

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
Business Meeting
Minutes
May 28, 2009

Attendance: Vice President White, Commissioners Brennan, Campos, Powell, and Williams; Student Representative S. DeLaus; Superintendent Brizard; Board Clerk Shanai Lee. President Evans and Commissioner Elliott absent.

Vice President White convened the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

- I. Commissioner Willa Powell led the Act of Reverence to recognize the passing of Kathleen Perry, teacher at School of the Arts and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
- II. **Motion to accept minutes** of April 27th was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 5-0 with President Evans and Commissioner Elliott absent.

Motion to accept minutes of April 28th was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 5-0 with President Evans and Commissioner Elliott absent.

Motion to accept minutes of May 5th was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 5-0 with President Evans and Commissioner Elliott absent.

Motion to accept minutes of May 7th was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 5-0 with President Evans and Commissioner Elliott absent.

Motion to accept minutes of May 19th was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 5-0 with President Evans and Commissioner Elliott absent.
- III. **Student Recognition:** Vice President White recognized Elliot Williams as the recipient of the 2009 Black History Month Academic Achievement Award. Commissioner Campos recognized Luis Martell for being crowned the Skills USA NYS Masonry Champion.
- IV. **Speakers Addressing an Agenda Item:** Students Denzel Cox, Kaylee Nesmith, Phillip Slattery, Sophie Gallivan, Megan Gilfoy, Felicia Bevel, Crescenzo Scipione, Matthew Hough, Sara Petrichick, Justus Lucas and Louis McCray spoke against the proposed budget cuts. Students Kiera Martin, Brandon Gordon, Virna Ocasio, Marcus Cook, Ravohn Lane, and Chauncey Reid spoke in favor of the Freedom School. Parent Mary Adams spoke against the proposed budget cuts. Parent Ricardo Adams against the District's existing policy of sharing student data with the military without parental consent. Kathryn Caldwell, Kathy Castania, Peter Debes, Harry Murray, Vicki Ryder, Zora Gussow, Gary Pudup, Thomas Gregory, Jr., and Angela Kraus spoke about the District's current and proposed military recruitment policies.
- V. **Superintendent's Report:** The Superintendent delivered a presentation on the 2009-2010 budget including assumptions made for Title I/IDEA Stimulus spending and proposed staffing cuts and staffing formulas. He noted that the Franklin High School small school campus will remain open for the 2009-

2010 academic year. The Superintendent also stated that the staff, parents, students, and the Board must work collaboratively to make improvements in the academic programs and standings of Franklin High School.

VI. Board Reports:

Student Representative:

Ms. DeLaus: Ms. DeLaus expressed concern about the proposed budget cuts to the arts and music programs and staff for the upcoming academic year. She thanked the Superintendent and staff for participating in the Home Library Giveaway at School No. 22. Ms. DeLaus also noted that the Annual Title I Parent Conference is scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 2009. The Student Leadership Council met on May 27, 2009 at School No. 22 to read to students. She mentioned that the Council plans to record a public service announcement focusing on the importance of attending school. The Council will report on the events and successes of the 2008-2009 academic year at the June 18, 2009 Board Business Meeting.

Audit Committee

Chair Allen Williams: The recessed Audit Committee Meeting of the Whole on April 7, 2009 resumed on May 5, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. to continue the discussion on the Office of Auditor General's Capital Projects Audit Report and the process for receiving complete Management Responses on audit reports. The Committee also discussed the FOIL request process and the appointment of a community member to the Audit Committee. The Committee will review the resumes of candidates that have been received to date and make a recommendation at an upcoming Audit Committee meeting.

