent Items

- A. Appointment of Sarah Dunlap Watson as 12 Month Curriculum Dean of Math
- B. 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, Mr. Rollins, Ms. Muhammad

**Absent:** Mrs. Makulec

**Approved: 6-0-1**

9. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

*"Administration is requesting the Board suspend the rules to consider Board Policy 7.300 Students; Co-Curricular Activities/Athletics as Administration recommends alignment with the IHSA, IESA and NIC-10 to provide a level playing field of opportunity for students."*

A. \*\*Board Policy 7.300 Students; Co-Curricular Activities/Athletics

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to suspend the rules to consider item 9A, Board Policy 7.300 Students; Co-Curricular Activities/Athletics.

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

**Absent:** Mrs. Makulec

**Approved: 6-0-1**

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to approve item 9A, Board Policy 7.300 Students; Co-Curricular Activities/Athletics.

The Illinois High School Association (IHSA) modified their bylaws, so students are eligible for sports and activities the first semester of the 2021-2022 school year if they passed three classes the second semester of the 2020-2021 school year.

Mr. Rollins called for the vote.

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

**Absent:** Mrs. Makulec

**Approved: 6-0-1**

B. Board Member Action Steps

There were no action steps.

10. Adjournment

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

**Adjournment: 7:21p.m.**

Approved: 09/10/21

**President:** *Jude B. Makulec /s/*

**Secretary:** *June Stanford /s/*