

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

**Administration Building
Tuesday, June 27, 2023**

President Denise Pearson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present: President Denise Pearson, Mr. Grant Schubert, Vice President Ms. Tiana McCall, Ms. Nicole Bennett, Mr. Paul Carpenter (arr. 5:02 p.m.), Ms. Kimberly Haley (arr. 5:13 p.m.), and Secretary June Stanford

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: 5-0-2

The Board was in executive session from 5:02 p.m. to 6:58 p.m.

-
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 Ms. Tiana McCall, 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.,
Middle School State Track Qualifiers
On May 19 and 20, 2023, five RPS 205 middle schools qualified for the IESA 3-A State Track & Field Championship in East Peoria. Kennedy Middle School had 5 State Champions. Congratulations to Jaeda Benford, Ja'Mesha Brooks, Diamond Jones and Kioja Sanders who came in first in the 4x100 meter relay. Kioja also placed first in 200-meter dash and Diamond is a state champ for the 100-meter hurdles.
The other state qualifiers included: Marshall Middle School’s – Nora Wedwick for both the 800 meter and 1600 meter, Eisenhower Middle School - Kyaire Johnson for the 100 meter, Allison Stibal – Long Jump, Damarjanae Thompson, Za'ryah Northern, Ranyah Davis and Allison Stibal – 4 x 100, Alexis Perez, Anthony Lepien, Dennis Mackey, and Kyaire Johnson – 4 x 200. Flinn Middle School included 4x100 – Lebron McClelland, Christian Wheeler, Adonis Pickett, Janardie Turner, and 100-meter hurdles – Antwon Haley and Janardie Turner. And Kayumba Yenga, an 8th grader from RESA qualified in both the 100 meter and 200-meter dash.
High School Track & Field State Qualifiers
From May 19, 2023, through May 27, 2023, students from three District high schools participated in the IHSA Track & Field State Championship at Eastern Illinois University.
Auburn state qualifiers were Jeremiah Walker – 200 meter, Brandon Ferguson – 110 High Hurdles, 4x100 – MyNes Murray, Elijah Malone, Dontavious Williams, and Jeremiah Walker. For the 100 & 200 Meter Dash – Essence Horton-Graves and Ma'Kayla Winters for both the Long Jump & Triple Jump. For the 4x100 – Winters, Horton-Graves, Navaeh Turnmire and Carrington Weatherly. And for the 4x200 – Weatherly, Horton-Graves, Turnmire and Narya Benford.

East High School state qualifiers included for the 100-meter Mechai Dockett-Lewis, 4 x 100 – Dockett-Lewis, Javius Catlin, Trenton Lewis, and Alonzo Latimore for the 4 x 200 – Dockett-Lewis, Catlin, Latimore, and Jayden Green Guilford High School qualifiers included Jaidyn Nguyen – 200 meter, Landon Bacht – 800 meters, In the 4x100 – LaDamion Hoffman, Messiah Tilson, Justin Brown, and Nguyen4x200 – Kevlen Jackson, Tilson, Hoffman, and Nguyen. The 100 meter – Jolena Sites, 400 – Lillian Jarrett, 800 – Madison Harmsen. 100-Meter-High Hurdles – Anna Jones. Shot Put – Natassja Bowman and Zariah Burnett for the high jump. In the 4x100 – Amanda Curry, Burnett, Jarrett, and Sites4x400 – Jarrett, Sites, Harmsen, and Michelle Gasmund Congratulations High School Track & Field State Qualifiers as well as their coaches – Greg Ford, Gregory Taylor, and assistants – Lavar Johnston and Billy Jackson, Jr.!

Boys Tennis State Qualifiers

The high school boys' tennis state qualifier was held at Palatine High School May 25th through the 27th. Auburn High School had three students qualify for state: Sharankumar Kamaraj for Singles and both Austin Altangerel and Armaan Farokhi for doubles.

Girls Flag Football Championship

The inaugural season of the Northern Illinois Girls Flag Football League, with 148 girls from Auburn, East, Guilford, and Jefferson, took part in this new high school sport.

The Guilford Vikings finished the inaugural season as conference champions and represented the conference at the State Championship Tournament. The Vikings finished 4th. Congratulations to students Maya Page and Aishah Smith. And thank you to their coaches Greg Taylor, Greg Ford, and Lavar Johnson.

3. Petitions & Communications

Ms. Pearson read the guidelines.

- Ricky Naylor spoke of hiring African American administrators/
- John Tac Brantlee congratulated Board President Pearson, and spoke of his meeting with Mr. Dotson, Jr., Pastor Hightower, and Dr. Reed.
- Margo Steadman spoke of celebrating fine arts and asked the District to continue their relationship with the Rockford Symphony Orchestra and the importance of Fine Arts in education.

4. Report and *Action on Items that Proceeded through the Performance Committee.

A. *Renewal of Galapagos Rockford Charter School's Agreement – Dr. Woulfe

Motion by Ms. McCall seconded by Mr. Carpenter to **approve** Renewal of Galapagos Rockford Charter School's Agreement.

