

ROCKFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS
Meeting Minutes

Administration Building
Tuesday, April 26, 2022

President Jude Makulec called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

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

Absent: Ms. Denise Pearson. Ms. Kamrin Muhammad

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 5:04 p.m. to 6:20 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 7:01p.m.
 - A. Roll Call
Present: President Jude Makulec, Vice President Tim Rollins, Secretary June Stanford, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor
Absent: Ms. Denise Pearson. Ms. Kamrin Muhammad
Mrs. Makulec thanked Conner Childers who produces the Board’s broadcast on Channel 20, and YouTube Live and welcomed Superintendent’s Student Advisory Council Representative, Mackenzie Wallace from East 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. Celebrating RPS205
 - A. Marshall Middle School - The focus will be on the positive work being done during our end-of-the-day WIN time
Mrs. Jessica Powell, principal of Marshall Middle School, presented their program “WIN,” What “I” Need. This is a daily program from 3:24 – 4:00 p.m. with a ratio of eighteen students to one teacher. This consists of scaffolded support that builds independence, opportunities for students to have a sense of belonging, and physical activity challenging and relevant tasks. Mrs. Powell thanked Stacy Wallace, Tracy Jaconette, and Carrie Rollins for their assistance and work. To view the presentation, please click on this link: [Marshall Middle School](#).
 3. Petitions & Communications
Mrs. Makulec read the guidelines.
 - Fannie Owens spoke on behalf of the NAACP and Eliminate Racism, expressing concerns of lower number of African American teacher and commented to changes in the Student Code of Conduct.
 - Carol Jambor-Smith spoke of the importance of inclusive curriculum and diversity.
 - Nina Ginnangeli spoke of the need of quality professional development for District staff to implement the new Student Code of Conduct.
 - Betsy DeGunther thanked Board members for their adoption of the new Student Code of Conduct and the need to hire more minority teachers.
 - Faye Marcus spoke in support of the Handle With Care program and the Board approval of the new Student Code of Conduct.

- Ann Rundall thanked the Board for approving the new Student Code of Conduct and the list of interventions in the current code.
- Terry Gano spoke of data presented at Board meetings and concerns with low data indicators for minorities.
- Minnie Stewart spoke recruitment of minority teachers and applauded the District for efforts made.
- Kathy Mattison spoke of a mentoring program for middle school students of color by high school students of color.

4. Board Member Comments

A. Board Member Comments

- Mr. Rollins spoke of comments previously made and encouraged people to watch the YouTube Livestream of March 8, 2022.
- Mr. Seigel expressed his appreciation for the speakers' persistence and presentation of ideas. He asked for patience as the District is working towards solutions.
- Mrs. Makulec acknowledged that April 27, 2022, is Administrative Assistant Day and thanked Ms. Laura Fromm for her support of the Board.

5. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett

Dr. Jarrett ceded his time to Mackenzie Wallace, member of the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, for her comments.

Mackenzie spoke of girl athletics being recognized and of the many girl sports that are not. She was recognized at the April 12, 2022, meeting for the sport she participated in, bowling. She spoke of her experience of going alone to a State tournament without any support. She expressed the continuing need of recognition and support for women's athletics.

Dr. Jarrett ceded the remainder of his time to Mr. Barthel, who reviewed the District's internet outages. Below is his report:

Internet Outages: Here are the statistics for internet outages this school year

11 Incidents (10 out of 11 were vendor related)

82 hours, 7 minutes, 49 seconds of downtime

48 hours, 23 minutes, 24 seconds of operational downtime (6am-5pm)

Causes

This has been a combination of fiber cuts, road construction, scheduled vendor upgrades, and emergency response to the Log4J vulnerability in late December.

How it is being addressed

The District has been aware of the single point of failure with its internet service for over two years and has been actively putting pieces in place to mitigate it. In the past year, the District has expanded bandwidth capacity and added a secondary internet service. Currently, the failover to the secondary service is a manual process and some applications are still dependent on the primary service being available. The high availability project was brought forward in November of 2021 to automate the failover process. An addendum to add a piece of hardware to complete that project. IT is waiting for that hardware to arrive to complete that project and on target for June 1. Discussions have taken place with executives providing our primary internet service about improving uptime after the April 6th outage. Administration is currently working with them on a no cost plan to correct that issue as well. The timeline is forthcoming but is on pace to be completed this summer.

ClassLink Outages Here are statistics for ClassLink outages this year

17 Incidents

15 hours and 26 minutes of downtime

13 hours and 22 minutes of operational downtime

What has been the cause?

This issue has been two-fold. ClassLink has experienced a boom in growth since the pandemic and are working on improving capacity building and expansion of infrastructure. They have also had some staffing needs.

Here is what we are doing to address it.

In September, the District met with ClassLink regarding improvement of outages. Administration is in process of scheduling a follow-up meeting with ClassLink to discuss the service level agreement (SLA). RPS 205 is not alone in this issue as many districts have been impacted by their outages. Extensive discussion took place regarding this.

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 – March 2022 – Jamie Murray, CPA, Executive Director of Finance
 - G. Financial Results: March 2022 – Ms. Jamie Murray, CPA, Executive Director of Finance
 - H. IFB 22-37 Acoustical Panels at RESA M.S. and Marshall M.S. – pulled by Mr. Connor

7. *Consent Items – Governance Committee

- A. Meeting Minutes: 04-12-22
- B. Contract Purchase Orders
- C. Prevailing Wages
- D. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Curriculum Leadership Team Pay
- E. Freedom of Information Log

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

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

Absent: Ms. Muhammad, Ms. Pearson

Approved: 5-0-2

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to **approve** Consent item pulled, 6G, IFB 22-27 Acoustical Panels at RESA M.S. and Marshall M.S.

Mr. Phillips was asked for additional information. Four contractors came to the pre-bid meeting, and only one bid was received. The remaining three bidders chose not to bid due to their workload. Currently, building-type contracts are busy with a full schedule. Mrs. Makulec called for the vote.

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

Absent: Ms. Pearson, Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 5-0-2

8. *Closed Session Consent Items

- A. Appointment of Angela Coy as 10 Month Assistant Principal K-5 at McIntosh Elementary School
- B. Appointment of Sherri A. Ferguson as 10 Month High School Assistant Principal at Guilford High
- C. Appointment of Brian Doering as 11 Month Principal at Constance Lane Elementary School
- D. Appointment of Taren Turner as 12 Month Principal at West Middle School
- E. Appointment of Blake Hand as 12 Month Executive Director of Schools
- F. Appointment of Natalie Lehnert as Certified 12 Month Special Education Program Administrator
- G. Appointment of Mary Dahlberg as 12 Month Program Administrator for Special Education
- H. Appointment of Janette Juric as 12 Month Program Administrator for Special Education
- I. Appointment of Michael Ryia as 12 Month Executive Director of Special Education
- J. HR Organization Report & Addendum

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

- A. GDM-2059-22 - expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year with an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement through the end of the 2022-2023 school year.
- B. GDM-2060-22 - expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year with an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement through the end of the 2022-2023 school year.
- C. GDM-4496-22 – expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year through the entire 2022-2023 school year.
- D. GDM-4456-22 - expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year through the entire 2022-2023 school year.
- E. GDM-4497-22 - expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.
- F. GDM-4498-22 - expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year through the entire 2022-2023 school year.

- G. GDM-4499-22 - expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year through the entire 2022-2023 school year.
 - H. GDM-4500-22 - the expulsion is held in abeyance through the entire 2022-2023 school year which can be terminated upon the successful completion of the reFresh Program.
 - I. GDM-4501-22 - expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year through the entire 2022-2023 school year.
 - J. GDM-4502-22 - expelled for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year through the first semester of the 2022-2023 school year
 - K. GDM-4503-22 - expelled for two calendar years, through April 26, 2024.
10. *Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline – EIAs
- A. GDM-1104-22
 - B. GDM-1105-22
 - C. GGM-1106-22
 - D. GDM-8493-22
 - E. GDM-8516-22
 - F. GDM-8517-22
 - G. GDM-8518-22
 - H. GDM-8520-22
 - I. GDM-8522-22
 - J. GDM-8523-22
 - K. GDM-8526-22
 - L. GDM-8529-22
 - M. GDM-8530-22
 - N. GDM-8531-22
 - O. GDM-8532-22
 - P. GDM-8533-22
 - Q. GDM-8535-22
 - R. GDM-8536-22
 - S. GDM-8237-22
 - T. GDM-8538-22
 - U. GDM-8539-22
 - V. GDM-8540-22
 - W. GDM-8543-22
 - X. GDM-8544-22
 - Y. GDM-8545-22
 - Z. GDM-8546-22

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

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

Absent: Ms. Pearson, Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 5-0-2

11. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

A. Board Member Action Steps

IT will follow up with information requested from members.

12. Organization of the Board

A. ~~Administration of Oath of Office to New Board Members~~ - pulled

B. Adjournment Sine Die

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **adjourn** sine die.

Approved on voice vote

C. Selection of President Pro Tempore

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel that the Board **approve** Mr. Tim Rollins as President Pro Tempore.

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

Absent: Ms. Muhammad, Ms. Pearson

Approved: 5-0-2

D. Call to Order by President Pro Tempore

E. Election of Board President – *Mr. Seigel nominated Mrs. Makulec*

Motion by Mr. Seigel seconded by Ms. Stanford to **close the nomination and cast the ballot.**

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

Absent: Ms. Muhammad, Ms. Pearson

Approved: 5-0-2

F. Election of Board Vice-President – *Mr. Seigel nominated Mr. Rollins*

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Ms. Stanford to **close the nomination and cast the ballot.**

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

Absent: Ms. Muhammad, Ms. Pearson

Approved: 5-0-2

G. Election of Board Secretary – *Mr. Rollins nominated Ms. Stanford*

Motion by Mr. Seigel seconded by Mr. Rollins to **close the nomination and cast the ballot.**

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

Absent: Ms. Pearson, Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 5-0-2

H. Establishment of Regular Meeting Dates and Place

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Establishment of Regular Meeting Dates and Place.

Board members reviewed the schedule. Due to the July 4, 2022, holiday occurring on Monday, Administration recommends moving it to July 12, 2022, and moving the Regular Board meeting to July 19, 2022. In addition, as November 8, 2022, is a holiday, and Fall Break occurs the week of November 21, 2022, Administration recommends moving the November Board meetings to November 15, 2022, and November 29, 2022. Due to changes, Administration may need to ask the Board for special permission to hire employees due to the longer breaks between meetings. Mrs. Makulec called for the vote.

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

Absent: Ms. Pearson, Ms. Muhammad

Approved: 5-0-2

13. Adjournment

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

Adjournment: 8:21 p.m.

Approved: 05/10/2022

President: *Jude B. Makulec /s/*

Secretary: *June Stanford /s/*