

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

**Administration Building
Tuesday, January 11, 2022**

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

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

Motion by Mr. Rollins 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 5:01 p.m. to 6:35 p.m.

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1. Call to Order – President Jude Makulec called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m.
 - A. Roll Call
Present: President Jude Makulec, Vice President Tim Rollins, Ms. Kamrin Muhammad, Ms. Denise Pearson, Mr. David Seigel
Absent: Secretary June Stanford, Mr. Michael Connor
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 Juwayria Zahurullah, a senior at Auburn High School
 - 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.
 - Jenesis Burris spoke of the school shooting at Auburn High School and how she and other students had to wait outside in the cold due to the hard lockdown.
 - Keniya Parks-Collins commented of how discipline of students sets them up for failure. She also stated teacher should be held accountable for their behavior.
 - Tajionna James spoke in opposition to the hoodie ban at Auburn High School.
 - Paul Pickerl, Auburn teacher, voiced his concerns regarding problems within the buildings and children carrying their trauma into them. He also spoke of his concerns with security in the building.
 - Andrew Smith spoke of the aftermath of the Auburn shooting, the lack of opportunity to process the events, and how supports were gone.
 - Terry Gano commented of the lack of African American teachers in the District.
 - Angel Brown spoke of issues that occurred and asked for accountability.
 - Fannie Owens spoke in opposition to student discipline consisting of EIAs (expulsion in abeyance) and expulsions.
 - Rick Elston, Guilford teacher, spoke of COVID mitigation strategies needed for the schools.
 - Brooke, Kennedy librarian, spoke of student and staff absences due to COVID and asked members to contact the Governor to not veto HB2778.
 3. Board Member Comments
 - A. Board Member Comments
 - Ms. Pearson thanked community members for coming and as well as refreshing to see community engagement. She spoke of the importance of students needing to be in school and the need to be safe. It is important to remember everyone is in this together and people will be affected one way or the other. She also asked for consideration to allow students a longer time to speak.

- Ms. Muhammad echoed the sentiments stated by Ms. Pearson and appreciated to have voices heard and solutions given.
- Mr. Seigel expressed his appreciate for the people who spoke and expressing their opinions, hoping things will improve. He spoke of the investments being brought forward to Board, partnering with UCLA for the Early Childhood Development Instrument, addressing mental health through Teladoc, and an agreement with Rosecrance to help students.
- Mr. Rollins spoke of four Board members having students at Auburn, and that everyone wants students to be safe. He continued the violence is coming from out the schools, and the community must be involved. Rockford Public Schools is asked to do more and more and at the end of the day, community involvement is needed. He stated the need for everyone, community, and families, to come together, find a solution and begin by doing something.

4. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett

Dr. Jarrett expressed his gratitude and thanked students, staff, and community members speaking during Petitions and Communications about safety concerns at Auburn, Student Code of Conduct, being proactive regarding safety issues with the pandemic, along with how the District can solve problems such as attracting and retaining quality staff, particularly African American teachers. He spoke of two important items addressing the staff shortage on the agenda; the NIU LEAP program is a cohort with twenty employees consisting of paraprofessionals and staff with the opportunity to become Special Education teachers. The second item is using Federal dollars to increase the substitute teaching pay for current teachers subbing and adding a hiring incentive for had to fill teaching positions.

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

A. *Board Policy 4.60 Operational Services; Purchases and Contracts

Motion by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** item 5A, Board Policy 4.60 Operational Services; Purchases and Contracts.

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

Absent: Mr. Connor, Ms. Stanford

Approved: 5-0-2

B. *Board Policy 4.80 Operational Services; Accounting and Audits

Motion by Mr. Rollins seconded by Ms. Muhammad to **approve** item 5B, Board Policy 4.80 Operational Services; Accounting and Audits.

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

Absent: Mr. Connor, Ms. Stanford

Approved: 5-0-2

C. 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 Planning and Development Committee

A. *Transportation Contract with ALC Student Transportation Solutions

Motion by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** item 6A, Transportation Contract with ALC Student Transportation Solutions.

ALC Student Transportation Solutions coordinate special needs vans/sedans to transport McKinney-Vento, special needs, and out-of-district students, as well as hard-to-serve and multi-district trips. By matching the right vehicle with the right trip, districts no longer have to pay for unused capacity. This model also gives districts the ability to expand and contract their fleet to accommodate the ever-changing requirements of these student populations.

