

ROCKFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS
Meeting Minutes

Administration Building
Tuesday, March 8, 2022

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

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

Absent: Ms. Kamrin Muhammad

Motion by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mr. Connor 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: 6-0-1

The Board was in executive session from 5:03 p.m. to 6:50 p.m.

-
1. Call to Order – President Jude Makulec called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:04 p.m.
 - A. Roll Call
Present: President Jude Makulec, Vice President Tim Rollins, Secretary June Stanford, Ms. Denise Pearson, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor
Absent: Ms. Kamrin Muhammad
Mrs. Makulec 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. Celebrating RPS205
 - A. Jefferson TV – Zach Larson
Jefferson publications teacher, Zach Larson and Jefferson student Andrea Vazquez, gave a short presentation of Jefferson TV, and video clip. This is a weekly broadcast shared with Jefferson students, and teachers are encouraged to show it in their second hour. This is also published on YouTube. Andrea spoke to how it began.
 3. Petitions & Communications

Mrs. Makulec read the guidelines.

 - Ronald Simmons encouraged the Board to hire minority teachers.
 - Rachel Medearis spoke of the need for more people and resources in schools due to student and staff mental health issues.
 - Ricky Naylor spoke in opposition of expulsions of African American students.
 - Terry Gano spoke of the need to hire minority teachers.
 4. Board Member Comments
 - A. Board Member Comments
 - Ms. Pearson acknowledged Lewis Lemon non-tenured teachers Ms. Abeni Copeland, and Ms. Burnell, and the brief opportunity she had to observe them. She also had the opportunity to visit Ms. Starla Copeland’s class with kudos to classroom control. Ms. Pearson also recognized Mr. Jim Parker for his leadership skills and advocacy for African Americans. She also gave a shout-out to Mr. Matt Zediker for his de-escalation skills.
 - Mr. Rollins spoke to hiring of African American teachers, of how District staff has sent recruiters to colleges, and the difficulty of recruiting professionals from outside the area. Currently, the District has implemented

programs to “grow your own” teachers, the implementation of Northern Illinois University LEAP program, that allows current staff members to become certified teachers. Mr. Rollins also commented on how the District is trying to address mental health issues with staff and students.

- Dr. Jarrett gave Dr. Brunson and her team a lot of credit. The cohort for NIU LEAP has cohort members that begins in May and is reflective of the population. Historically, the Rockford University Pathway has been successful with recruiting Latino teachers. Currently with this year’s cohort there are potentially thirty six candidates.
- Mr. Seigel spoke to an item being approved at Board addressing mental health needs of students. The Board has also passed an item to address the staff mental health needs. Students will be helped and guided to these services.

5. Superintendent’s Report

A. Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Jarrett

There was no report.

6. Report and *Action on Items that Proceeded through the Internal/External Stakeholder Relations Committee

A. *MOU with Rockford Police Department – Handle with Care – Heidi Dettman

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** item 6A, MOU with Rockford Police Department – Handle With Care.

Comments included this was good planning, and well done. The initiative is appreciated and should be a standard of practice. Mrs. Makulec called the vote.

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

Absent: Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 6-0-1

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

There were no follow-up items.

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

A. *Board of Education Sub-District Boundary Changes – Michael Phillips, Chief Operations Officer

Motion by Mr. Seigel seconded by Mr. Rollins to **approve** item 7A, Board of Education Sub-District Boundary Changes.

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

Nays: Ms. Pearson

Absent: Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 5-1-1

B. *Subdistrict Term Limits

In order to ensure the term limits remain staggered, the Board is required by statute to, publicly by lot, draw the new term limits for each subdistrict. This is done by separating the term limits into 2 groups. Group 1 will be for successive terms of 2 years, 4 years and 4 years; Group 2 will be for successive terms of 4 years, 4 years and 2 years. Each member drew, except for Sub-District C, was drawn by Ms. Fromm for the following:

Sub-District A – Group 2, 2023, 2027, 2031, 2033

Sub-District B – Group 1, 2023, 2025, 2029, 2033

Sub-District C – Group 2, 2023, 2027, 2031, 2033

Sub-District D – Group 1, 2023, 2025, 2029, 2033

Sub-District E – Group 2, 2023, 2027, 2031, 2033

Sub-District F – Group 1, 2023, 2025, 2029, 2033

Sub-District G – Group 2, 2023, 2027, 2031, 2033

Motion by Ms. Pearson seconded by Mr. Connor to **approve** item 7B, Sub-District Term Limits.

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

Absent: Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 6-0-1

C. 2023 Preliminary Budget Requests (Transportation & Nutrition Services)

Michael Slife, Executive Director of Transportation presented the preliminary budget for Transportation.

Highlights include moving to maintain the entire District fleet, hiring of drivers progresses with 142 drivers at the

beginning of the year, 175 current drivers with a goal of 200, and at Roosevelt, a work-based learning experience in Transportation. The FY23 summary is \$30,152,704, a variance of (\$552,360). Detail of contracts is \$9,805,405, a variance of \$202,800. There are no new requests for 2023. Return on investment is helping make a difference in children's lives by safely delivering them to and from school.