Finance Committee

Chair Willa Powell: The Finance Committee met on Thursday, May 21, 2009 to review the April 2009 Financial Reports, Student Activity Funds Report for the 3rd Quarter of 2008-09, and Resolution Nos. 2008-09: 820-845. The Finance Committee decided to table Resolution No. 2008-09: 835 until further data is provided regarding the selection process and locations considered for the program currently housed at Holy Apostles Church. The Committee seeks a motion to accept the April 2009 Financial Report. Motion to accept the April 2009 Financial Report was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 5-0 with President Evans and Commissioner Elliott Absent. The Committee seeks a motion to accept the Student Activity Funds Report for the 3rd Quarter of 2008-09. Motion to accept the Student Activity Funds Report was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 5-0 with President Evans and Commissioner Elliott Absent. The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on June 18, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

Excellence in Student Achievement Committee

Chair Van Henri White: The Excellence in Student Achievement Committee met on Tuesday, May 26, 2009 at 5:40 p.m. A presentation by the Administration was made on the purchase of math textbooks for grades 6-9 from Holt McDougal, relating to Resolution No. 2008-2009: 846. The next Excellence in Student Achievement Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, June 11, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Chair Melisza Campos: The Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 12, 2009 was postponed due to lack of a quorum. This meeting has been rescheduled to Tuesday, June 9, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

Policy Committee

Chair Cynthia Elliott: The Policy Committee met on Tuesday, May 19, 2009 to review and discuss the following items: Student Arrest Policy, a proposed bilateral resolution, and the relationship with Erie 1 BOCES to update the Board's policy manual. The next Policy Committee meeting will be held on June 16, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. and will address Attendance Policy, Board Staff Policy and a policy to establish a requirement that the children of RCSD employees attend a District school.

Board Governance Committee

Chair Thomas Brennan: The Board Governance Committee did not meet in May 2009; the next meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Vice President White requested a motion to extend the meeting past 8:30 p.m.

Motion to extend the meeting past 8:30 p.m. was made by Commissioner Brennan. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with President Evans and Commissioner Elliott Absent

VII. Resolutions

2008-09: 783 – 819, 863, 865, 866: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Campos. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with President Evans and Commissioner Elliott absent.

2008-09: 820 – 835: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Brennan. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with President Evans and Commissioner Elliott absent; except for Resolutions No. 2008-09: 826 –832, which were adopted 4-1 with President Evans and Commissioner Elliott absent and Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2008-09: 836 – 838: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 5-0 with President Evans and Commissioner Elliott absent; except for Resolution No. 2008-09: 839, which was adopted 4-1 with President Evans and Commissioner Elliott absent and Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2008-09: 839: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 5-0 with President Evans and Commissioner Elliott absent.

2008-09: 840 – 862, 864: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 5-0 with President Evans and Commissioner Elliott absent; except for Resolutions No. 2008-09: 840, 841, 844, 852, and 862 which were adopted 4-1 with President Evans and Commissioner Elliott absent and Commissioner Williams dissenting, Resolutions No. 2008-09: 848 and 849 which were adopted 4-0 with President Evans and Commissioner Elliott absent and Commissioner Williams abstaining due to professional relationships, and Resolution No. 2008-09: 853 which was rejected 2-3 with President Evans and Commissioner Elliott absent and Commissioners Brennan, Powell, and Williams dissenting.

VIII. Unfinished Business: The Board discussed the proposed Recruiting by Organizations with Restrictive Membership or Employment Practices Authorized and Permitted by Law Policy, No. 1240.1. The

Board recommended that the Policy be returned to the Policy Committee for further discussion and amendment.

IX. **New Business:** None

X. **Speakers on Other Than Agenda Items:**

Parents Emma Cox-Lovelace, Karen Slattery, Melanie Funchess, Nick Francesco, Glenny Williams, and Cheryl Marshall spoke against proposed budget cuts. Parents John Greenbaum and Demond Meeks spoke against proposed class size adjustments for the 2009-2010 academic year. Community members Alice Pratt, Hosea Taylor, Jr., Jan Angus, and Allen Williams spoke against proposed budget cuts. Community member Charlie Richardson spoke against the closing of the Franklin High School small schools campus. Staff members Celeste Shade, Ellen Best, Louis Wilson, Jr., Alison Skvarla, Don Sherman, Lou Marcone, Stephen Lawrence, and Adam Urbanski spoke against the proposed budget cuts.

XI. **Motion to adjourn** made by Commissioner Brennan. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with President Evans and Commissioner Elliott absent at 10:34 p.m.