

Rochester Board of Education
Finance Committee
May 15, 2014

Attendance: Commissioner Powell (Chair); Commissioners Evans (arrived at 6:49PM), Cruz, and White. Parent Representative: Giancarlo Giannini (arrived at 6:50PM). District Staff: Bill Ansbro, Chief Financial Officer; Vern Connors, Budget Director; Michael Schmidt, Chief of Operations; Ed Lopez-Soto, General Counsel. Board Staff: Debra Flanagan.

Commissioner Powell convened the meeting at 6:41PM.

I. Review and Approve Minutes of April 15, 2014 Finance Committee Meeting of the Whole and of April 17, 2014 Finance Committee Meeting

Motion by Commissioner Cruz to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2014 Finance Committee Meeting of the Whole. **Adopted 3-0.**

Motion by Commissioner Cruz to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2014 Finance Committee meeting. **Adopted 3-0.**

II. Review and Approve April 2014 Financial Reports

Motion by Commissioner Cruz to approve the April 2014 Financial Report. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. **Adopted 4-0, with concurrence of Parent Representative.**

III. Review and Approve Quarterly Change Order Report for January through March 2014

Motion by Commissioner Cruz to approve the Quarterly Change Order Report for January through March 2014. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. **Adopted 4-0, with concurrence of Parent Representative.**

IV. Review and Approve 3rd Quarter Student Activity Funds Report

Motion by Commissioner Cruz to approve the Quarterly Change Order Report for January through March 2014. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. **Adopted 4-0, with concurrence of Parent Representative.**

V. Review and Approve Resolutions in preparation for May 22nd Board Business Meeting:

A. EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

Final Payments:

1. **Testa Construction, Inc. – final payment for general construction work in renovations to the Douglass Educational campus – Resolution No. 2013-14: 664**
2. **A.M. Stern, Inc. – final payment for general construction work in renovations to Franklin High School – Resolution No. 2013-14: 665**
3. **Eastcoast Electric, LLC – final payment for electrical work in renovations to School No. 9 and Baden Street Recreation Center – Resolution No. 2013-14: 666**
4. **Eastcoast Electric, LLC – final payment for electrical work in renovating School No. 30 – Resolution No. 2013-14: 667**
5. **Eastcoast Electric, LLC – final payment for electrical work in renovating School No. 39 – Resolution No. 2013-14: 668**
6. **Leo J. Roth Corporation – final payment for plumbing work in renovating School No. 39 – Resolution No. 2013-14: 669**
7. **Concord Electric, LLC – final payment for electrical work in renovating School No. 44 – Resolution No. 2013-14: 670**
8. **Pipitone Enterprises, LLC – final payment for HVAC work in renovating School No. 42 – Resolution No. 2013-14: 671**

Motion by Commissioner Cruz to address all above Facilities final payments as a group. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. **Adopted 4-0, with concurrence of Parent Representative.**

Motion by Commissioner Cruz to approve all above Facilities final payments. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. **Adopted 4-0, with concurrence of Parent Representative.**

Late Submission:

9. **True North Preparatory Charter School – agreement to sublease space at 175 Martin Street**

Bill Ansbro explained that the resolution approved by the Board in the April 24, 2014 Business meeting had to be amended because of changes needed in the sublease agreement with True North Preparatory Charter School. He stated that the approved resolution allowed the charter school to sublease the 3rd floor of the building at 175 Martin Street, but the District needs this space to house 7th and 8th grade students from East High School. Mr. Ansbro noted that True North

Preparatory Charter School has agreed to sublease a smaller space on the 2nd floor of the building, which will involve a lower cost. For these reasons, the resolution has to be amended.

Commissioner White inquired whether the sublease has been signed with True North Preparatory Charter School. Ed Lopez-Soto replied that this agreement has not yet been signed, and the earliest opportunity would be the day after the May Board Business meeting (i.e. May 23rd).

Commissioner White expressed concern about modifying the sublease agreement with the charter school because plans have not yet been finalized for East High School. Mr. Ansbrow pointed out that regardless of the final plans for the school, the availability of the additional space will allow the District greater flexibility. Mr. Lopez-Soto added that the administration at East High School reported that 7th and 8th grade students performed better academically when separated from students in grades 9-12.

Mr. Connors announced that the final 2014-15 RCSD budget will be posted on the website and the final budget books distributed to Board members tomorrow.

Motion by Commissioner Cruz to approve above resolution to sublease space at 175 Martin Street to True North Preparatory Charter School. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. **Adopted 4-0, with concurrence of Parent Representative.**

VI. Additional Business

Parent Representative Giancarlo Giannini noted that information provided during the 2014-15 budget review process indicated that \$210K would be allocated for expeditionary learning in 2014-15. He stated that he has received email messages stating that these allocations may have changed. Mr. Ansbrow replied that there was a misunderstanding, and corrections will be made to reflect the will of the Board with regard to expeditionary learning.

Commissioner Powell recalled that Commissioner Adams advocated for an increase of \$140K in allocations for expeditionary learning in 2014-15. She stated that the information provided in response to questions about funding for expeditionary learning indicated that the increased allocation had been included in the 2014-15 budget. Commissioner Powell noted that the adopted 2014-15 RCSD budget did not actually include the funding increase for expeditionary learning, but allocated \$140K for the Montessori school.

Mr. Ansbrow explained that District staff are currently seeking grant funding to support expeditionary learning, and the City will be notified of this planned change in the 2014-15 RCSD budget.

Commissioner Powell asserted that \$140K in additional funding will be allocated for expeditionary learning, whether from grants or the budget reserve.

Mr. Connors pointed out that the additional funding will be used for all expeditionary learning schools, and the specific amount of the allocations will depend on each school's need for support.

Mr. Giannini stated that he had additional follow-up questions from the 2014-15 RCSD budget review process, and that he would send these questions via email to Mr. Ansbro.

Motion by Commissioner Cruz to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. **Adopted 4-0, with concurrence of Parent Representative.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:00PM.