

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

**Administration Building
Tuesday, October 12, 2021**

President Jude Makulec called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Present: President Jude Makulec, Vice President Tim Rollins (arr. 5:08 p.m.), Secretary June Stanford, Ms. Kamrin Muhammad, Ms. Denise Pearson (arr. 5:02 p.m.), David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor

Absent: None

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 5:02 p.m. to 6:54 p.m.

-
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: President Jude Makulec, Vice President Tim Rollins, Secretary June Stanford, Ms. Kamrin Muhammad, Ms. Denise Pearson, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor
Absent: None
Mrs. Makulec thanked Conner Childers who produces the Board’s broadcast on Channel 20, and YouTube Live. She also welcomed students from Rockford University who were observing a Board meeting.
 - 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
There were no speakers.
 3. Board Member Comments
 - A. Board Member Comments
 - Ms. Muhammad spoke of her visits with Conklin Elementary School, West Middle School, and Ellis Elementary School. She thanked Ms. Turner, Mr. Erdman, and Mr. Goodrich for meeting with her and commented on the discussion items including the need for parent/community involvement, efforts being made in the buildings and student population, and the hospitality shown.
 4. Superintendent’s Report
 - A. Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Jarrett
There was no report
 5. Report and Action on Items that Proceeded through the Internal/External Stakeholder Relations Committee
 - A. Follow-up Board Member Workshops – Image & Community Relations Workshops
Mr. Seigel conducted a follow-up conversation first thanking Ms. Cathy Bayer and Ms. Maureen Kirschmann for their presentations. Comments included adding smaller groups to the Community Relations list including Booker Washington Center, 100 Strong, and Washington Park Community Center. Three items resulted from the discussions: including Ms. Pearson’s feedback, a meeting synthesizing the Board feedback, and creation of a volunteer database for Board member opportunities.
 - B. Follow-up on Items Presented at the Committee of the Whole
There were no follow-up items.
 6. Report and *Action on Items that Proceeded through the Performance and Monitoring Committee
 - A. *Auburn CAPA Theater Trip – Edinburgh Fringe Festival – Dr. Heather Psaltis on Behalf of Auburn CAPA Program
Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** item 6A. Auburn CAPA Theater Trip – Edinburgh Fringe Festival.
Comments and conversation took place regarding this including the concern of any liability to the District, expectations, adult/student ratios, and releases. The District does have a field trip manual with standardized consent and waiver

forms. The deadline for students to sign-up is October 31, 2021. Board members expressed their support but wished to have assurances regarding their concerns. Dr. Psaltis and the Auburn CAPA team will take ownership of the trip, and Atty. Goldsmith will assure they have the documents in hand to distribute. Members spoke of needing more time to review the information.

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Ms. Pearson to **table the vote** until the October 26, 2021, regular meeting.

Yeas: Mr. Rollins, Ms. Muhammad, Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Seigel, Ms. Pearson

Nays: Mr. Connor, Ms. Stanford

Approved: 5-0-2

The item will return to the October 26, 2021, meeting.

B. Follow-up on Items Presented at the Committee of the Whole Meeting

There were no follow-up items.

7. Report and *Action on Items that Proceeded through the Planning and Development Committee

A. *Educational Services Agreement – Rockford University

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to **approve** item 7A, Educational Services Agreement – Rockford University.

Administration was asked for a breakdown of the cohort. This will be e-mailed to Board members. Questions were asked regarding the PDSA, and the answers given. This is a document with automated responses. The program has 18-20 seats available, with current number of 18. If a teacher leaves the program mid-program, the cost is prorated, and they would owe those funds to the District. Mrs. Makulec called for the vote.

Approved: Unanimously

B. Follow-up on Items Presented

There were no follow-up items

8. Board President's Announcements and Report and Action on items that Proceeded through Governance Committee

A. Follow-up on Items Presented at Committee of the Whole

9. *Consent Agenda – Performance Monitoring Committee

A. Payroll

B. Accounts Payable

C. Purchase Orders

D. IFB 22-10 Page Park School Asbestos Abatement Project

E. ~~IFB 22-13 Stiles School Asbestos Abatement Project~~ – pulled by Mrs. Makulec

F. Architectural and Engineering Services Contract with Belles Firm of Architecture for the Sterling Holley Renovation Phase 1 – Michael Phillips, Chief Operating Officer

G. Architectural and Engineering Services Contract with Belles Firm of Architecture for the Lincoln Middle School Roof Replacement – Michael Phillips, Chief Operating Officer

H. ~~Recurring Approval of Schoolwide Title I Plans~~ – pulled by Ms. Pearson

I. Recurring Contract: Dreambox, Morgan Gallagher on behalf of RESA

J. Recurring Contract for Extended Day Services with NIU/Dr. Hsu – Dr. Woulfe

K. Regional Office of Education – Morgan Gallagher on behalf of Cherry Valley

L. Tier 1: American Institutes for Research – Susan Fumo

M. ~~Tier 1: K12 Internal Customer Service Survey~~ – pulled by Ms. Muhammad

N. ~~Tier 1: Contracted Teacher with Therapy Travelers~~ – pulled by Mr. Rollins

10. *Consent Agenda – Planning and Development Committee

A. ~~RFP 22-11 Strategic Planning – Rebid~~ – pulled by Mrs. Makulec

11. *Consent Agenda – Governance Committee

A. Meeting Minutes:09-28-21

B. Contract Purchase Orders

C. ~~Memorandum of Understanding AFSCME Local 3210, Council 31 (Nutrition Services)~~ – pulled by Mrs. Makulec

D. ~~Hiring Incentive for Recruitment of Nutrition Services Employees~~ – pulled by Mrs. Makulec

E. ~~Memorandum of Understanding AFSCME Local 62, Council 31 (Paraprofessionals)~~ – pulled by Mrs. Makulec

F. ~~Hiring Incentive for Recruitment of Paraprofessionals~~ – pulled by Mrs. Makulec

G. Hourly Rate Adjustment for Registered Nurses

H. Freedom of Information Log

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

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Connor to **approve** Consent item pulled 9E, IFB 22-13 Stiles Schools Asbestos Abatement Project.

