

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

**Administration Building
Tuesday, January 23, 202**

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

Present: President Denise Pearson, Vice President Tiana McCall, Secretary June Stanford, Ms. Nicole Bennett, Ms. Kim Haley (arr. 5:05 p.m.), Mr. Paul Carpenter, Mr. Grant Schubert

Absent: None

Motion by Stanford seconded by Mr. Carpenter 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 5:01 p.m. to 6:23 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 7:00 p.m.
 - A. Roll Call
Present: President Denise Pearson, Vice President Tiana McCall, Secretary June Stanford, Ms. Nicole Bennet, Ms. Kim Haley, Mr. Paul Carpenter, Mr. Grant Schubert
Absent: None
Ms. Pearson thanked Kim Pedersen who produces the Board’s broadcast on Channel 20, and YouTube Live. She welcomed Superintendent’s Student Advisory Representative Aliana McKee from Jefferson High School.
 - B. Pledge of Allegiance
 - Recitation of Mission Statement: The mission of Rockford Public Schools is to collaboratively engage all students in an equitable first-class education for a changing world.
 2. Public Hearing on the Amended FY 24 Budget
 - A. Public Hearing on the Amended FY 24 Budget
There were no speakers.
 3. Petitions & Communications

Ms. Pearson read the guidelines.

 - John Tac Brantlee spoke of the after school programs, transporting kids to events, and need funds for his van.
 - Gabrielle Reed, a student at West Middle School in the CAPA Program spoke of remote snow days. She shared her concerns as teachers weren’t notified on a timely basis, and elementary students didn’t have schoolwork to take home. She expressed that middle and high school students should be able to have a remote day even if elementary students cannot.
 - Yashica Reed encouraged and supported her daughter, Gabrielle Reed.
 - Krystal Scroggins spoke of the harassment, derogatory remarks, and staff intimidation that aren’t being addressed by Administration.
 - Kathie Mattison spoke of the importance of the importance of strong literacy rates, the low scores in the District, and solutions adopted by other school districts.
 - Kevin Ryan spoke of his regarding the Student Code of Conduct meetings the previous week and he never received any notification of the time or place of the meeting.
 4. Report and *Action on Items that Proceeded through the Planning Committee
 - A. *Resolution to Adopt 2023-2024 Amended Budget
Motion by Ms. McCall seconded by Ms. Haley to **approve** item 4A, Resolution to Adopt 2023-2024 Amended Budget.
Approved: Unanimously

- B. *Apptegy Communications Platform
Motion by Stanford seconded by Mr. Carpenter to **approve** item 4B, Apptegy Communications Platform.
Approved: Unanimously
5. Board President's Announcements and Report and Action on items that Proceeded through Governance Committee
A. *Board Policy 5.35 Personnel; Employment Selection Process – Administrative Employees
Motion by Ms. Stanford seconded by Ms. Bennett to **approve** item 5A, Board Policy 5.35 Personnel; Employment Selection Process – Administrative Employees.
Approved: Unanimously
6. *Consent Agenda – Performance and Monitoring Committee
A. Payroll
B. Accounts Payable
C. Purchase Orders
D. Contract Purchase Orders
E. Air Fare
F. Monthly Cash and Investment Report – November 2023 – Jamie Murray, CPA, Executive Director of Finance
G. Financial Results: November 2023 – Ms. Jamie Murray, CPA, Executive Director of Finance
H. RPS Managed Work Change Order
I. RFP 24-13 Asbestos Design & Consulting Services
J. RFQ 24-27 Bus Driver Recruitment Campaign
K. Amplify mCLASS Intervention Universal Site License – Morgan Gallagher on behalf of Conklin IB
L. AT&T IPFlex Equipment Refresh Addendum
M. Data Center Services Scope of Work Agreement
N. Cybersecurity Risk Mitigation Budget Adjustment
O. Recurring Contract Richard L. Johnson Architects Interior and Exterior Door Replacement Design at Multiple Schools – Michael Phillips, Chief Operations Officer
P. ~~DLR Group, Professional Services Agreement for College and Career Education Center Design Services – Michael Phillips, Chief Operations Officer – Puled by Administration~~
Q. ESSER – RPS Managed Work Change Order
Motion by Ms. Bennett seconded by Ms. Haley to **approve** Consent items, Performance and Monitoring Committee not pulled.
Approved: Unanimously
7. * Consent Items – Governance Committee
A. Meeting Minutes: 12-19-23
B. Freedom of Information Log
Motion by Ms. Stanford seconded by Bennett to **approve** Consent items, Governance Committee not pulled.
Approved: Unanimously
8. *Closed Session Consent Items
A. Residency Resolution – Students ZK, ZAK, and ZTK
B. Settlement Agreement-AD
C. HR Organizational Report & Addendum
Motion by Ms. Stanford seconded by Ms. Bennett to **approve** Closed Session Consent items not pulled.
Approved Unanimously
9. *Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline Suspension Appeals and Expulsions
A. H0047X-24 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year through the 2024-2025 school year.
B. H0054X-24 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year through the 2024-2025 school year.
C. H0055X-24 – expelled for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year through the entire 2024-2025 school year.
D. H0056X-24 – expelled for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year through the entire 2024-2025 school year.

