

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
Excellence in Student Achievement Committee Meeting
September 16, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Attending: Commissioners: Malik Evans (Chair), Mary Adams, Cynthia Elliott (Vice President), Van White (President). **District Staff:** Adele Bovard, Keith Babuszak, Christiana Otuwa, Lorna Washington. **Parent Representative:** Toyin Anderson.

- I. Commissioner Evans called the meeting to order at 7:58p; he made a motion to approve the June 2014 minutes: seconded by Mary Adams.

- II. The Excellence in Student Achievement Committee received a presentation by district staff, **Adel Bovard** (Deputy Superintendent of Administration), **Keith Babuszak** (Chief of Schools), **Christina Otuwa** (Deputy Superintendent for Teaching and Learning) and **Lorna Washington**, (Data/Special Assistant) that addressed the following four questions: (1) How many students should be graduating? (2) How many students are on target to graduate? (3) What is being accomplished to keep them on track? And (4) What is being done to help students who are not on track?
 - 1) **How many students should be graduating?** The Committee was provided 2011 cohort information, including the total number of students, active and non-active, limited English proficient (LEP) students, students with disabilities and economic disadvantage students.
 - **2011 Cohort is 2,250 students with 80% active (1,834).**

 - 2) **How many are on target to graduate?**
 - On target is defined as students with minimum of 11 credits and have successfully passed 3 regents exams.

 - **2011 Cohort (active students), 57% on track to graduate.**

 - 3) **What is being accomplished to keep them on track?**

There are transcript reviews by student and counselors, 4 year plan initiated after 8th grade, review of report cards and offering additional supports to students as needed.

 - 4) **What is being done to help students who are not on track?**
 - Tiered Intervention
 - Online credit recovery
 - Preparing students for exams using extended time
 - Offering general courses during the summer
 - Offering courses that students need to graduate
 - Considering multiple opportunities to pass the regents exam
 - Supporting students in and out of classroom

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Committee comments and feedback on the presentation:

- Parents are not involved during planning stages, and are not pulled into the process early on i.e. when 8th grade transcripts are being reviewed for 9th grade and YEARLY review by counselors and students to ensure students are on track for graduation.

- Schools Administrators and Teachers should not assume that parents are not interested and will not be involved in preparing for their child's graduation from the start. Schools should aggressively seek parental support and cooperation.

- Committee asked for historical dropout trends because of the significant number of students who are not active. The presentation pointed out a total of 416 students not currently active in school.

- Committee discussed new way to help parents and students relate to requirements needed to graduate and confirm if students are on track to graduate after the first year of high school: **9-5- 1** meaning after 9th grade, students should have 5 credits and passed 1 regents exam.