

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

**Administration Building  
Tuesday, September 28, 2021**

Vice President Tim Rollins called the meeting to order at 4:59 p.m.

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

**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 5:00p.m. to 6:01 p.m.

1. Call to Order – Vice President Tim Rollins called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:00 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. Petitions & Communications  
Mr. Rollins read the guidelines.
  - Mr. Scott Jensen spoke in agreement of honoring Gullford Teacher and Coach Lee Marks, with naming the track at Swanson Stadium the Lee Marks Memorial Track.
3. Board Member Comments
  - A. Board Member Comments
    - Ms. Muhammad gave a shout-out to Auburn principal Mrs. Keffer, Welsh Elementary principal Mr. Hand, and West View principal Mr. Sayer for meeting with her this past week. She commended the importance of introducing herself to the schools in her subdistrict, and how she can be supportive. She also spoke to Mr. Hand, taking the time to walk her through their goals, but also explaining where they have started and where they plan to go. She also encouraged other parents as well as community members to get to know the principals at the schools to ensure students are successful.
    - Ms. Pearson spoke of receiving phone calls and e-mails regarding activities in some of the District schools. She sent a message to students and parents; it is an overwhelming challenge to advocate for those who sent a message through their actions they simply do not care about receiving an education. It is sad to be confronted with those dilemmas in the current time. Ms. Pearson encouraged parents, specifically to those single and/or working parents that it is challenging; however, if your child is disobedient to you, and you cannot motivate them to achieve, consider how much more difficult it is for those who have to teach them. Despite of what may appear to be, the District has an obligation to do all they can to make sure students are being educated. Ms. Pearson also stated the hope that everyone is utilizing available resources to meet the needs and identify core issues to help students so that every student can be successful in obtaining their education.
4. Superintendent’s Report
  - A. Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Jarrett  
Dr. Jarrett ceded his time for the AROI Tier E: Freshman Academy report.
  - B. AROI Tier 3: Freshman Academy  
Mr. Zediker, Ms. French, Dr. Brunson, and Mr. Gallagher each presented the Year End Analysis to Board members. The Freshman Academy is at all four high schools but does not include Roosevelt. The universal goal is to increase Freshman On Track to 75% by 2024. The Equity Imperative is creating learning environment that work for all students and interrupt the predictability of student outcomes based on zip codes. Currently, the Freshman on Track the actual

percentage is 66.8%. The goal for Student Engagement is 50% of students, actual is 42.7%. The Administration recommends keeping Freshman Academy and implement fixes for SY22. Students are offered two opportunities to understand College & Career Readiness; in middle school High School Readiness the second semester of 8<sup>th</sup> grade, and the yearlong 9<sup>th</sup> grade course, College & Career Readiness. Monthly professional development will begin with 9<sup>th</sup> grade teachers teaching the College & Career Readiness course. Beginning in the spring, 8<sup>th</sup> grade College & Career Readiness teachers will begin the same professional development as 9<sup>th</sup> grade teachers. Addressing the deficit mindset was reviewed. Deficit based thinking: problem oriented, how to fix the problem, us vs. them, problems are embedded, do things for people, people are the problem, people can't be trusted to in control/make decisions. Asset based thinking: strength based, what can I do? What can you do? we're all in this together, shared hopes & aspirations, everyone can make a contribution, how can we create community spirit? co-creating experiences or conditions together. Enhancing use of data to target students and supports was presented to members. This consisted of making data user friendly for teachers, with the ability to drill down to the student level, providing ability to sort by variety of variables, and an interface for teachers. The plan allows teacher to coordinate interventions within classroom and coordinate additional push in/push out interventions from support staff. To view the presentation, please click on this link: [A-ROI Freshman Academy](#).

5. Report and \*Action on Items that Proceeded through the Planning and Development Committee
  - A. \*Resolution to Adopt 2021-2022 Budget – Ms. Michele Sather, Executive Director of Finance  
**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** item 5A, Resolution to Adopt 2021-2022 Budget.  
**Yeas:** Ms. Pearson, Mr. Rollins, Ms. Muhammad, Mr. Seigel, Mr. Connor, Ms. Stanford  
**Absent:** Mrs. Makulec  
**Approved: 6-0-1**
  - B. Follow-up on Items Presented at the Committee of the Whole Meeting  
There were no follow-up items.
6. \*Consent Agenda – Performance Monitoring Committee
  - A. Payroll
  - B. Accounts Payable
  - C. Purchase Orders
  - D. Air Travel
  - E. Monthly Cash and Investment Report – August 2021 – Jamie Murray, CPA, Executive Director of Finance
  - F. Construction Pay Request Log
  - G. RPS Managed Work Change Order Logs – Scott Jensen, Director of Design and Construction
7. \*Consent Agenda – Governance Committee
  - A. ~~Meeting Minutes: 09-14-21~~ – pulled by Mr. Seigel
  - B. Contract Purchase Orders
  - C. Freedom of Information Log

**Motion** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Consent Items not pulled.  
**Yeas:** Mr. Rollins, Ms. Muhammad, Mr. Seigel, Mr. Connor, Ms. Stanford, Ms. Pearson  
**Absent:** Mrs. Makulec  
**Approved: 6-0-1**  
**Motion** by Mr. Seigel seconded by Ms. Stanford to **approve** Consent item pulled, 7A, Meeting Minutes 09-11-21  
**Yeas:** Ms. Muhammad, Ms. Stanford, Ms. Pearson, Mr. Rollins  
**Abstain:** Mr. Connor, Mr. Seigel  
**Absent:** Mrs. Makulec  
**Approved: 4-2-1**
8. \*Closed Session Consent Items
  - A. Salary Adjustment for Bilingual Tutors
  - B. HR Organization Report & Addendum
9. \*Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline – Suspension Appeals and Expulsions
  - A. GDM-2057 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the entire 2021-2022 school year.
10. \*Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline – EIAs
  - A. GDM-8239-21
  - B. GDM-8240-22
  - C. ~~GDM-8242-22~~ – Pulled by Administration
  - D. GDM-8243-22

- E. ~~GDM-8244-22~~ – Pulled by Administration
- F. GDM-8245-22
- G. ~~GDM-8246-22~~ – Pulled by Administration
- H. GDM-8247-22
- I. GDM-8248-22
- J. GDM-8249-22

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

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

**Abstain:** Ms. Pearson

**Absent:** Mrs. Makulec

**Approved: 5-0-2**

11. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

A. Board Member Action Steps

Mr. Rollins asked for an update regarding the quarantine policy and test to stay. Mr. Zediker spoke to the request. Tests available for staff and student for test to stay is a procedure that was in progress prior to the recent State mandates. There is availability for unvaccinated staff and students to participate in the protocol, test to stay. If a person is identified as a close contact, the person would have the opportunity to test on Day 1, Day 3, Day 5, and Day 7 in order to stay in school, either staff or student. Current complications include local health systems becoming overwhelmed with the number of individuals requiring tests. If rapid tests with quick results are not available, results could be returned in 48 to 72 hours, which would defeat the test to stay process. Administration sent to staff members an e-mail outlining this procedure also stating it is due to availability of tests throughout the health systems. Test results will only be accepted if performed in front of a medical provider.

12. Adjournment

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

**Adjournment: 8:21 p.m.**

Approved: 10/12/21

President: \_\_\_\_\_ *Jude B. Makulec*

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_ *June Stanford*