The abatement is the first phase necessary before the building is demolished.

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to approve Consent item pulled, 9H, Recurring Approval of Schoolwide Title I Plans.

Use of Title I funds were explained to Board members. This is a collaborative effort and technical assistance is provided on a monthly basis for needed supports in navigating the process of using Title funds. The structure of the District's school supervision with the school supervisor working in partnership with the principal, reviewing the school improvement plan with questions are goals being met, and are resources aligned with needs. Annually, principals are asked to create a theory of action, basically describing the problem, followed by an action plan to obtain the result. The remainder of the budget planning process is aligning resources, local or grant funding, to the strategies to have the results. Mrs. Makulec called for the vote.

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Ms. Pearson to approve Consent item pulled 9M, Tier 1: K12 Internal Customer Service Survey.

Approval of this contract will add two additional surveys specifically for school leaders to take two times annually. This is to measure key deliverables from the central office to ensure accountability within the System Wide Framework. The total fiscal impact is \$64,000 for two surveys annually for two years. Mrs. Makulec called for the vote.

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to approve Consent items pulled 9N, Tier 1: Contracted Teacher with Therapy Travelers.

Currently there is a shortage of Special Education teachers, and the District is contracted a teacher through an agency. Administration members are attending recruiting fairs for these positions. Mrs. Makulec called for the vote.

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to approve Consent item pulled 10A, RFP 22-11 Strategic Planning – Rebid.

Comments included the differences in the bids. Administration spoke to this. Mrs. Makulec called for the vote.

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Ms. Pearson to approve Consent items pulled 11C-11F, Memorandum of Understanding AFSCME Local 3210, Council 31 (Nutrition Services), Hiring Incentive for Recruitment of Nutrition Services Employees, Memorandum of Understanding AFSCME Local 692 (Paraprofessionals), Hiring Incentive for Recruitment of Paraprofessionals.

The Memoranda of Understanding for Nutrition Services and Paraprofessionals mirrors the one previously approved for the bus drivers. These are retention and perfect attendance bonuses. In addition, the hiring incentives for Nutrition Services and Paraprofessionals also mirrors the hiring incentive previously approved for the bus drivers. Mrs. Makulec called for the vote.

Approved: Unanimously

12. *Closed Session Consent Items

- A. Notice to Remedy Shana Alex
- B. Appointment of Ruth Sanchez as 12 month Administrator for Bilingual and Multicultural
- C. Appointment of Teresa Fillers as 12 month Director of Early Childhood
- D. HR Organization Report & Addendum

13. *Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline – Suspension Appeals and Expulsions

- A. ~~GDM 4388 22—expelled for the entire 2021-2022 school year~~ – pulled by Ms. Muhammad
- B. GDM-4389-22– expelled for the entire 2021-2022 school year
- C. GDM-4390-22– expelled for the entire 2021-2022 school year through the entire 2022-2023 school year
- D. ~~GDM 4391 22—expelled for the entire 2021-2022 school year~~ – pulled by Ms. Pearson
- E. GDM-4392-22– the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the first semester of the 2021-2022 school year.
- F. ~~GDM 4393 22—expelled for the first semester of the 2021-2022 school year~~ – pulled by Ms. Muhammad

14. *Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline – EIAs

- A. GDM-1084-22
- B. GDM-1085-22
- C. GDM-8241-22
- D. GDM-8242-22

- E. GDM-8244-22
- F. GDM-8246-22
- G. GDM-8250-22
- H. GDM-8251-22
- I. GDM-8252-22
- J. GDM-8255-22
- K. GDM-8256-22
- L. GDM-8257-22
- M. GDM-8258-22
- N. GDM-8259-22
- O. GDM-8260-22
- P. GDM-8261-22
- Q. GDM-8262-22
- R. GDM-8263-22
- S. GDM-8264-22
- T. GDM-8265-22
- U. GDM-8266-22
- V. GDM-8267-22
- W. GDM-8268-22

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

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to approve Closed Session Consent items pulled 13A, 13D, and 13F, GDM-4388-22, GDM-4391-22, GDM-4393-22

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

Nays: Ms. Pearson, Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 5-0-2

15. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

A. Board Member Action Steps

Mrs. Makulec spoke to members receiving calls regarding staff members carrying weapons in schools. IASB Resolution #1 – Pre-Service Teacher Education and Licensure in Literacy, and IASB Resolution #2 – Student Safety and Protection Plan. These will come forward at the Committee of the Whole and as a vote at the November 9, 2021, Regular Board meeting.

The following action steps were added by Atty. Goldsmith:

- Edinburgh Fringe Festival - Dr. Psaltis and Atty. Goldsmith will follow up regarding type of insurance students have, steps to limit risk, etc.
- Educational Services Agreement – Mrs. Dettman will work with Ms. French to get the demographic data, whether all schools are impacted, and the status of the two open spots.

16. Adjournment

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

Adjournment: 8:33 p.m.

Approved:

President: _____

Secretary: _____