

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee Meeting
October 16, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Attendance: Commissioner Cynthia Elliott (Chair), and Commissioner Mary Adams; Parent Representative: Felix Jacobs, Board Staff: Jacqueline Morgan

Absent: Commissioner Melisza Campos

Commissioner Elliott called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

I. **Minutes**

Motion to approve the February Minutes was made by Commissioner Adams; seconded by Commissioner Elliott. **Adopted 2-0; with Commissioner Campos absent.**

Commissioner Elliott suggested that Mr. Tom Renauto of the Rochester Joint Schools Construction Board (RJSCB) be invited to attend next month's CIGR Committee to bring the Committee, or provide a status report to up to date the Committee on the status of diversity and the status of the work on School No. 50. She also indicated that the number of people of color, particularly African-American, working on the School 50 project should be included in his status report.

Mr. Jacobs requested that the report also include the number of city residents be included in the report.

Commissioner Adams asked for the following items to be included in the report:

- The outcome of the employment training and screening program: the number of applicants, graduates and completers.
- Provide status of all of the program completers, i.e. are they placed, ready to be placed and likelihood of placement.

- What is the mechanism for African-American City residents to be included if they are already skilled and experienced and job ready; what is their point of entry into the program.
- Where are we with higher skilled/higher skilled positions.

These should be reported by demographic breakdown – city residents and by racial ethnicity.

Commissioner Elliott stated that while planning the facilities modernization the District should also begin discussions around configuring our buildings to accommodate what will look like in the future i.e. virtual schools. This type of education should be incorporated into the plans and included in the discussions.

Motion: Invite Tom Renauto, Jerome Underwood and Dr. Vargas to the December meeting for input into the process of helping to develop framework of the FMP plan. **Motion** to approve requesting a status report from Mr. Renauto was made by Commissioner Elliott; seconded by Commissioner Adams. **Adopted 2-0; with Commissioner Campos absent.**

II. **Resolution No. 2012-13 229 Discussion**

The Committee had more discussion on Resolution No. 2012-13 229, a resolution regarding standardized testing. Commissioner Adams noted that the intent of this resolution is to address the harmful impact of over use of high stakes testing and to request the State and federal government to critique the over testing of students. She also noted that models for other types of performance standards that are deeper and broader that indicates what students know, what they can do and how they perform.

Commissioner Elliott noted that this resolution should not be a resolution that is on the books that is meaningless and asked where the Committee should go from here in addressing the intent of the resolution. Commissioner Adams suggested that the Committee should express support for the Consortium of Performance Standards with the Board of Regents and request expansion of that model, and also to possibly take that framework and apply it to the new emphasis on the career in technical education branch as a compliment to the college focus. We could request a performance review board that is similar to the college track and apply it to a career and technical track. This could be explored with the State.

Commissioner Elliott suggested that the Superintendent be invited to attend a meeting to have a discussion with him for his input regarding

concerns he may have about moving forward. She also indicated that there should be communication at the State level around the resolution, as this is an opportunity for the Board to influence public policy.

Mr. Jacobs noted that there is an opportunity to build capacity in the Career and Technical Education track for auto mechanics and LPNs with students obtaining diplomas along these tracks.

III. Committee Organization

Commissioner Elliott discussed this committee can have more of an impact, particularly on the State and federal levels. She would like to redefine or enhance the committee's role on these levels of government.

She suggested that the committee works with the committee liaison to ensure that the committee is connecting more with the Superintendent's office around the legislative work that he does with the State and federal levels.

Commissioner would like to invite Regents Brown and Norwood to an upcoming committee to develop relationships with them. Commissioner Adams suggested having an event that would connect the community with the Regents.

Ms. Morgan suggested that in addition to being more involved at the State and federal levels, the committee could sponsor community forums around issues of concern.

IV. Miscellaneous

Mr. Jacobs spoke about his continued concerns about Central Kitchen. Commissioner Elliott noted that she would request that the Superintendent provide monthly reports regarding Central Kitchen.

Action Items:

1. Commissioner Elliott will draft an email to the Superintendent around having more conversation around the topic testing and to invite him to attend an upcoming CIGR Committee to share his thoughts on how testing can mesh with emerging State regulations. The email will be shared with Commissioner Adams and Mr. Jacobs prior to sending to Dr. Vargas for their review.
2. Ms. Morgan will find out who the liaison is to the CIGR Committee.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. was moved by Commissioner Elliott seconded by Commissioner Adams.

The next meeting of the Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee is scheduled to be held on **Tuesday, November 13, 2012, at 6:00 p.m.**