

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Special Meeting Minutes

March 5, 2019

Minutes

Board Members in Attendance: President Van Henri White, Vice President Cynthia Elliott, Commissioner Judith Davis, Commissioner Elizabeth Hallmark, Commissioner Beatriz LeBron, Commissioner Willa Powell, and Commissioner Natalie Sheppard.

Board Members Excused: None.

Administration and Board Officers in Attendance: General Counsel Karl Kristoff, Interim Superintendent Dan Lowengard, and District Clerk Shanai Lee.

- I. President White convened the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

- II. **Speakers Addressing an Agenda Item**
No speakers present.

- III. **Review of Student Health and Athletic Programming**
Dr. Carlos Cotto, Executive Director of Physical Education, Athletics and Health provided an overview of the Student Health and Athletic Programming department. He delivered a presentation to the Board detailing the current state of the department, proposed programming for the 2019/20 fiscal year, and discussion of how the programming aligns with the strategic direction of the District.

- IV. **Discussion of the Leadership Profile for the Superintendent Search Process**
The Board members discussed the community forum on the superintendent search process held on March 2, 2019. President White asked the Board members to provide suggestions and edits to the draft Leadership Profile, provided by BWP & Associates, to the District Clerk by March 6, 2019. He added that the edits will be compiled and forwarded to the search consultants for use throughout the recruitment process.

- V. **Discussion of the Board's Response to ROC the Future**
President White suggested that the Board draft a letter to Commissioner Elia in response to ROC the Future's decision to draft a letter to her communicating concerns about the state of education in Rochester and noting that the Board is awaiting a response to the Implementation Plan compiled by the District in response to the Distinguished Educator's report. Commissioner LeBron stated that she will not sign any communication to Commissioner Elia regarding ROC the Future's stance or her preliminary response to the District. She expressed concern that President White received information regarding ROC the Future's decision to draft a letter to Commissioner Elia in advance of public notice.

Commissioner Sheppard concurred noting disappointment in President White's lack of communication with other Board members. President White responded by stating that he believed all Board members were included in communications from ROC the Future which discussed the organization's intent to draft a letter to Commissioner Elia.

President White and Commissioner Powell stated that they are interested in writing an editorial to respond to the concerns expressed by ROC the Future.

Vice President Elliott expressed concern about ROC the Future's stance regarding the District, and noted that she dismisses the organization's claims. Commissioner Sheppard shared similar sentiments.

VI. Discussion of Other Topics

President White asked that Board members respond to requests to meet individually with Dr. Shira May who agreed to facilitate a peace circle with members of the Board. He also asked that Board members assume leadership roles for completed tasks associated with the Distinguished Educator's Action Plan. President White also spoke about the Officers Meeting, noting that it was decided that these will occur twice a month.

VII. Consideration of Resolutions

Motion to remove **Resolution No. 2018-19: 684** from the table for consideration made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Vice President Elliott. Motion carries 7-0.

Motion to consider **Resolution No. 2018-19: 684** made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Vice President Elliott. Motion adopted 7-0.

VIII. Executive Session

Motion to go into executive session to discuss matters related to collective negotiations pursuant to article 14 of the Civil Service Law was made by Commissioner Hallmark and seconded by Commissioner LeBron at 7:53 p.m. Motion carries 7-0.

Motion to reconvene in open session made by Commissioner Sheppard and seconded by Commissioner LeBron at 8:12 p.m. Motion carries 7-0.

IX. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.