

# ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Business Meeting

July 23, 2020

## MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM

**Board Members in Attendance:** President Van Henri White, Vice President Cynthia Elliott, Commissioner Ricardo Adams, Commissioner Amy Maloy, and Commissioner Willa Powell

**Board Members Absent:** Commissioner Beatriz LeBron and Commissioner Natalie Sheppard

**Administration and Board Officers in Attendance:** Superintendent Dr. Lesli Myers-Small, Deputy Superintendent Lynda Quick, and other Cabinet members, State Monitor Dr. Shelley Jallow, Chief Counsel Karl Kristoff and District Clerk Marisol O. Ramos-Lopez.

President White called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

**I. Act of Reverence and The Pledge of Allegiance**

- **Vice President Elliott** paid homage to the late State Assemblyman David Gantt who passed away earlier in the month.

**II. Acceptance of Minutes:** Special Meeting 4-7-20; Special Meeting 4-28-20; Special Meeting 5-12-20; Special Meeting 5-18-20; Special Meeting 5-21-20; SRO Public Hearing 5-21-20; East EPO Business Meeting 6-4-20; RCSD Business Meeting 6-18-20.

Moved by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Maloy. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**III. Speakers:** None

**Comments submitted in writing by:**

1. Cathy Smith a community member regarding transparency.

**IV. Advisory Council Reports:** No reports.

President White asked Board Community Liaison Specialist Kallia Wade to provide an update on the Parent Representative process and inform the public how they can apply to participate.

**V. Board Reports:**

**President's Report** – President White encouraged parents to sign up to serve as Parent Representatives on one of the Board Committees.

**Policy Committee** – President White reported that the Committee met as a Committee of the Whole via Zoom Video Conferencing on Tuesday, July 7, 2020:

- General Counsel, Karl Kristoff, addressed the Policy Committee with regard to the Code of Ethics Policy (Policy 2160) and its Conflict of Interest provisions. He presented Superintendent Myers-Small's suggested changes to the policy as recommended by State

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Monitor, Dr. Shelley Jallow. Following committee motion, these are being submitted to the Board as an informational item in this evening's meeting.

- The Policy Committee also received a brief update on the Policy Deliverables Matrix and the Policy Updates Chart where the Superintendent recently appointed administrative staff designees to each policy deliverable.
- The Committee also discussed the Board Bylaws given the decision to consolidate the East EPO and District general Business Meeting. A motion was made to amend the Board Bylaws (Policy 2300) to reflect that Board Meetings will take place on the fourth Thursday of the month
- "In the Policy Committee meeting of June 2, 2020, the Committee agreed by majority vote to advance the following two additions to the Standards of Conduct section of Appendix A of Policy 2160, Code of Ethics:
  - Keep abreast of issues in education
  - Participate in training relevant to Board service.

These additions are consistent with our obligations as Board Members and with actions we as a Board agreed to take in our response to Dr. Aquino's Distinguished Educator Report.

This proposed amendment is being presented to you today as an Information Item in accordance with Policy 2410

#### Informational Items

Members of the Policy Committee reviewed policy update proposals. These proposed policies are introduced this evening as Information Items:

- Code of Ethics Policy (Policy 2160) - updates regarding the Conflict of Interest provisions.
- Code of Ethics Policy (Policy 2160) - updates regarding the Standards of Conduct section [Appendix A]
- Board Bylaws (Policy 2160)- updates regarding the date of Board Business Meetings
- reviewed the Code of Ethics (Policy 2160). The Board and Administration will also be considering the development and implementation of an Online Credit Recovery Policy as suggested by the New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA).

**Finance and Resource Allocation Committee** – President White provided the Finance Report for Commissioner LeBron who was unable to attend the meeting. The Finance Committee recommends approval of: The District's (unaudited) Pre-Year-End June 2020 Financial Report.

The Finance Committee discussions during the July meeting focused on a variety of topics and several presentations were made:

- Acting District CFO, Carleen Pierce presented the pre-year-end financial report in her first address to the Board in her new role. The Financial Report was accompanied, for

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the first time, by an “Addendum” document. This document presents the reported data in a more readable and easily understood way. The public is encouraged to follow along by referring to this resource when reviewing the monthly financials moving forward

- The Committee also received a presentation on the fund balance and the cash flow projection and discussed the impact of a Revenue Anticipation Note (RAN). Discussions also focused on the District’s challenges for 2020-21 and how to address overcoming the fiscal crisis through various mechanisms including the initiation of a District budget freeze.
- The highly anticipated Charter School Reconciliation Report was also reviewed and discussions here circled on charter school enrollment and funding concerns.
- Finally, the Committee reviewed the 2019-20 Fourth Quarter Substitute Teacher Report as presented by HR Administrator, Maurice Snipes.
- It is intended that the upcoming Finance Meetings will feature PD sessions on a variety of important fiscal topics related to the District and more information will be provided in the August Committee on these matters.

President White asked for a motion to accept the June 2020 unaudited Financial Report. Moved by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Maloy. Adopted 5-0 Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

- VI. Superintendent’s Report:** Superintendent Myers-Small discussed the deployment of MiFi personal WiFi devices being distributed to families; the Michael C. O’Laughlin Outstanding Senior Recognition Program; the Just Law Program; the Fatherhood Engagement Summit; Plans for Back to School 2020-21 including Guidance from New York State Education Department for in-person, hybrid (in-person and distance learning), and distance learning.

**Superintendents Myers-Small and Nelms** provided a joint presentation to discuss sharing best practices, elementary and secondary pipeline, and strategies for removing schools from receivership.

**VII. Consideration of Resolutions**

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 6:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 14:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 17:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 19:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 4-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting, and Commissioners LeBron, and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 20:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 21:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 22:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 23:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 24:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 25:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 28:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 31:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 33:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 4-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting, and Commissioners LeBron, and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 35:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 36:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 37:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 4-1 with Commissioner Adams dissenting, and Commissioners LeBron, and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 38:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 39:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 40:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 41:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 43:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 45:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 46:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 47:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 48:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 49:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 50:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Maloy. Adopted 4-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting, and Commissioners LeBron, and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 51:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Maloy. Adopted 4-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting, and Commissioners LeBron, and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 52:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Maloy. Adopted 4-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting, and Commissioners LeBron, and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 53:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 54:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 55:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 56:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 57:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 58:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 59:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 60:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 61:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 62:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 63:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 64:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 65:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 66:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 67:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 68:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 69:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 70:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 71:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 72:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 73:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 74:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 75:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 4-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting, and Commissioners LeBron, and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 76:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 4-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting, and Commissioners LeBron, and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 77:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 4-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting, and Commissioners LeBron, and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 78:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 4-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting, and Commissioners LeBron, and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 79:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 80:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 81:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**Resolution No. 2020-21: 82:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

**VIII. Unfinished Business from Previous Meeting – None**

**IX. New Business:**

- Code of Ethics Policy [re Conflicts of Interest] (Information Item),
- Code of Ethics Policy [re Standards of Conduct] (Information Item), and
- Board Bylaws Policy (Information Item)

President White thanked Deputy Superintendent Lynda Quick for her service to the Rochester City School District as she moves to become the Superintendent of the Wheatland Chili School District. Commissioners Adams, Powell, Vice President Elliott, and Commissioner Maloy echoed gratitude to outgoing Deputy Superintendent Quick. Deputy Superintendent Quick provided some departing remarks.

- X. Motion to enter into Executive Session** at 8:12 p.m. to discuss the appointment of a specific individual and have a confidential conversation with Counsel seeking legal advice made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Maloy. Motion carries 5-0 with Commissioners LeBron and Sheppard absent.

Commissioner Powell left the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

**Motion to exit Executive Session** at 9:08 p.m. made by made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Maloy. Motion carries 4-0 with Commissioners LeBron, Powell, and Sheppard absent.

**Motion to adjourn** at 9:10 p.m. made by made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Maloy. Motion carries 4-0 with Commissioners LeBron, Powell, and Sheppard absent.