Ms. Colleen Koehler, Executive Director of Nutrition Services presented the preliminary budget for Nutrition Services. Highlights include equipment and table upgrades, mobile heated cabinets, refrigerators, steamers, braising pans, combi ovens, and carts. In addition, an upgrade to the Point of Sale software will be added allowing for menu planning, inventory software, and parent portal. Additional highlights include promotions and marketing for building excitement for the school breakfast and lunch programs, celebrating National food holidays, National Breakfast Week, and birthdays. FY23 Revenue assumptions are \$15,034,884 a variance of \$44,984. The FY23 summary is \$15,161,315, a variance of \$710,241. Contract details are \$1,345,972, a variance of (\$99,148). There are no new requests for FY23. The return on investment is academic success through proper nutrition.

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

There were no follow-up items.

8. *Consent Items – Performance and Monitoring Committee

- A. Payroll
- B. Accounts Payable
- C. Purchase Orders
- D. Air Travel
- E. Construction Pay Request Log
- F. IFB 22-27 West View Elementary School Roof Replacement Project
- G. IFB 22-22 HVAC and Roofing Projects at Riverdahl Elementary School and West Middle School
- H. License Agreement with Kelly Services – Michael Phillips, Chief Operations Officer
- I. Diligent Corporation – BoardDocs Agreement – Dr. Ehren Jarrett, Superintendent
- J. Tier 1 PDSA: DreamBox Learning, Inc.

9. *Consent Agenda – Planning and Development Committee

- A. Tier 1 PDSA: Paper.co
- B. Tier 1 PDSA: DialCare Telehealth

10. *Consent Items – Governance Committee

- A. Meeting Minutes: 02-22-22
- B. Contract Purchase Orders
- C. 2022-2023 Academic Calendar – Morgan Gallagher, Chief of Schools
- D. ~~Resolution: Supplemental Savings Plan of the Teacher's Retirement Systems of the State of Illinois~~ – pulled by Mr. Rollins
- E. REA Amended and Restated Memorandum of Understanding RPS Employer-Assisted Housing Program
- F. Resolution Continuing the Employer-Assisted Housing Program for Administrators
- G. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Shift Differential Pay (RBMA)
- H. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Election Day 2022 (Rockford Building Maintenance Association (RBMA))
- I. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Election Day 2022 (Educational Interpreters Association, IEA-NEA (EIA))
- J. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Election Day 2022 (Educational Office Professionals Association (EOPA))
- K. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Election Day 2022 (AFSCME Local 692, Council 31 (Paraprofessionals))
- L. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Election Day 2022 (AFSCME Local 1275, Council 31 (Transportation))
- M. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Election Day 2022 (AFSCME Local 3210, Council 31 (Nutrition Services))
- N. Freedom of Information Log

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

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

Absent: Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 6-0-1

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Ms. Pearson to **approve** Consent Item pulled, 10D, Resolution: Supplemental Savings Plan of the Teacher's Retirement System of the State of Illinois.

Beginning July 1, 2022, this is mandatory for new teachers, and optional for existing teachers. Mrs. Makulec called for the vote.

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

Absent: Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 6-0-1

11. *Closed Session Consent Items

A. Salary Adjustment for Non-Bargaining Employees

B. HR Organization Report & Addendum

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

A. GDM-4465-22 - expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year through the entire 2022-2023 school year

B. GDM-4466-22 – PULLED BY ADMINISTRATION

C. GDM-4467-22-expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.

D. GDM-4469-22-the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year through the first semester of the 2022-2023 school year

E. GDM-4470-22- the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year through the first semester of the 2022-2023 school year

F. ~~GDM-4471-22-expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.~~ – pulled by Ms. Pearson

G. ~~GDM-4472-22-expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year through the first semester of the 2022-2023 school year~~ – pulled by Ms. Pearson

13. *Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline – EIAs

A. GDM-1097-22

B. GDM-1098-22

C. GDM-1099-22

D. GDM-8425-22

E. GDM-8426-22

F. GDM-8429-22

G. GDM-8434-22

H. GDM-8446-22

I. GDM-8447-22

J. GDM-8448-22

K. GDM-8449-22

L. GDM-8450-22

M. GDM-8451-22

N. GDM-8452-22

O. GDM-8453-22

P. GDM-8454-22

Q. GDM-8455-22

R. GDM-8456-22

S. GDM-8457-22

T. GDM-8459-22

U. GDM-8460-22

V. GDM-8461-22

W. GDM-8462-22

X. GDM-8463-22

- Y. GDM-8464-22
- Z. GDM-8465-22
- AA. GDM-8466-22
- BB. GDM-8467-22
- CC. GDM-8469-22
- DD. GDM-8470-22 – Pulled by Administration
- EE. GDM-8471-22
- FF. GDM-8472-22
- GG. GDM-8473-22
- HH. GDM-8474-22
- II. GDM-8475-22
- JJ. GDM-8477-22
- KK. GDM-8478-22
- LL. GDM-8479-22
- MM. GDM-8480-22

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

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

Absent: Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 6-0-1

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to **approve** Closed Session Consent items pulled, 12F and 12G, GDM-4471-22, GDM-4472-22.

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

Nays: Ms. Pearson

Absent: Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 5-1-1

14. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

A. Board Member Action Steps

There were no items.

15. Adjournment

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

Adjournment: 8:17 p.m.

Approved: 03/29/2022

President: *Jude B. Makulec /s/*

Secretary: *June Stanford /s/*