

ROCKFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS
Meeting Minutes

Administration Building
Tuesday, February 22, 2022

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. Denise Pearson, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor

Absent: Ms. Kamrin Muhammad

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins 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 5:00 p.m. to 6:36 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, Secretary June Stanford, Ms. Kamrin Muhammad (arr. 7:06 p.m.), 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 Jay Gupta, a student 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.
 - L.C. Wilson spoke of his concerns with the school discipline policy.
 3. Board Member Comments
 - A. Board Member Comments
 - Ms. Pearson acknowledged Ms. Turner of Ellis Elementary School, and appreciated the time taken to meet with her. Staff members were hospitable, and students respectful. She also spoke of 5th grade teacher Ms. Rhonda Robinson, congratulating her on her class’s achievement with high test scores.
 4. Superintendent’s Report
 - A. Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Jarrett
Dr. Jarrett ceded his time to Puranjay Gupta, SSAC representative from Auburn High School. Puranjay offered his perspective to members. Currently he is a senior at Auburn High School. He spoke of a major obstacle in the District is communication and seeing great strides with the interactions with both students and the community. Puranjay also spoke of recent interactions and community involvement regarding specific strategies to better reach underrepresented students. The District has continued to communicate to businesses and local partners to increase opportunities for students in general. Student voice has increased with podcasts on the Vibe. These need to continue and urged the Board to support opportunities for high schools to emphasize communications with their students. He continued the importance of communicating with the teachers as they serve as a crucial interface between administration and students.
 - B. System Wide Framework – Special Programs
The presentation began with the District’s Equity Imperative: To create learning environments that work for all our students and interrupt the predictability of student outcomes based on zip code. Scorecard and standards weighing for Special Programs are seventy-five percent (75%) scorecard and twenty-five percent (25%) standards. Quality instruction, practice 1 is MTSS (Multi-Tiered Systems of Support), quality relationships are practice 2, student belonging, practice 3, school quality, and practice 4, employee engagement. Strategic decision is practice 5, equity challenge. Upcoming dates are March 1, 2022 – Standards of Service Survey Results and Action March 29, 2022 – Quality and School Improvement

Cycles, April 2, 2022 – Board Retreat for Strategic Plan, April 26, 2022 – 3, 4, 5 Year Tracks, November 2022 – Dashboard is populated / determine track cut-offs. To view the presentation, please click on this link: [Special Programs](#).

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

A. 2023 Preliminary Budget Requests (Financial Services, Superintendent/Board, Legal and Technology)

Dr. Brown presented the preliminary budget for Financial Services. Highlights include Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting for ten of the last eleven years from ASBO, the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in financial reporting for five consecutive years, the raised ISBE financial profile score to 3.8, auditors noted no material findings or internal control deficiencies for the past four consecutive years, S&P upgraded the District's credit rating to AA minus with a stable outlook, bond refunding to save taxpayers \$6.1MM, continuous collaboration with other departments to establish and manage internal procedures to ensure compliance with ESSER, ESSER II and ARP ESSER, support as needed to ensure the grants, amendments and expenditure reports were approved by ISBE, distributed more than 7,700 - \$50 gift cards from ARP ESSER federal funding for student vaccination for COVID-19, implemented e-bidding software to increase number of bids and reduce costs - increased outreach to bidders to maximize competition for larger projects (construction, copiers, etc.), continuous procurement of supplies and services needed to maintain in-person learning, \$125 million in goods and services procured through 7,500 purchase orders 50 invitations for bid/requests for proposals, quickly established internal procedures and a process for timekeeping during ransomware attack on Kronos, extended Arbitrator Pay for officials to middle schools and elementary extracurricular activities, begun a review of internal processes in the AP area to gain efficiencies, held collaborative budget workshops for schools and departments, available training videos on Finance related procedures on District Intranet site. The FY23 budget summary is \$3,091,089 a variance of \$136,083. FY23 detail of contracts for software is \$96,011, a variance of \$561.00. The FY23 detail of contract, audit is \$98,980, a variance of \$7,385. The new FY23 request is a 1.0 FTE Budget Coordinator in the amount of \$85,000, and contract management software for \$50,000 a total of \$135,000. Return on investment includes effective internal controls, gained efficiencies, retain quality staff, reliable financials, excellent steward of taxpayer dollars, and capture as many grant dollars as possible. Dr. Jarrett presented the FY23 preliminary budget for the Superintendent/Board. Highlights include Board Governance, PDSA, Academic ROI support, scorecard support, lobbying, community partnerships. The FY23 proposed budget is \$830,981, a variance of \$23,938. FY23 contract detail summary is \$223,600, a variance of \$600. The new FY23 request is \$100,00 for Rockford Promise that would provide financial support to Rockford Promise, to directly support District student to build awareness and readiness to the process. Return on investment includes oversee and support high impact governance to ensure success for all District goals and strategies.

Atty. Goldsmith presented the FY23 preliminary budget. Highlights included student data privacy coordinated with IT to implement District wide compliance with student privacy mandates, and the housing program assisting currently with seventeen home purchase closings. Outside counsel services include student matters; discipline hearing officers and representation, residency disputes, special education due process, ERISA, immigration, labor complaints and lawsuits, complex and/or construction contracts, real estate, and tax exemption appeals. The FY23 summary is \$1,692,534 a variance of \$3,996. The FY23 contract detail is \$10,000 with no variance. Return on investment includes control risk exposure, enforcement of District policy and procedure, management of the legal business of the District, and ongoing internal investigation and audit activity.