Motion by Ms. Stanford seconded by Mr. Carpenter to approve Closed Session Items Student Discipline Suspension Appeals and Expulsions not pulled.

Approved: Unanimously

10. *Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline – EIAs

- A. B0017-24
- B. B0018-24
- C. B0019-24
- D. B0020-24
- E. B0021-24
- F. D0003-24
- G. ~~H0053-24~~ – Pulled by Administration
- H. H0057-24
- I. H0058-24
- J. H0059-24
- K. H0060-24
- L. H0061-24
- M. H0063-24
- N. H0064-24
- O. H0065-24
- P. H0066-24
- Q. P0095-24
- R. P0096-24
- S. P0097-24
- T. ~~P0098-24~~ – Pulled by Ms. Bennett
- U. P0099-24
- V. P0100-24
- W. P0101-23
- X. ~~P0102-24~~ – Pulled by Administration
- Y. P0104-24
- Z. P0105-24

Motion by Ms. Stanford seconded by Mr. Carpenter to approve Closed Session Consent Items Student Discipline – EIAs not pulled.

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Stanford seconded by Mr. Carpenter to approve Closed Session Consent items pulled, Student Discipline EIAs 10T, P0098-24.

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

Abstain: Ms. Bennett

Approved: 6-0-1

11. Superintendent's Update

A. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett

Dr. Jarrett ceded his time to SSAC Student Aliana McKee for her insights and personal experience. Following Aliana, Washington Elementary School Staff will share their success story.

Aliana began with thanking Board members and Dr. Jarrett for her being at the Committee of the Whole and Board meeting. She learned a lot about the District and what it takes to make the community better. A particular report that stood out to her was Dr. Reed's report on the teacher recruitment strategy outcome. The academy model has given her the opportunity to explore many career opportunities and options. She began her freshman year in the public safety pathway, but through her high school career she developed her passion to pursue history education. She was given the opportunity this year to take Introduction to Teaching Class Educational Psychology which has helped showcase all the opportunities that working for RPS has. The Rockford University scholarship is not only encouraging our current students to pursue education but creates role models for younger and future students. Jason Pope continued to discuss the two-way connection the District has with Central State University, a historically Black university, by encouraging their students to participate in the Aspiring Teacher Program.

B. Washington Elementary

Dr. Angelique Malone, Principal of Washington Elementary School, presented their P-40 Learning to Read Path program to Board members. Every day, there is 40 minutes of blocked time with every staff member involved. Presented where how the students were assessed, how the Title 1 team looked at each students' data, discussion of students having difficulty and on the spot interventions. After six weeks, the Title 1 team meets with every P40 teacher to discuss which may be struggling or accelerating and deciding next steps. Dr. Malone and her team presented the results which showed increases in all grades including monolingual and bilingual. Dr. Malone ended by inviting Board members to the P40 Promotion Ceremony on February 16, 2024. To view the presentation, please click on this link: [Washington Elementary P40](#).

12. Board Member Comments

- Ms. Bennett attended the Student Code of Conduct discussion the previous week. She also stated there are two sessions scheduled for February. Ms. Lawrence stated these are scheduled at Auburn High School on February 13, 2024, and East High School on February 27, 2024.
- Ms. McCall participated in the Facilities Master Plan meeting at Northwest Community Center. This was a wonderful opportunity to engage with parents and former teachers regarding the District plans for the facility. She also attended a middle school girls volleyball game the past Saturday at Marshall Middle School, and the past Monday at Lincoln Middle School the West Warriors won.
- Mr. Schubert attended at the UW Sports Factory the sixty plus elementary school basketball teams that played. It really showed how sports can be so impactful but also thanked the referees who showed how it can be instructive and supportive of young people playing the game for the first time. The entire experience was powerful and urged everyone to go to the Sports Factory to see these games.
- Ms. Stanford also was at the UW Sports Factory and spoke of it being an extraordinary experience. She also urged people to attend to see kids having fun, learning to be teammates, and adults being positive roll models, this takes place every Saturday until the end of the season.
- Ms. Pearson also asked Ms. Lawrence to repeat the dates for the Student Code of Conduct discussions. Ms. Lawrence stated a Google form is sent out to all staff, certified and non-certified teachers, administrators, certified and non-certified staff in Educator News and Principal Headlines.
- Ms. Haley spoke of SSAC Student Aliana McKee. Aliana gave Ms. Haley a tour around the Academy Expo. She commented that it was great Aliana could start in one path and pivot to another path, and also that her path is now in education. She said she looked forward to seeing Aliana in the classroom. She thanked Aliana for her tour and also attending both meetings. Ms. Haley also gave a shout-out to Washington.
- Ms. Pearson complimented Washington as it was an impressive presentation and thanked Aliana for being a part of the meetings and her report. She also gave a special thanks to Gabrielle Reed for expressing her concern, as student voices are needed, and she did it with excellence.

13. Other Business/New Business Agenda Recommendations

- Ms. Pearson reminded members reviewing policies that those will be discussed at the February Committee of the Whole meeting. She asked if they forward any recommendations to those policies to Attorney Hoadley.

Motion by Ms. McCall seconded by Mr. Carpenter to adjourn.

Adjournment: 7:50 p.m.

Approved:

President:

Secretary: