

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Business Meeting

August 25, 2016

Attendance: President White, Vice President Elliott, and Commissioners Adams, Evans, Hallmark, and Powell; Superintendent Barbara Deane-Williams; East High School EPO Superintendent Shaun Nelms; and Acting Board Clerk Francine Scott.

Vice President Elliott convened the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

I. The Pledge Allegiance was led by Commissioner Evans selected by Vice President Elliott.

II. Acceptance of Minutes: Motion to accept the minutes of the July 28th PUC Achieve Charter School Public Hearing, July 28th Business Meeting, and August 18th Special Meeting made by Commissioner Evans and seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent.

President White joined via video conference at 7:10 p.m.

III. Recognitions: None

IV. Speakers Addressing and Agenda Item: No Speakers

V. Speakers not Addressing an Agenda Item: Community member, Harry Pearle, spoke about using positive reinforcements to motivate students, families, and teachers as a way to succeed in school.

VI. Superintendents Reports: Dr. Nelms delivered a presentation to update the Board on gearing up for the 2016-17 academic school year where over 180 teachers participated in approximately 12,000 hours of professional development that included:

- Restorative practices;
- Instructional Foundations;
- Curriculum writing;
- Managing the active classroom, and
- Mission and Vision work

Dr. Nelms also noted that academic rigor and expectation consist of sixteen different subject areas are being written and/or revised curriculum for a total of over 90 courses. All subjects will have goals aligned to the new mission and vision:

“At East, we are taking charge of our future by being tenacious, thinking purposefully, and advocating for self and others.”

Dr. Nelms thanked the Simon School of Business at the University of Rochester for providing 1500 drawstring bags filled with school supplies for East Scholars to be distributed on the first day of school and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority for volunteering to support students on opening day. Approximately 200 Lower and Upper East parents and

families attended orientation. Dr. Nelms announced East's first home game against Hilton High School is on Saturday, September 3rd at 6:00 p.m.

Superintendent Deane-Williams delivered a presentation to update the Board on "Bright Spots":

- Summer Bridge Programs at Edison and P-Tech Rochester where she witnessed high-quality learning, and high level of student engagement, and a dedicated administrative team working in one unified campus.
- The 21st Century Learning Tools that empower students to succeed in the learning process, provides access to digital tools that students need to be engaged, and connect and prepare students for the global economy. The District has a three year plan for every student in grades 3-12 to have their own digital device to use at school. Student interns were teaching their school administrators.
- Community Collaboration to Improve Attendance: Over the last two years, chronic absence has decreased by 1700 students. Superintendent Deane-Williams thanked the families, community, and community partners for the collaboration to improve attendance.

Superintendent Deane-Williams reported that 2,918 Pre-K students enrolled in Pre-K and 98% are full day programs reaching the enrollment goal of 96%. As of August 22nd, 27,241 students registered in grades K-12, which is 99% of the enrollment projected for the 2016-17 school budget. All students registered by August 19th who qualify for transportation will have a bus on the first day of school. Transportation will also be provided on the first day of school for late registrants as possible. Staffing for all administrator positions are filled and the Human Capital Initiatives Department is working diligently to ensure that 100% of classroom teacher positions are filled by September 7th. Superintendent Deane-Williams also encouraged parents to register their children if they have not already done so to ensure students are in attendance on the first day of school.

Superintendent Deane-Williams stated 95 teachers left the District since July 1 and 198 new teachers have been hired and 22 new positions have been created. All K-8 class schedules are in place and schedules for high school students will be mailed by August 31st. Resources are being added as required to ensure that students receive the instructional materials they need.

Superintendent Deane-Williams' 100 Day plan to Strengthen Support for Schools include:

- Participation in scheduled school and public events;
- Conversations at churches, group meeting and public locations;
- Facilitated input sessions with school stakeholders and community partners Cabinet Members and Principals will be helping to lead this effort;
- Broaden input on the district budget process;
- Organize resources in Central Office to better support schools;
- Improve communication and understanding through digital media;
- Build on our existing resources to help school communities strengthen relationships, and improve climate and implement the Code of Conduct.

Superintendent Deane-Williams announced the following events:

- Start Strong and WDKX Back to School Rally is taking place on Saturday, August 27th 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Frontier Field.
- Summer Commencement Ceremony taking place on Wednesday, August 31st 6:00 p.m. at Franklin High School
- Superintendent Conference Day schedule on Tuesday, September 6th, where the focus will be on getting ready to welcome students back to school and staff can attend in person or watch online.

Vice President Elliott stated that in the past there have been several complaints from parents, community members, and legislators that textbooks have not reached the classroom for students to use. Vice President also stated that while we are moving into a digital format that we should be mindful to ensure students have these resources.

Superintendent Deane-Williams thanked Vice President Elliot for the reminder and also assured that books will reach the classrooms.

Board Reports:

Audit Committee

Chair Mary Adams:

The Audit Committee did not meet. The Audit Committee needs to meet to go over the Audit Plan and considering a meeting on September 19th or September 20th. Commissioner Adams noted that the School Climate Improvement Team which is a State level committee a multi-disciplinary committee that she has been with for a couple of years. Current activities around assessing school climate aligns nicely with the local work of the District in implementation and, recommendations on the Code of Conduct. The State Education invited the Rochester City School District to participate in a pilot. Cabinet members and Department Heads are looking at the feasibility of the pilot and will report to Commissioner Adams and Superintendent Deane-Williams. Commissioner Adams also reported that within the next couple of years, The State Education Department will mandate all school districts to have a school climate index. The survey data will be a combination of constituents involving parents, students starting at grade 5 and above, educational staff, and non-educational staff with absenteeism data and violent incident reporting data. Commissioner Adams stated it would be a great idea to participate in the pilot since the District is implementing major school climate improvement work this year and this will likely be a required set of measures in the future.

Finance Committee

Chair Jose Cruz:

The Finance Committee met on Thursday, August 18th to consider Resolution Nos. 2016-17: 134 through 157.

- The Finance Committee recommends approval of the July 2016 Financial Report by the Board.
- The following resolutions were reviewed by the Finance Committee, and are advanced to the Board with recommendation: Resolutions 134 through 136 for Procurement & Supply; and Resolutions 137 through 156 for Facilities. In Commissioner Cruz's absence, Motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Evans.

Committee members also reviewed Resolution No. 2016-17: 157 regarding testing for lead in District facilities. The Committee recommended amending this resolution to prepare separate resolutions for the costs incurred to date for each vendor (Lozier Environmental Consulting and AP Plumbing). With this amendment, the Finance Committee recommended approval of the resolution. Resolutions will be submitted in the future for the remainder of the lead testing and remediation work. Members of the Finance Committee also discussed the terms of the RTA agreement that has been re-negotiated by the educational partnership for East High School. Although Board approval is not required for this contract because the EPO is the receiver for the school, members of the Finance Committee chose to vote to indicate their support. The vote was unanimous in favor of the RTA agreement with the East High School EPO. The next Finance Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 20th, at 5:30 p.m.

Excellence in Student Achievement Committee

Chair Malik Evans:

The Excellence in Student Achievement Committee did not meet this month.

The next Excellence in Student Achievement Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 8, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee (CIGR)

Chair Cynthia Elliott:

The Community & Intergovernmental Relations Committee met on Tuesday, August 16, 2016. Dr. Robin Hooper, Executive Director of Early Childhood Education, and Andrew MacGowan, Project Administrator, provided the Committee with an update regarding NYS Pre-K Funding. They described NYSED and Commissioner Elia's proposal of consolidating many of the Pre-K grants and providing a flat rate for all NY Districts of \$10,000 per child. Dr. Hooper and Mr. MacGowan stated that such a changes could devastate the District's Pre-K program and represent a 30% cut in per pupil funding. Vice President Elliott also mentioned that the community based organizations would be most impacted and that Governor Cuomo is vehemently opposed to the proposal. No action was taken regarding the proposal during the 2016 legislative year and 2017 is uncertain. Vice President encouraged the Board to review the legislative updates found on the pages after the CIGR monthly agendas in order to inform the 2017 Legislative Agenda. The Community & Intergovernmental Relations Committee is proposing hosting a forum on school climate in October. More information is forthcoming. The Committee will follow up on the SRO contract and focus on the 2017 Legislative Agenda at the September Committee Meeting. The next CIGR meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 13, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

Policy Committee

Chair Willa Powell:

The Policy Committee met on Thursday, August 11th. Mr. Christopher Hoch, Director of Risk Management, presented the policy deliverable and recommendations on Board Policy 8100: Health and Safety. Commissioner Powell reported the Policy Committee advanced the proposed policy as an information item to the full Board. Ms. Eva Thomas, Senior Director of Youth Development and Youth Services, presented policy recommendations to Policy 1240: Visitors to Schools and Policy 1900: Parent and Family Engagement primarily based on the changes of Every Student Succeed Act. Ms. Thomas will present at the September Policy Committee meeting to discuss the proposed language changes and recommendations. Commissioner Powell

stated the Policy Committee's goal is to review the entire Board Policy Manual for re-adoption. The Policy Committee reviewed Series 1000 of the Board Policy Manual and provided language changes to most of the policies. The draft policies can be found on Board Docs. Commissioner Powell asked the Board to review the draft policies and provide any feedback to Board Staff, Mia Johnson. The Committee has started its review of Series 2000. Commissioner Powell also stated the following policies will be discussed at the September Policy Committee Meeting:

1. Changes in the law that may impact Policies 8135: Safe Schools and 5110: Education Homeless Students;
2. Proposed language changes for Policies 1900: Parent and Family Engagement and 1240: Visitors
3. Policy Deliverables for Policies 4311.2: Civic Education and 4325: Compensatory Education; and
4. Districtwide and Series 2000: School Board.

The next Policy Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 8, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

Commissioner Powell also reported on her State work with the New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA) where she is working with the National Advocacy Institute. Commissioner Powell stated that she has had conversations regarding the outstanding the federal legislative agenda with Congressman Higgins and Congressman Collins on the relief of Federal School Lunch Program and the local flexibility of ESSA as of last year needs authorization of IDEA.

Board Governance committee

Chair Elizabeth Hallmark:

The Board Governance Committee did not meet during the month of August. A Board Retreat is scheduled for September 10th.

Commissioner Hallmark also reported on her statewide activities in Albany. Commissioner Hallmark stated that she is a BIG 5 Representative for the Resolution Committee for NYSSBA. Commissioner Hallmark indicated school boards across the country are trying to decide what resolutions to put forward to lobby for support. In addition, Commissioner Hallmark stated that she is working with the State Education Department on the Arts Learning Standards Committee. The Arts Standards have not been updated in 20 years and the committee is hoping to have it out this fall for feedback from the public and revisions, and to hopefully have in place for next year.

President's Report

Board President Van Henri White:

President White thanked Vice President Elliott for substituting in his absence as he was in Washington, DC attending the Council of Urban Boards of Education meeting on equity issues. The National School Boards Association (NSBA) decided to merge equity groups. President White stated that he finished his two year term and continues to serve on the Committee as the immediate past president.

President White spoke about the concerns surrounding the OACES program; stating that no decision has been made as the Board and the Superintendent are still deliberating to restore some of the programs that might be appropriate. The Democrat and Chronicle issued an

editorial that explains the various factors involving the OACES program. President White asked that the public be patient as a final decision has not been made.

President White also spoke about the controversy with the Facilities Modernization Program. He asked the public to be patient stating that the Board and Superintendent Deane-Williams have no legal authority that controls FMP and would keep everyone informed.

President White also reported that his daughter, a graduate of the District, was chosen among 200 applicants for the African PEACE Corp; and was chosen one of the finalist of seven to tour Washington, DC.

President White also reported that the District is making significant progress in graduating our students. Although sometimes we all get frustrated along you have to hope. Superintendent Deane-Williams is ambitious as ever, we have another Superintendent at East High School who is making progress to graduate our students and next year hopefully adding an add EPO with Geneseo. President White thanked every staff member at East and at the District for working hard to help to graduate our students.

Resolutions:

2016-17: 93: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent.

2016-17: 96: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 99: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 100: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 101: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 102: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 103: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 104: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 105: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 106: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by

Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 107: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 108: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 109: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 110: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 112: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 113: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 114: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 115: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 116: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 117: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 118: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 119: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 120: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 122: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 127: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 128: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 129: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 130: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with Vice President Elliott dissenting, and Commissioner Cruz absent.

2016-17: 131: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with Vice President Elliott dissenting, and Commissioner Cruz absent.

2016-17: 132: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with Vice President Elliott dissenting, and Commissioner Cruz absent.

2016-17: 133: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with Vice President Elliott dissenting, and Commissioner Cruz absent.

2016-17: 134: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 135: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 136: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 137-157: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 158: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 4-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting, Commissioner Evans abstaining due to familial and Commissioner Cruz absent.

2016-17: 159: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 160: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 161: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 162: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 163: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 164: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Cruz absent.

2016-17: 165: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent.

2016-17: 166: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 167: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 169: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent

2016-17: 170: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent.

2016-17: 171: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent.

No requests submitted for Resolution No. 94-95, 97-99, 121, 123, and 125-126.

VII. Unfinished Business: None

VIII. Motion to enter into executive session to discuss matters related to the employment of specific individual made by Commissioner Hallmark at 7:35 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Motion carries 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent.

Motion to enter into open session made by Commissioner Evans at 8:05 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Motion carries 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent.

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Evans, seconded by Commissioner Powell at 8:45 p.m. Motion carries 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent.