

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Special Meeting Minutes

December 5, 2018

Minutes

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

Board Members Excused: None.

Administration and Board Officers in Attendance: General Counsel Karl Kristoff, Distinguished Educator Jaime Aquino, 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. Executive Session

Motion to go into executive session to discuss matters related to the appointment of a particular corporation and the employment of a particular person was made by Commissioner Hallmark and seconded by Commissioner Funchess at 5:40 p.m. Motion carries 7-0.

President White invited Commissioner-elect Judith Davis to participate in executive session.

Motion to reconvene in open session made by Commissioner Funchess and seconded by Commissioner Elliott at 7:30 p.m. Motion carries 7-0.

Commissioner Funchess left at 7:30 p.m.

IV. Discussion of Other Topics

Commissioner LeBron suggested that the Board establish guidelines for standards of behavior. Referencing past events, Commissioner LeBron noted that safety and security protocols should be clearly defined and established for public participation and conduct in Board meetings.

Vice President Powell noted that past Board Presidents have reacted appropriately in addressing disruptive behavior. Commissioner Elliott expressed concerns about the Board's past practices in addressing disruptive behavior. She stated that the Board's response to such behavior could prompt further disruption. President White stated that the

use of force to address disruptive behavior should be a last resort. Commissioner Sheppard stated that the Board should uniformly enforce rules that apply to all speakers, and meeting participants, who wish to address the Board.

Dr. Aquino asked that Commissioner-elect Judith Davis intervene and ask that community members conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful and consistent with the Board's adopted Code of Conduct, Policy No. 1400. He added that the disruptive behavior of particular community members could sometimes overshadow the message and intent that they wish to convey.

President White stated that he works to address all community with respect and dignity. He added that he does not want students to witness disruptive behaviors, or see others arrested. Rev. Davis stated that she believes in democracy and civil disobedience. Dr. Aquino agreed, noting that such should be exercised within norms that allow an organization to function.

Commissioner LeBron requested that the Board consider a resolution to utilize a search firm to complete the executive search services for a successor superintendent of schools for the District. Motion to consider **Resolution No. 2018-19: 479** made by Commissioner LeBron, seconded by Commissioner Elliott. Motion adopted 5-1 with President White dissenting and Commissioner Funchess absent

Motion to consider **Resolution No. 2018-19: 480** addressing community engagement in the superintendent search process made by Commissioner LeBron, seconded by Commissioner Elliott. Motion adopted 5-1 with President White dissenting and Commissioner Funchess absent

V. Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.