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

Absent: Mr. Connor, Ms. Stanford

Approved: 5-0-2

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

There were no follow-up items.

7. *Consent Items – Performance and Monitoring Committee

A. Payroll

B. Accounts Payable

C. Purchase Orders

D. Air Travel

E. Financial results: November 2021 – Ms. Jamie Murray, CPA, Executive Director of Finance

F. Monthly Cash and Investment Report – November 2021 – Jamie Murray, CPA, Executive Director of Finance

- G. Construction Pay Request Log – December Special Check Run
- H. Construction Pay Request Log
- I. ~~Teleadoc Renewal with My Strength Complete – Matthew Zediker, Chief Human Resources Officer – pulled by Administration~~
- J. Architectural and Engineering Services Contract with Larson and Darby Group – Michael Phillips, Chief Operating Officer
- K. LinkedIn Renewal
- L. NIU LEAP Program
- M. Tier 1: Early Development Instrument, UCLA – Heidi Dettman
- 8. *Consent Agenda – Planning and Development Committee
 - A. PMWeb Project Management Software Agreement with Integrated Facilities Solutions – Michael Phillips, Chief Operating Officer
 - B. Tier 1: Basement Build-Out Transition/Vocational Program
 - C. ~~Tier 1: Rosecrance Agreement – pulled by Mr. Rollins~~
- 9. *Consent Items – Governance Committee
 - A. Meeting Minutes: 12/14/2022
 - B. Contract Purchase Orders
 - C. Memorandum of Understanding Pandemic Relief Planning Time Pay
 - D. Hiring Incentives Hard to Fill Teaching Positions
 - E. Workers’ Compensation Settlement Agreement - DP
 - F. Freedom of Information Log

Motion by Mr. Seigel seconded by Mr. Rollins **approve** Consent Items not pulled.
Yeas: Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Seigel, Ms. Pearson, Mr. Rollins, Ms. Muhammad
Absent: Mr. Connor, Ms. Stanford
Approved: 5-0-2

Motion by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Consent item pulled 8C, Tier 1: Rosecrance Agreement. These will be school based behavior health care services. Three of the FTEs are grant funded by Rosecrance and up to 13 will be funded by Rockford Public School. These services are intended for students. Mrs. Makulec called for the vote.
Yeas: Mr. Seigel, Ms. Pearson, Mr. Rollins, Ms. Muhammad, Mrs. Makulec
Absent: Mr. Connor, Ms. Stanford
Approved: 5-0-2
- 10. *Closed Session Consent Items
 - A. Appointment of Alla Harnish as 12 Month Director of Bilingual
 - B. Residency Hearing Conclusion re: Student A Residency Dispute
 - C. HR Organization Report & Addendum
- 11. *Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline – Suspension Appeals and Expulsions
 - A. GDM-4440-22 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement through the end of the 2021-2022 school year.
 - B. GDM-4441-22 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement through the end of the 2021-2022 school year.
 - C. ~~GDM-4442-22 – expelled through the end of the 2021-2022 school year – pulled by Ms. Muhammad~~
- 12. *Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline – EIAs
 - A. GDM-8385-22
 - B. GDM-8386-22
 - C. GDM-8387-22
 - D. GDM-8388-22
 - E. GDM-8389-22
 - F. GDM-8390-22
 - G. GDM-8391-22
 - H. GDM-8392-22
 - I. GDM-8393-22

- J. GDM-8394-22
- K. GDM-8395-22
- L. GDM-8396-22
- M. GDM-8397-22
- N. GDM-8398-22

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

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

Absent: Mr. Connor, Ms. Stanford

Approved: 5-0-2

Motion by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mr. Seigel to approve Closed Session Consent item pulled 11C, GDM-4442-22.

Yeas: Mr. Rollins, Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Seigel

Nays: Ms. Muhammad, Ms. Pearson

Absent: Mr. Connor, Ms. Stanford

Approved: 3-2-2

13. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

A. Board Member Action Steps

There were no items.

14. Adjournment

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

Adjournment: 7:56 p.m.

Approved: 01/25/2022

President: *Jude B. Makulec /s/*

Secretary: *June Stanford /s/*