

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

**Administration Building
Tuesday, November 09, 2021**

President Jude Makulec called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present: President Jude Makulec, Vice President Tim Rollins, Secretary June Stanford, Ms. Kamrin Muhammad (arr. 5:13 p.m.), Ms. Denise Pearson (arr. 5:17 p.m.), Mr. 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 5:59 p.m. to 6:49 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 7:02 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 welcomed Dr. Jarrett’s Superintendent’s Student Advisory Committee (SSAC) member Isabel Gonzales.
 - 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
Mrs. Makulec read the guidelines.
 - Tajionna James spoke of student discipline and the need for revision.
 - Keniya Parks-Collin spoke of disciplinary actions in school.
 - Vickie Anderson spoke of her disagreement with Critical Race Theory.
 - Lydia Gonzales spoke in opposition to the requirement of Covid testing for after school and sport activities.
 - Brenda Schlueter asked the District to support the paraprofessionals who work at Easter Seals.
 - Sara Dorner, President of Rockford United Labor, AFL-CIO, thanked Board members for their work and asked the District to advocate for the paraprofessionals working at Easter Seals.
 - Pinky Langdon, NCAACP Education Chair, spoke of the school bus driver shortage, a complaint about a District teacher using inappropriate language, and the Equity team’s work.
 3. Board Member Comments
 - A. Board Member Comments
 - Mr. Seigel thanked both students who spoke during the Petitions & Communications portion of the meeting. He also spoke of the gathering at Constance Lane Elementary School, with Representative Maurice West celebrating the 100th birthday of Constance Lane. He spoke of the naming process of the school, speaking to former students, coworkers, and supervisors, stating she had a great mind and greeted every student by name.
 - Ms. Denise Pearson thanked community members who spoke during the Petitions & Communications portion of the meeting. Ms. Pearson also acknowledged the District’s lunch aides specifically Mrs. Gloria Locke who continues to offer emotional and social support to students.
 - Ms. Kamrin Muhammad thanked the public speakers for expressing their concerns. She gave a shout-out to Mr. Gus Carter, principal at Guilford High School. She spoke in appreciation of his taking the time to give her a tour of the building and speaking to her of their programs. She was impressed with the school’s credit union, and teaching students financial literacy. Ms. Muhammad toured Summerdale and Beyer Early Education Centers. Mrs. Blackwell, principal of Beyer who gave her a tour of the building. She also thanked Anquetta Parham, Director of Human Services with the City of Rockford, for introducing Ms. Muhammad to the Head Start Team. She also thanked Dr. Lak (Dr. Jennifer Lak-Keilman) principal at Summerdale Early Education Center. She appreciated Dr.

Lak's affirmations she had posted on her wall. Ms. Muhammad also mentioned her excitement of Summerdale's first PTO meeting. Ms. Muhammad finished by giving a shout-out to Kennedy Middle School, thanking Ms. Treveda Redmond for being transparent with her. Ms. Muhammad appreciates the representation Kennedy Middle School gives its students.

- Mrs. Makulec commented of having the speaker cards, and how the District is entering the phase to review the Student Discipline Code, with scheduled meetings for public participation. She encouraged the students to participate in the upcoming meetings. Mrs. Makulec also acknowledged Easter Seals and is aware firsthand of their work. She also spoke of the District's busing situation, and complimented Mr. Slife on how the routes have been scheduled in spite of driver shortages. RPS205 has intentionally focused on students who have the most difficult time with transportation and not limiting their routes.

4. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett

Dr. Jarrett acknowledged the public speakers. He also gave a shout-out to Representative Maurice West for powerful presentation celebrating the 100th birthday of Constance Lane. The event included four student speakers supporting Mr. West's presentation. Dr. Jarrett spoke of being at Beyer Early Childhood Center with U.S. Representative Cheri Bustos and the potential Early Childhood universal expansion. The District advocated with Representative Bustos for additional funding flexibility, full transportation as part of the process as well as facilities matching, making universal early childhood expansion a possibility. The thanked Isabella Gonzales for attending the meeting and spoke of looking forward to hearing from the Superintendent's Student Council representatives at the November 16, 2021, meeting. Dr. Jarrett will also speak of the System Wide Framework.

5. Report and *Action on Items that Proceeded through the Performance and Monitoring Committee

A. *Fiscal Year (FY)2021 Audited Financial Statements – Jamie Murray/Baker Tilly

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to **approve** item 5A, Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Audited Financial Statements.

Approved: Unanimously

B. Follow-up on Items Presented at 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. *Determination of 2021 Tax Levies – Ms. Michele Sather, Executive Director of Budget

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** item 6A, Determination of 2021 Tax Levies.

Approved: Unanimously

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

7. Board President's Announcements and Report and *Action on items that Proceed through Governance Committee

A. *Board Policy 5.270 Personnel; Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Ms. Pearson to **approve** item 7A, Board Policy 5.270 Personnel; Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment.

Approved: Unanimously

B. *IASB Resolution #1 – Pre-Service Teacher Education and Licensure in Literacy

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to **approve** item 7B, IASB Resolution #1 – Pre-Service Teacher Education and Licensure in Literacy.

Approved: Unanimously

The Board supports the proposal to adopt the Resolution (i.e., supports imposing literacy requirements for teaching licenses).

C. *IASB Resolution #2 – Student Safety and Protection Plan

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** IASB Resolution #2 – Student Safety and Protection Plan. Board members conducted a robust discussion regarding this resolution. Mrs. Makulec called for the vote.

Yeas: Mr. Rollins, Mr. Connor

Nays: Ms. Pearson, Ms. Muhammad, Mr. Seigel, Ms. Stanford

The Board does not support the proposal to adopt the Resolution (i.e., does not support employees carrying a concealed firearm on school premises).

D. *IASB Resolution #3 – School Board Member Compensation

Motion by Mr. Seigel seconded by Mr. Rollins to **approve** item 7D, IASB Resolution #3 – School Board Member Compensation.

Discussion included that many public servants are paid, but people serving on library, park, and school boards do not. Additional comments include the understanding of why this was raised, but funds are needed to support this. Mrs. Makulec called for the vote.

Yeas Ms. Pearson, Ms. Muhammad, Mr. Connor

Nays: Mr. Rollins, Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Seigel, Ms. Stanford

The Board does not support the proposal to adopt the Resolution (i.e., does not support compensating individuals for serving on a school board).

E. *IASB Resolution #9 – Health and Sex Education

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Ms. Pearson to **approve** item 7E, IASB Resolution #9, Health and Sex Education Curriculum.

Comments included the importance of community engagement and encouraging the District to maintain control of age-appropriate curriculum. Mrs. Makulec called for the vote.

Approved: Unanimously

The Board supports the proposal to adopt the Resolution (i.e., supports local control for health and sex education curriculum / courses).

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

8. *Consent Items – Performance and Monitoring Committee

A. Payroll

B. Accounts Payable

C. Purchase Orders

D. Air Travel

E. Resolution Abating the Tax Heretofore Levied for the Year 2021 to Pay Debt Service on Taxable General Obligation School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2016 (Qualified School Construction Bonds) - Ms. Michele Sather, Executive Director Budget

F. RFP 22-08 Demographer Services

G. IFB 22-14 Demolition of Stiles and Page Park Schools

H. ~~RFP 22-16 Student Record Conversion and Software~~ – pulled by Mr. Seigel

I. District Management Group (DMG) Learning Partner – Morgan Gallagher on behalf of RESA Middle School

J. ~~Network for College Success (NCS) – Morgan Gallagher on behalf of Guilford High School~~ – pulled by Ms. Muhammad

K. Regional Office of Education (ROE) – Morgan Gallagher on behalf of Ellis Elementary

L. Nearpod dba Flocabulary – Morgan Gallagher on behalf of Lincoln Middle School

M. Learning A-Z Bilingual Licenses

N. Paridad Education Consulting – Dr. Heather Psaltis on behalf of Barbour Two Way Language Immersion

O. 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grand and Supporting Contracts Acceptance – Dr. Woulfe

P. The Workplace Addendum – Matthew Zediker, Chief Human Resources Office

Q. Architectural and Engineering Services Contract with Richard L. Johnson for Security Vestibule Design – Michael Phillips, Chief Operating Officer

R. Architectural and Engineering Services Contract with Belles Firm of Architecture for West View ES Roof Replacement – Michael Phillips, Chief Operating Officer

S. Tier 1: IT Audit – Matt Johnson Director of IT/IS

T. Tier 1: Internet High Availability and Redundancy – Matt Johnson Director of IT/IS

9. *Consent Agenda – Planning and Development Committee

A. RFQ 22-12 Civil Engineering Services

10. *Consent Items – Governance Committee

A. Meeting Minutes: 10-26-21

B. Contract Purchase Orders

C. Freedom of Information Log

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

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Consent item pulled 8H, RFP 22-16 Student Record Conversion and Software.

There is no cost to storage of paper documents for the first three years. Documents are not locally stored.

Mrs. Makulec called for the vote.

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to approve Consent item pulled 8J, Network for College Success (NCS).

Guilford High School chose this to address work over all its academies. This could be expanded over all the high schools. Mrs. Makulec called for the vote.

Approved: Unanimously

11. *Closed Session Consent Items

- A. Appointment of Sarah Jeske as 12 Month Executive Director of Human Resources
- B. Appointment of Colleen Koehler as 12 Month Director of Nutrition Services
- C. Appointment of Dustin Printz as 12 Month Dean at Roosevelt
- D. HR Organization Report & Addendum

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

- A. GDM-4402-22 – expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year, through the first semester of the 2022-2023 school year.
- B. GDM-4404-22 – expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.
- C. GDM-4405-22 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.
- D. GDM-4406-22 – expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year, through the first semester of the 2022-2023 school year.

13. *Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline – EIAs –

- A. GDM-1087-22
- B. GDM-1088-22
- C. GDM-1089-22
- D. GDM-8272-22
- E. GDM-8278-22
- F. GDM-8282-22
- G. GDM-8283-22
- H. GDM-8284-22
- I. GDM-8285-22
- J. GDM-8286-22
- K. GDM-8287-22
- L. GDM-8289-22
- M. GDM-8290-22
- N. GDM-8291-22
- O. GDM-8292-22
- P. GDM-8293-22
- Q. GDM-8294-22
- R. GDM-8296-22
- S. GDM-8297-22
- T. GDM-8298-22
- U. GDM-8299-22
- V. GDM-8300-22
- W. GDM-8301-22
- X. GDM-8302-22
- Y. GDM-8303-22
- Z. GDM-8304-22
- AA. GDM-8305-22
- BB. GDM-8306-22
- CC. GDM-8307-22

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

Approved: Unanimously

14. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

- A. Board Member Action Steps

Action steps include replying to the speakers during Petitions & Communications with dates and information

15. Adjournment

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

Adjournment: 8:01 p.m.

Approved: 12/14/21

President: *Jude B. Makulec /s/*

Secretary: *June Stanford /s/*