

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

**Administration Building**  
**Tuesday, May 09, 2023**

President Denise Pearson called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Present: President Denise Pearson, Vice President Tiana McCall, Secretary June Stanford, Mr. Schubert, Ms. Nicole Bennett, Mr. Paul Carpenter, Ms. Kimberly Haley

Absent: None

**Motion** by Ms. Stanford seconded by Ms. McCall 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: 7-0-0**

The Board was in executive session from 5:02 p.m. to 6:59 p.m.

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1. Call to Order – President Denise Pearson called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:10 p.m.
    - A. Roll Call  
Present: President Denise Pearson, Mr. Grant Schubert, Vice President Tiana McCall (arrived at 7:12 p.m.), Ms. Nicole Bennett, Mr. Paul Carpenter, Ms. Kimberly Haley, and Secretary June Stanford  
Absent: None  
Ms. Pearson thanked Kim Pedersen who produces the Board’s broadcast on Channel 20, and YouTube Live and welcomed Superintendent’s Student Advisory Council Representative Paige Warner 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. Recognitions
    - A. Recognitions – Earl Dotson, Jr., Maureen Kirschmann  
Ms. Kirschmann, with the Family Engagement Department introduced Reggie Brooks, Jr., Family and Community liaison who recognized the following Middle School Student Ambassadors: program and presented the following Middle School Student Ambassadors: Jelena Castellanos-Murrillo, Gredin Morales Lopez, Jorge Perez-Perez, and Abner Contreras Huetra.
  3. Petitions & Communications

Ms. Pearson read the guidelines.

    - Ricky Naylor commented on his dissatisfaction with Board and administration members.
    - Kendra Flores spoke on no child left behind.
    - Laura O’Brien commented on sub pay and hours.
    - Melissa St. John spoke on students with special needs.
  4. Report and \*Action on Items that Proceeded through the Performance Committee.
    - A. Revisions to Board Policy 7.40 Nonpublic/Non-Graded Schools Students, Including Home Schooled Students
    - B. Revisions to Board Policy 7.160 Student Appearance
    - C. Revisions to Board Policy 7.285 Food Allergy Management
    - D. Board Policy 7.140 was pulled by administration and will be presented at an upcoming meeting for consideration.
  5. \*Consent Agenda – Performance and Monitoring Committee
    - A. Payroll
    - B. Accounts Payable

- C. Purchase Orders
- D. ~~Air Travel~~ pulled by Ms. Haley
- E. Construction Pay Request Log
- F. Tier 1: Computerized Maintenance Management System
- G. IGA Intergovernmental Agreement for the Boone-Winnebago Regional Alternative School
- H. ~~Safe & Civil Schools~~ – Pulled by Administration
- I. RFQ 23-21 Architectural Services
- J. IFB 23-52 Johnson E.S. Playground & Parking

6. \* Consent Items – Governance Committee

- A. Meeting Minutes: 04/25/23
- B. Contract Purchase Orders
- C. Prevailing Wages
- D. Freedom of Information Long

**Motion** by Ms. McCall seconded by Mr. Carpenter to **approve** Consent Items not pulled.

**Approved: Unanimously**

**Motion** by Ms. McCall seconded by Mr. Carpenter to **approve** Consent item pulled 5.D. Airfare

Comment made expressing concern regarding airfare and hotel costs for a conference for each attendee. Mr. Youngblood explained the cost listed is a maximum budget figure that is listed from the estimates that the travel agent provides. He explained that during the pandemic we had issues with volatile pricing and the price would fluctuate so much from when people were budgeting for the trip to the time it was approved. Due to price increasing individuals started listing the maximum figure in the event pricing increased instead of waiting an additional 2-4 weeks for new approval. Ms. Pearson called for the vote.

**Approved: Unanimously**

7. \*Closed Session Consent Items

- A. Appointment of a 12-month Elementary Principal assigned to Carlson Elementary
- B. HR Organization Report & Addendum

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

- A. H0117X-23 – The expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 22-23 school year through the entire 23-24 school year.
- B. H0125X-23 – The expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 22-23 school year through the entire 23-24 school year.
- C. H0126X-23 – The expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 22-23 school year through the entire 23-24 school year.
- D. H0127X-23 – Expelled for the remainder of the 22-23 school year the entire 23-24 school year, through the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of the 24-25 school year.
- E. H0128X-23 – Expelled for the remainder of the 22-23 school year the entire 23-24 school year, through the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of the 24-25 school year.

9. \*Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline (EIAs)

- A. B0017-23
- B. B0018-23
- C. B0019-23
- D. B0020-23
- E. B0021-23
- F. B0022-23
- G. B0023-23
- H. B0024-23
- I. B0025-23
- J. D0018-23
- K. D0019-23
- L. H0118-23

- M. H0119-23
- N. H0120-23
- O. H0121-23
- P. H0123-23
- Q. H0124-23
- R. P0142-23
- S. P0143-23
- T. P0144-23

**Motion** by Ms. Haley seconded by Mr. Carpenter to approve Closed Session Consent items.

**Approved: Unanimously**

10. Superintendent's Update

A. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett

Dr. Jarrett began his report by celebrating events that have recently occurred. He stated 200 students earned full academic scholarships through the Rockford Promise Program. He stated he is grateful to Northern Illinois University, the City of Rockford, Rockford Promise, Rock Valley, and Rockford University. The program has grown from one scholarship to 200 coming through each year. Dr. Jarrett expressed gratitude for Board attendance at this year's Golden Apple ceremony. Three teachers gave wonderful speeches representing their work in the classroom and as finalists for the Golden Apple award. There were three semi-finalists that were represented on stage as well as the principal of the year. Dr. Jarrett is very proud of the diverse school district. He also applauded the work of the REA committee who put together the Those who Excel program. Dr. Jarrett expressed thanks to the strong Board attendance at Those Who Excel where 31 individuals were celebrated in seven different categories who make a real impact on students. Dr. Jarrett concluded that it is Teacher Appreciation Week and conveyed thankfulness and extended sincere gratitude for the nearly 2000 teachers who help RPS 205 students every day. He stated it is an honor to work alongside them and celebrate their work. There has been recognition that has gone out at the building levels through the district and doing things on social media to celebrate RPS teachers. Dr. Jarrett concluded he looks forward to sharing the stage with staff, the board and most importantly our students at the upcoming commencements.

11. Board Member Comments

There were no comments.

12. Other Business/New Business Agenda Recommendations

There were no comments.

**Motion** by Ms. Stanford seconded by Ms. McCall to adjourn.

**Adjournment:** 7:42 p.m.

**Approved:**

**President:**

**Secretary:**