Approved: Unanimously

B. *Renewal of Jackson Charter School's Agreement – Dr. Woulfe

Motion by Ms. McCall seconded by Ms. Bennett to **approve** Renewal of Jackson Charter School's Agreement/

Approved: Unanimously

C. *Renewal of Legacy Academy of Excellence Agreement – Dr. Woulfe

Motion by Ms. McCall seconded by Mr. Carpenter to **approve** Renewal of Legacy Academy of Excellence Agreement.

Approved: Unanimously

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

A. *Option to Lease Property to Forefront Power for Community Solar

Motion by Ms. Haley seconded by Ms. Stanford to **approve** Option to Lease Property to Forefront Power for Community Solar.

Approved: Unanimously

B. *Evolv Weapons Detection Systems

Motion by Ms. Bennett seconded by Ms. Haley to **approve** Evolv Weapons Detection Systems.

Discussion included concerns the vendor over promising to customers and its reliability. Administration spoke to this; it is one layer of security for schools. Training will take place in the Board Room and data will be sent to members on its effectiveness. Ms. Pearson called for the vote.

Yeas: Ms. Haley, Ms. Stanford, Ms. Pearson, Mr. Schubert, Ms. McCall, Ms. Bennett

Nays: Mr. Carpenter

Approved: 6-0-1

C. *Builder's Risk Insurance Coverage

Motion by Mr. Carpenter seconded by Ms. Bennett to **approve** Builder's Risk Insurance Coverage.

Approved: Unanimously

D. *Purchase of Rock Valley College Career Education Center on Samuelson Road

Motion by Ms. Stanford seconded by Ms. Bennett to **approve** Purchase of Rock Valley College Career Education Center on Samuelson Road.

Yeas: Ms. Stanford, Ms. Pearson, Ms. McCall, Ms. Bennett, Mr. Carpenter

Abstain: Mr. Schubert, Ms. Haley

Approved: 5-0-2

6. Board President's Announcements and Report and *Action on Items that Proceeded through the Governance Committee

A. *Board Policy 6.300 – Graduation Requirements

Motion by Ms. Bennett seconded by Mr. Carpenter to **approve** Board Policy 6.300 – Graduation Requirements Beginning in 2028, students will be required to take two (2) years of World Languages. AP classes will remain the same. Ms. Pearson called for the vote.

Approved: Unanimously

7. *Consent Agenda – Performance and Monitoring Committee

A. Payroll

B. Accounts Payable

C. Purchase Orders (FY23)

D. Purchase Orders (FY24)

E. Contract Purchase Orders (FY23)

F. Contract Purchase Orders (FY24)

G. Air Travel

H. Construction Pay Request Log

I. RPS-Managed Work Change Order

J. ESSER-RPS Managed Change Order Log

K. ~~Monthly Cash and Investment Report – May 2023 – Jamie Murray, CPA, Executive Director of Finance – pulled by Ms. Haley~~

L. Financial results: May 2023 – Ms. Jamie Murray, CPA, Executive Director of Finance

M. IFB 23-59 SMART Board Installation at Four High Schools

N. IFB 23-60 Advanced Network Clock/PA Installation

O. IFB 23-61 Lewis Lemon E.S. Track Renovations

P. ~~Designation of Accrued Interest Earned, Greg Brown, Ed. D, CFO – pulled by Ms. Haley~~

Q. NIU LEAP Cohort 2

R. Unite Private Networks Internet Service Addendum for Rockford Valley College Career Education Center on Samuelson Road

S. District Wireless Networking Upgrade

T. Worker's Compensation Excess Insurance

U. Youth Services Network Agreement

V. Annual Approval of Consolidated District Plan

W. Annual Approval of Title I Schoolwide Plans and Title I School Improvement Plans

X. Intrado – School Messenger Two-Way Communication Agreement

Y. Rosecrance Agreement – Amy Gannon Executive Director of MTSS

Z. MOU International Society for Technology in Education

AA. Intergovernmental Agreement with the Illinois Department of Healthcare Regarding Medicaid Reimbursement

BB. Winnebago County Health Department – Morgan Gallagher, Chief of Schools, on behalf of RESA Middle School

CC. NIU Rockford Facility Rental

DD. PTO Playground Donation – Morgan Gallagher on behalf of Spring Creek Elementary

