

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
Excellence in Student Achievement Committee Meeting
September 14, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Attendance: Commissioner V. White (chair) Commissioners C. Elliott and A. Williams; District Staff: Nita Brown, Beth Mascitti-Miller and Dr. Jeanette Silvers; Parent Representative: Jodi Maurer; Board Staff: Jacqueline Morgan

Absent: Commissioner W. Powell

Commissioner White called the meeting to order at 5:50 p.m.

Prior to beginning the acceptance of the minutes, Commissioner Elliott requested the Schott Report and an update on the African/African-American curriculum be added to the agenda of the October meeting. Commissioner White requested that the Teaching American History Grant also be added to the October meeting agenda.

Commissioner Elliott and Mrs. Maurer, the Parent Representative, suggested the start time for Excellence in Student Committee meetings be changed from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. going forward in order to allow for more time for travel and to ensure that meetings are started on time.

I. Minutes

Motion to approve August minutes was made by Commissioner Elliott; seconded by Commissioner White. **Adopted 2-1; with Commissioner Powell absent.**

II. Accessing RCSD Year-End Data Via Office of Accountability Website

Ms. Nita Brown gave the Committee a presentation detailing how year-end data can be accessed on-line via the District's website through the Office of Accountability's link.

The Year-End presentation is a tool that helped identify how to move around the District's website in order to gather the data and reports that is being sought. Website users are able to utilize Frequently-Accessed District links that guide will guide them through the website to connect to the desired report(s) and data, i.e. student enrollment, suspensions, etc.

It was noted that parents and the community should be made aware that this data is available and also be made aware of how to access it.

It was noted that the website may be too cumbersome for parents and the community to move around in the site. It was recommended that a link be available to parents/community that takes them directly to the data that they are seeking (easy access.)

Commissioner White questioned whether or not graduation data would be available on the website; and if that data would include the August 2010 graduates. Dr. Silvers noted that that data would be available on the website once the numbers are released and received from the State.

Commissioner White noted that there is a window of opportunity when the District's projected graduation data can be shared before SED embargoes their numbers; and wanted to be very clear that we should not miss that window.

Action Item:

The Office of Accountability will create a less cumbersome and user-friendly link to be utilized by District web browsers to access year-end data.

III. 2009-10 Grades 3-8 ELA and Math Performance

The 2009-10 English Language Arts and Mathematics New York State Testing Program for grades 3-8 was presented to the Committee with the following points outlined:

- The New York State Education Department's new standard for college Readiness
- ELA and Math Summary Statements
- ELA and Math performance by grade level
- 2010 Student Proficiency in ELA and Math
- The Big 5 Comparison in Grades 3-8 in ELA and Math
- Moving forward/Action steps

It was noted that the State has changed the proficiency threshold (known as a cut score) to a higher target. The 2010 Math and ELA Proficiency Standard scores will be changed from 650 where they have been set in the past. Eighth grade Proficiency scores are set at a level that provides students a 75% chance of earning a college-ready Regents score; and 3rd-7th grade Proficiency scores are set so that if a student makes a year's worth of developmental growth they will be on track for a college-ready Regents score.

Commissioner Elliott noted that ensuring that students reach and exceed the new cut scores would take rigorous and hard work on the part of the District. It was noted that some of the steps that the District is taking to ensure that students reach and exceed the new score cuts are as follows:

Expansion of Year Round Extended Learning Opportunities

- School-based decision making allowing for customized extended learning options based on student need (e.g. extended day, extended school year)
- Expanded district-wide Summer Program offerings for academic intervention, credit recovery, and enrichment
- School-based staffing decisions focused on increased time on task, i.e., additional dedicated instructional time, additional strategic and intensive intervention.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m. was moved by Commissioner Elliott.

The next Excellence in Student Achievement Committee is scheduled to meet on November 2, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in 3A/3B.