

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

**Administration Building**  
**Tuesday, September 27, 2022**

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

Present: President Jude Makulec, Secretary June Stanford, Ms. Kamrin Muhammad, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor

Absent: Vice President Tim Rollins, Ms. Denise Pearson,

**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 5:01 p.m. to 6:51 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 Secretary June Stanford, Ms. Denise Pearson, Ms. Kamrin Muhammad, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor  
Absent: Vice President Tim Rollins  
Mrs. Makulec thanked Conner Childers who produces the Board’s broadcast on Channel 20, and YouTube Live. Mr. Rollins welcomed Superintendent’s Student Advisory Representative Keniya Parks-Collins from Guilford 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
    - Chanta Lowe expressed her frustration regarding her son’s birthday occurring after September 1 and not being able to register him for kindergarten.
    - Terry Gano spoke of the importance of third grade reading foundation the low reading proficiency of students of color.
    - Betsy DeGunther thanked the District for adopting changes in the discipline code and the need to hire more African American principals and teachers.
    - Ricky Naylor spoke of his dissatisfaction and unhappiness with the District.
    - Judy Hutchinson thanked the Board members for their commitment and voiced her dissatisfaction with the updated travel regulation.
    - Angel Brown spoke of how discrimination needs to end.
    - John Tac Brantley thanked the District for use of a school bus to provide youth with the opportunity to go on an educational field trip.
  3. Board Member Comments
    - A. Board Member Comments
      - Mr. Seigel thanked the public speakers who came to the meeting and offered his support. He also spoke of the upcoming Reading Horizons report and the importance of attendance in learning to read.

- Ms. Pearson acknowledged the staff of Lathrop Elementary School and their response to a parent's concern. She also spoke of being notified by a community member of Ms. Jenny Keffer, regarding an act of kindness, which was not part her responsibilities. Ms. Pearson spoke of student attendance and the importance of looking at core issues as to why it is impacted. She spoke of the importance of all hands "need to be on deck" to help families with attendance issues.
- Mrs. Makulec spoke of the beautiful replacement of summer plants with fall plantings and gave a shout-out to Mrs. LaNesha Sterling for her creativity and vision.

4. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett

Dr. Jarrett ceded his time to Keniya. She attended all three meetings in September and volunteered to be the first SSAC student in attendance. Keniya introduced herself and expressed her appreciation to the Board, their meetings, and how members review a lot of data, making tough decisions. She spoke of the difference from being a member of the public, speaking during the petitions and communications portions, to sitting at the table and observing everyone. Keniya also spoke of being proactive, especially with Freshman on Track. She shared the District needs to start earlier, in elementary and middle school as many elementary students do not receive the attention and support they need and by the time they enter middle school, it becomes difficult for them. Once they enter high school, many students feel they are falling behind. Keniya also spoke of the attendance portion, which resonated with her, as it is a big issue. She feels the District is not finding out the why, although they are aware of the what. Matching resources with school needs is important. She also spoke of race playing a big part in attendance and discipline, and that the environment matters.

B. Reading Horizons - Accountability

Ms. Ann Peiffer, 12 Month Dean of Foundation and Early Literacy presented the Reading Horizons report to Board members. The universal goals are show an annual improvement in third grade literacy and grow five percentage points by 2024. Teaching is beginning with simple skills to more complex. Lesson sequences begin with two chapters in Kindergarten, four chapters in first grade, five in second, and six in third grade. Spelling and word recognition by cohorts were reviewed with members. Slide 11 of the presentation, green cohort, grew from 12% to 26%, the pink cohort decreased from 17% to 13%. Slides 13-15 showed changes by ethnicity. The recommendation is to keep, fix, and expand the program. Next steps include emphasis on the Daily Core 4 through the Standards of Practice and skill-based small group instruction. To view the presentation, please click on this link: [Reading Horizons](#).

5. \*Consent Agenda – Performance and Monitoring Committee

- A. Payroll
- B. Accounts Payable
- C. Purchase Order
- D. Air Travel
- E. Construction Pay Request Log
- F. RPS Managed Work Change Order
- G. ESSER – RPS Managed Work Change Order
- H. Monthly Cash and Investment Report – August 2022 – Jamie Murray, CAP, Executive Director of Finance
- I. Recurring Contracts, Brightly (Dude Solutions) Software – Catherine Ellis, Director of Operations
- J. Recurring Contracts, Cintas Uniform Rental – Wilson Bailey, Director of Facilities – pulled by Administration

6. \*Consent Items – Governance Committee

- A. Meeting Minutes: 09-13-2022
- B. Contract Purchase Orders
- C. Appointment of IMRF Authorized Agent
- D. Revised - Rockford Building Maintenance Association Tentative Agreement
- E. Freedom of Information Log

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

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

**Absent:** Mr. Rollins

**Approved: 6-0-1**

7. \*Closed Session Consent Items
  - A. HR Organization Report & Addendum
8. ~~\*Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline – EIAs~~ – pulled by Mr. Connor
  - A. P0001-23
  - B. P0002-23
  - C. P0003-23
  - D. P0004-23
  - E. P0005-23

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

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

**Absent:** Mr. Rollins

**Approved: 6-0-1**

**Motion** by Mr. Seigel seconded by Ms. Stanford to **approve** Closed Session Consent items Student Discipline – EIAs pulled 8A – 8E, P0001-23, P0002-23, P0003-23, P0004,23, P0005.23.

**Yeas:** Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Seigel Ms. Stanford, Ms. Pearson, Ms. Muhammad

**Nays:** Mr. Connor

**Absent:** Mr. Rollins

**Approved: 5-1-1**

9. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

There were no action steps.

10. Adjournment

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

**Adjournment:** 7:50 p.m.

**Approved:** 10/11/22

**President:** *Jude B. Makulec /s/*

**Secretary:** *June Stanford /s/*