Mr. Jason Barthel presented the FY23 preliminary budget for Technology Services. Highlights include replacing 538 SMARTboards for the elementary schools, refined 1-to-1 student device refresh plan, enhanced cybersecurity controls during a year when cyber-attacks peaked, upgraded and enhanced security camera infrastructure, implemented RPS205 SOPPA compliance process, and drafted student digital skills rubric to support "Digital Citizenship". The FY23 budget summary is \$16,104,278, a variance of \$2,767,197. Detail of contracts for IT Security/Backup is \$2,303,707 a variance of \$160,461. Contract detail for student resources/remote is \$381,245 a variance of (\$994,255). The detail of contracts for business operations is \$1,206,374, a variance of \$115,405. The tech/development contract detail is \$610,000, a variance of \$129,160. The detail of contracts for telephony/communication is \$430,916, a variance of \$6,570. The compliance/reporting contract detail is \$371,585, a variance of (\$22,215). The District wide contract detail is \$683,000, with no variance. Miscellaneous contract detail is \$6,028,648, a variance of (\$603,537). The new request for FY23 is for an elementary Ed Tech innovation instruction at \$100,000. Return on investment includes secure and available technology access, application support and training for our teaching staff to enrich education, and dashboards and reports development for data-driven decision making. To view the presentation, please click on this link: [FY 23 Preliminary Budget Presentation](#).

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

There were no follow-up items.

6. *Consent Items – Performance and Monitoring Committee

A. Payroll

B. Accounts Payable

- C. Purchase Orders
- D. Air Travel
- E. Construction Pay Request Log
- F. Monthly Cash and Investment Report – January 2022 – Jamie Murray, CPA, Executive Director of Finance
- G. Financial results: January 2022 – Ms. Jamie Murray, CPA, Executive Director of Finance
- H. IFB 22-31 E-Rate 2022 Infrastructure

7. *Consent Items – Governance Committee

- A. Meeting Minutes: 02-08-22
- B. Contract Purchase Orders
- C. Freedom of Information Log

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

Approved: Unanimously

8. *Closed Session Consent Items

- A. Resolution Authorizing Dismissal of Probationary Teachers
- B. Notice to Remedy Erin Sherman
- C. Notice to Remedy Daniel Cane
- D. HR Organization Report & Addendum

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

- A. ~~GDM-4452-22 – expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year through the first semester of the 2022-2023 school year.~~ – pulled by Ms. Pearson
- B. GDM-4453-22 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.
- C. ~~GDM-4454-22 – expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.~~ – pulled by Ms. Pearson
- D. ~~GDM-4455-22 – expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.~~ – pulled by Ms. Pearson
- E. ~~GDM-4457-22 – expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year through the first semester of the 2022-2023 school year.~~ – pulled by Ms. Pearson
- F. GDM-4458-22 – expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year through the first semester of the 2022-2023 school year.
- G. ~~GDM-4460-22 – expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year through the first semester of the 2022-2023 school year.~~ – pulled by Ms. Pearson
- H. GDM-4461-22 – expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year through the entire 2022-2023 school year.
- I. GDM-4462-22 – expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year through the first semester of the 2022-2023 school year.
- J. GDM-4464-22 – expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.
- K. GDM-5020-22 – the Four (4) day suspension is affirmed.

10. *Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline – EIAs

- A. GDM-8409-22
- B. GDM-8420-22
- C. GGM-8422-22
- D. GDM-8423-22
- E. GDM-8424-22
- F. GDM-8428-22
- G. GDM-8430-22
- H. GDM-8431-22
- I. GDM-8432-22
- J. GDM-8433-22
- K. GDM-8535-22
- L. GDM-8436-22
- M. GDM-8437-22
- N. GDM-8438-22
- O. GDM-8439-22
- P. GDM-8440-22
- Q. GDM-8441-22
- R. GDM-8442-22
- S. GDM-8443-22

T. GDM-8444-22

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

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

Abstain: Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 6-0-1

Motion by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mr. Connor to **approve** Closed Session Consent item pulled, 8A, Resolution Authorizing Dismissal of Probationary Teachers

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

Nays: Ms. Muhammad, Ms. Pearson

Approved: 5-2-2

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Closed Session Consent item pulled 9A Student Discipline, GDM-4454-22.

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

Nays: Ms. Pearson

Abstain: Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 5-1-1

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Closed Session Consent item pulled 9C Student Discipline, GDM-4454-22.

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

Nays: Ms. Pearson

Abstain: Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 5-1-1

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Closed Session Consent item pulled 9D Student Discipline, GDM-4455-22.

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

Nays: Ms. Pearson

Abstain: Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 5-1-1

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Closed Session Consent item pulled 9E Student Discipline, GDM-4457-20.

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

Nays: Ms. Pearson

Abstain: Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 5-1-1

Motion by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mr. Connor to **approve** Closed Session Consent item pulled 9G Student Discipline, GDM-4460-22.

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

Nays: Ms. Pearson

Abstain: Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 5-1-1

11. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

A. Board Member Action Steps

There were no items.

12. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Rollins second by Mr. Connor to **adjourn**.

Adjournment: 8:34 p.m.

Approved: 03/08/2022

President: *Jude B. Makulec /s/*

Secretary: *June Stanford /s/*