8. *Consent Items – Planning Committee

- A. Resolution Authorizing FY24 Depositories, Investment Managers and Brokers
 - B. Antwon Harris Group, LLC – Parent Liaison Professional Development
 - C. COR Advantage Early Childhood Assessment Tool – Kimberly Nelson
9. * Consent Items – Governance Committee
- A. Meeting Minutes: Jun 10, 2023, Retreat, May 23, 2023, May 9, 2023 – Corrected
 - B. Closed Session Minutes Release
 - C. 2023-2024 Illinois Association of School Boards Annual Dues
 - D. Memorandum of Understanding With EOPA Regarding Sick Days
 - E. Memorandum of Understanding With RBMA Regarding Sick Days and Payroll Calculations
 - F. Memorandum of Understanding With REA Regarding Missed Planning Time and Other Compensated Activities Pay
 - G. Memorandum of Understanding With Paraprofessionals Regarding Payroll Calculations
 - H. Memorandum of Understanding With Paraprofessionals Regarding Holiday Schedule
 - I. Freedom of Information Long
- Motion** by Ms. McCall seconded by Ms. Stanford to **approve** Consent items not pulled.
- Approved: Unanimously**
- Motion** by Ms. McCall seconded by Ms. Bennett to **approve** Consent items pulled, 7K and 7P, Monthly Cash and Investment Report, May 2023, and Designation of Accrued Interest Earned.
- Accrued interest earned is transferred from the Working Cash Fund to other funds of the District that are most in need of interest income based on month-end balances.
- Approved: Unanimously**
10. *Closed Session Consent Items
- A. Salary Adjustment for Assistant Principal Sean Norton
 - B. Appointment of Kathleen Carroll as 10-Month Middle School Assistant Principal assigned to Kennedy
 - C. Appointment of Roger Krueger as 12-Month Network Engineer assigned to the Administration Building
 - D. Appointment of Brett Smith as 12-Month Systems Engineer assigned to the Administration Building
 - E. Appointment of Cafer (Jafar) Cengiz as 12-Month Secondary Special Programs assigned to West Middle School and Auburn High School
 - F. Appointment of Sonya Oefelein as 12 Month Dean of Multi-Tiered Systems of Support assigned to the Administration Building
 - G. Appointment of Sarah McCusker as 12 Month Dean of Multi-Tiered Systems Support assigned to the Administration Building
 - H. Residency Dispute
 - I. HR Report & Addendum
11. *Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline – Suspension Appeals and Expulsions
- A. H0141X-23 – expelled for the entire 2023-2024 school year.
 - B. H0142X-23 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the entire 2023-2024 school year.
 - C. H0144X-23 – the four-day suspension is affirmed.
 - D. H0145X-23 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the entire 2023-2024 school year.
 - E. H0149X-23 – expelled for the entire 2023-2024 school year.
 - F. H0150X-23 – expelled for the entire 2023-2024 school year through the first semester of the 2024-2025 school year.
 - G. H0151X-23 – expelled for the entire 2023-2024 school year.
 - H. H0152X-23 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the entire 2023-2024 school year.
12. *Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline (EIAs)
- A. B0028-23
 - B. B0029-23
 - C. B0030-23

- D. B0031-23
- E. H0136-23
- F. H0137-23
- G. ~~P0138-23~~ – pulled by Ms. Bennett
- H. P0139-23
- I. P0140-23
- J. P0146-23
- K. P0147-23
- L. P0148-23
- M. P0152-23
- N. P0153-23
- O. P0154-23
- P. P0155-23
- Q. P0156-23
- R. P0157-23
- S. P0158-23
- T. P0159-23
- U. P0160-23
- V. P0163-23
- W. P0164-23
- X. P0165-23
- Y. P0166-23
- Z. P0167-23
- AA. 00168-23
- BB. P0169-23
- CC. P0170-23
- DD. P0171-23
- EE. T0015-23

Motion by Mr. Carpenter seconded by Ms. Haley to **approve** Closed Session Consent items not pulled.

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Ms. Stanford seconded by Ms. Bennet to **approve** Closed Session Consent item pulled, 12G, P0138-23.

Yeas: Mr. Carpenter, Ms. Haley, Ms. Stanford, Ms. Pearson, Mr. Schubert, Ms. McCall

Nays: Ms. Bennett

Approved: 6-1-0

13. Superintendent's Update

A. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett

Dr. Jarrett ceded his time to Dr. Kate Shoulders, K12 Insight.

B. K12 Insight Survey Results

Dr. Kate Shoulders presented the 2022-2023 results of School Quality for Parents/Guardians and Employee Engagement. Dr. Shoulders began with School Quality results. Total responses for School Quality were 7,698 with a number of invitations delivered of 17,922. Employee Engagement response rate was 60%. Academic support, student support, school leadership, family involvement, and safety and behavior results increased in 2022-2023. The overall school quality increased to 54% in 2022-2023 from 47% from the previous year. Highest ranking indicators were in family involvement, student support, and academic support. The Employee Engagement results were next. Results for 2023 were up or equal to the previous year. Points of celebration for school/department leadership averaged 3.77; however, District leadership scores were at or below 3.77. Discussion and questions followed. To view the presentation, please click on this link: [K12 Insight Survey Results](#).

14. Board Member Comments

- Ms. Pearson recognized the Van Fleet Family Foundation for their recent event. She also spoke of Rockford Park District 815 Alive doing amazing things with District youths. Ms. Pearson also spoke of the need for professional development of internal candidates and adding equity to the District's mission statement.
- Ms. McCall congratulated staff for a successful school year and the need to combat negativity with the District's narrative.

15. Other Business/New Business Agenda Recommendations

There were no comments.

Motion by Ms. McCall seconded by Ms. Pearson to adjourn.

Adjournment: 8:27 p.m.

Approved:

President:

Secretary: