

Rochester Board of Education
Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee
June 30, 2008, 5:30 p.m.
Josh Lofton Building, 242 W. Main St.

Minutes

Attendance: Chairwoman Campos, Commissioners Brennan and White; Board Staff L. Dunsmoor; District Staff J. Fenton; K. Warner, Unicon.

1. Minutes: Motion to approve Minutes of March 10 by Commissioner Brennan. Adopted.

2. Edison/Unicon Partnership: Mr. Warner distributed copies of a brochure promoting the updated Applied Technology program at Edison and its new partnership with Unicon – Unions and Businesses United in Construction and CCI – Careers in Construction Inc. He reported that there are 300 applications for 120 spots. Students in the program will be doubling up on math courses, receive safety training for their OSHA cards, and first aid training. Part of the coursework will include construction of a new home in cooperation with the City. Students who work on that project will be paid. In response to Commissioner White, Mr. Warner said funding for the program is adequate and additional City funding was not sought.

3. Facilities Modernization Program: Mr. Fenton updated the committee on the FMP's mission, which is to support district educational programming and initiatives. The multi-year, multi-phase project will take a comprehensive systems view of operations, aligning Facilities Operations and Maintenance, Capital Projects, Food Service, and Transportation. The oversight Board for the FMP will be created by the Superintendent and the Mayor; characteristics of potential Board members have been identified with appointments targeted for Summer 2008. In the fall the Board will establish objectives, identify staffing needs, acquire management services, initiate a comprehensive master project plan, and engage stakeholders/community members. 2009 is expected to see completion of the comprehensive master project plan, regulatory approvals, construction management, architectural and engineering services acquisition, and initiation of project design. Commissioner White noted that the project will benefit students and M/WBE contractors; Mr. Fenton said efforts will be undertaken to increase M/WBE contractors capacity and participation. In response to Chairwoman Campos, Mr. Fenton said construction will not likely begin before 2010.

4. Joint Session: Commissioners discussed a potential meeting with the Superintendent, Mayor, and City Council. Identified for potential agenda items were mayoral control, Maintenance of Effort legislation, and the District's efforts to raise test scores and graduation rates. Fall 2008 was identified as a timeline. Action item: L. Dunsmoor to poll Commissioners regarding other agenda topics and report at next meeting.

5. Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 12, 5:30 p.m. at Central Office. Commissioner Campos asked that committee members come prepared to discuss ways the CIR committee can be effective regarding community issues.

6. Adjournment: Motion by Commissioner White. Second by Commissioner Brennan. Adopted at 7:10 p.m.