

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
Excellence in Student Achievement Committee of the Whole
March 15, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Attendance: Commissioner Van White (Chair), Commissioner Powell;
District Staff: Superintendent Brizard, Beverly Gushue, Beth Mascitti-
Miller; Jodie Maurer (Parent Representative); Jacqueline Morgan (Board
Staff)

Absent: Commissioner Elliott

Commissioner White called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

I. Minutes

Motion to approve February minutes was made by Commissioner Powell;
seconded by Commissioner White.

II. Parent Representative

There was a brief discussion on the selection of the parent representative
for the upcoming year (2011-12). Jacqueline Morgan, Board Staff, was
requested to bring an update of the number of individuals who have
submitted applications to be considered for this position at the April
committee meeting.

III. College Ready Presentation

Jean-Claude Brizard, Superintendent of Schools, outlined college and
career readiness initiatives and programs in the district. Mr. Brizard
stated that he hoped to dispel some of the misconceptions about 5% of
the students in Rochester being ready for college. He noted that it is
clear that the work that the District does for college/career readiness is
at the top of the pyramid. College going is increasing for all racial and
ethnic groups.

When looking at our local district; you see that the number of students
going directly to college from high school has increased. However, while
more are going to college the vast majority of these students are
attending 2-year schools rather than 4-year schools. Some do transfer
on to 4-year schools, but we don't have the data to know what they are

doing beyond that. While about 55% of students are going to college only 20% are going to 4-year institutions and 36% are going to 2-year institutions.

Seventy-seven percent of our students are staying in college for year two once they get in. That's up from 50% back in 2005. When they get into to college, the majority of them are staying. The Superintendent noted that this is a much better indicator than saying that only 5% of the students are college ready.

Mr. Brizard noted how the 5% indicator was arrived at. They took a look at first year students the City University of New York (CUNY) who got a C or better in their Math or ELA class in their first year; and they map back to their Regents score. Once they did that nugget in New York, it was extrapolated to the entire state of New York.

Strategies to ensure that every student is post-secondary ready are as follows:

- Great leaders and teachers (ensuring that the best adults are leading and teaching our students)
- The Right School for Every Child (Focus on having the right kinds of schools).
- The Rochester Curriculum (Refocusing on what we teach to push toward college readiness).

IV. Career in Technical Education Presentation

Beverly Gushue noted at the beginning of her presentation that the purpose of the presentation is to gain approval for nine applications for CTE programs which have to be signed by both the Superintendent and Board President.

The mission of CTE is to help prepare and empower students to become world class, skilled workers and productive citizens directly from high school, or from college or whether they do both.

Ms. Gushue noted that CTE is program of study that requires three CTE credits, but she would like to see five courses or more being required so that students get a strong understanding of their area of interest. The CTE program ensures business and industry standards and programs are approved by the State Education Department. Ms. Gushue also noted that students can earn a Regents diploma with a CTE endorsement.

CTE programs prepare students to graduate to continue their education at colleges and universities; go directly into the workforce, depending on their career path; or select technical training programs, apprenticeships or schools that specialize in their chosen field of interest.

The CTE program approval process involves a self-study of the program including elements such as:

- Updated Curriculum
- Teacher Certification/Professional Development
- Post-Secondary Articulations
- Industry-Based Assessments/Certifications
- Work-Based Learning Experiences

Ms. Gushue noted that students in approved CTE programs must pass an industry-approved assessment/certification and the five Regents exams to earn a technical endorsement on their Regents diploma.

She also noted that the vision for CTE is:

1. Educational preparation leading to careers and post-secondary study.
2. Greater flexibility and options in meeting graduation requirements.
3. Ability to compete in a global economy.
4. Alignment with DOL employment trends.

At the end of the presentation Ms. Gushue noted that the following schools are seeking CTE approval:

- East High School Programs
Academy of Information Technology
Academy of Finance
Academy Hospitality and Tourism
- Edison Campus Programs
Business Finance – Academy of Business

School of Imaging and Information Technology
- Computer Technology

- Graphic Design
- Media Communications & Literacy
- Photography
- Print Media

Commissioner Powell noted that the forms for certification were different depending on the program that the schools were seeking approval for. Ms. Gushue noted that the reason is that some of the schools were seeking recertification for programs that already exist in their buildings.

Jodi Maurer, the Parent Rep, questioned the dates on the applications, as some the start dates go as far back as 2009. Ms. Gushue responded that the whole process takes a while to get everything in place. So, the programs started on the start dates and are not ready for approval. Beth Mascitti-Miller stated that they would take a look at the start dates to ensure that they are correct.

Ms. Gushue noted that while they have not applied for CTE status, course work did start in 2009. The course was being offered, but it took time to get the committee together, to select an articulation and to work with a college in getting a contract to offer that course.

Commissioner White stated that all of the Edison applications denoted the contact address as 131 W. Broad Street instead of the school address. Ms. Gushue noted that they should list the school's address instead. Commissioner White expressed his discontent with the presentation of the applications, as they contained incomplete information, inconsistent information and handwritten information. He noted that he would not vote to have the Board president sign-off on the applications as presented.

Ms. Mascitti-Miller suggested that the applications be re-done and brought back to the committee a forth coming Excellence in Student Committee Meeting.

Commissioner Powell requested that the names of instructors of the individual course work be identified on the forms and have their credentials identified to the committee. She'd like to know whether or not they are already a CTE certified instructor, or is that certification being sought or is it pending.

Commissioner White noted that he wants the district to become serious about CTE. He also noted that he has serious questions about the CTE programs. Commissioner White asked if there were more schools CTE certified than in the past; Ms. Gushue stated no. He noted that the district is entitled to have an aggressive CTE program.

Jacqueline Morgan, Board Staff, questioned whether or not Resolution No. 655 would be pulled and be considered at the May ESAC Meeting. It was the consensus the committee to pull the resolution.

Motion by Commissioner White to pull Resolution No. 655. **Adopted 2-0; with Commissioner Elliott absent.**

Action Item:

It is requested that the names of instructors of the individual course work be identified on the forms along with their. Show whether or not the instructors are already CTE certified, or whether the certification being sought or pending.

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Powell at 7:47 p.m.; seconded by Commissioner White.

The next Excellence in Student Achievement meeting will be held on May 17, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.