

VOTING MEETING
Monday, November 17, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Michelle Hubbard, Board President, at 6:13 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Ms. Hubbard.

ROLL CALL:

Present:

Ms. Michelle L. Hubbard
Mr. James Bogolea
Mr. Lawrence E. Blackwell
Mr. John Pfeuffer, IV

Mr. Thomas B. Daman
Mrs. Christine S. Kronk
Mr. Thomas W. Majors

Absent:

Mr. Randall E. Bacon

Mrs. Jocelyn Haskins

NON-VOTING MEMBERS and ADMINISTRATORS

Dr. Jane Bovalino
Dr. Amanda Cwynar
Mr. Lou Campisi
Mr. Michael Damon

Ms. Rachael Cipolla
Mr. Nathan Leeman
Mrs. Kathleen Onuska
Mr. Ryan Herstine

CORRESPONDENCES TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD

There was no correspondence to come before the Board.

CITIZEN INPUT – ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Mr. Mick Starcher addressed the board on possible merger. He said that Rochester is dead and New Brighton isn't much better. He expressed concern that no one is building new houses in the area and questioned why we were not merging. Mr. Starcher said the community should vote because they are the people that live here. Solicitor Fedeles stated that a merger is not something that can be placed on the ballot. He also noted that a merger was not on the board's voting agenda this evening.

Mrs. Leann Miller addressed the Board and questioned how the sports co-op would be handled in regards to transportation. Dr. Bovalino stated that although some specifics had not been solidified, we would transport practices that were immediately after school.

Mr. Renny Iannini asked about the subcontracted business manager. He said that there was a discussion about Rochester and New Brighton sharing a Business Manager. He questioned why, if we have a Business Manager, what are we adding? Dr. Bovalino explained that Mrs. Onuska's contract ends June 30, 2026. Mrs. Onuska will then be subcontracted - the district will pay her a flat rate. We will not pay healthcare benefits. Jim Bogolea shared that they will 1099 her and it will benefit the school. Solicitor Fedeles shared that the district would see about \$90,000 savings over two years.

Mr. Ron Gianfrancesco shared his experiences as a Monaca resident for 18 years, prior to the Monaca - enter merger. However, he shared that his son loves Rochester football and the family and community they have with Little Rams. He said that a merger should happen and they will do their part to help.

MINUTES

Motion to accept the October 27, 2025, Voting Meeting, respectfully submitted by Mrs. Sharmane Campisi, Board Secretary.

Motion: Majors Second: Kronk Result: Motion Passed (7-0)

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Bovalino congratulated the November Middle School Students of the Month: 6th grade - Cali Jackson, 7th grade - Khy'din Moore, and 8th grade - Logan Barton. We will recognize the students at our December 2nd meeting.

Congratulations also to the October High School Students of the Month: 9th grade - Krysta Speegle, 10th grade - Bentley Williams, 11th grade - Braylon Keaton, and 12th grade - Tia Yellock

Mr. Blackwell and Mr Majors were re-elected to the Board for another 4-year term. Mr. CJ Iannini and Mrs. Dana Morell Verrico were both elected as first time board members for a four year term. Mr. Tom Hillard was selected through a write-in campaign for the remaining two-years left vacant by Mr. Bacon's resignation. Congratulations! We look forward to working together to further the educational environment and opportunities for our students, staff and community.

Dr. Bovalino recognized Ms. Michelle Hubbard, Mrs. Christine Kronk and Mr. Randall Bacon on the countless hours each has spent in the boardroom and their dedication to the Rochester Area School District. She said, "Your commitment and hard work has left a lasting impact on our district. We appreciate your contributions to the building renovations, the one-to-one initiative, upgrading district wide technology, helping to navigate the pandemic, ensuring grants and various funding is spent appropriately, and most importantly, your unwavering focus on what is best for our students. While you are stepping away from your official board roles, we know your support for our schools will not waiver. We wish you the very best in your future endeavors and thank you once again for your valuable time and passion. It has been an honor working alongside you."

The Superintendent also provided an update on the recently passed state budget and a new program for middle school girls that is funded through PCCD and the Wright Foundation.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Fedeles noted there was nothing at this time to report.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance and Transportation

Motion to approve the Financial Reports in items 1 through 4 as listed:

1. Treasurer's Report for the month of October
2. Payment of Bills

General Fund	\$ 493,217.16
Cafeteria Fund	\$ 20,032.67
Activity Fund	\$ 829.05
3. Monthly Financial Reports

General Fund – Revenue Report
General Fund – Expenditure Report
Cafeteria Fund – Revenue Report
Cafeteria Fund – Expenditure Report
4. Informational Reports

Bills to be Approved

Motion: Kronk Second: Majors Result: Motion Passed (7-0)

Teachers and Personnel

Motion to approve the Business Manager Subcontractor Agreement beginning July 1, 2026 and ending on June 30, 2028.

Motion: Kronk Second: Majors Result: Motion Passed (6-1) with Blackwell, Bogolea, Hubbard, Kronk, Majors and Pfeuffer voting Yea; Daman voting Nay

Motion to approve Jessica Dorian to serve as the Department Head for Social Studies at a supplemental salary of \$550 for the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion: Kronk Second: Majors Result: Motion Passed (7-0)

Motion to approve Tara Spiker to serve as SPIRE/Sound Sensible After School Program Teachers.

Motion: Kronk Second: Majors Result: Motion Passed (7-0)

Motion to approve the following field trips:

- a. November 11, 2025 - Grades 7-12 Marching Band students to attend downtown Beaver for the Veteran's Day Parade
- b. November 24, 2025 - Grade 4 G.A.T.E/Enrichment students to attend New Brighton Area High School.
- c. Middle School/High School Chorus students to compete in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) District 5 Chorus with other students from other counties as listed:
 - i. Thursday, January 8, 2026 through Saturday, January 10, 2026 - Hickory High School
 - ii. Friday, January 16, 2026 - Grove City High School
- d. Friday, January 30, 2026 - Grades 10-12 students to attend Community College of Beaver County (CCBC)

Motion: Kronk Second: Majors Result: Motion Passed (7-0)

Motion to accept the resignation of Megan Mouas from the position of SWPBIS Co-Coordinator effective November 1, 2025.

Motion: Kronk Second: Majors Result: Motion Passed (7-0)

Motion to approve the student teacher, Noah Hazlett, Social Studies 7-12, from Messiah University, and cooperating teacher, Jessica Dorian, Spring 2026.

Motion: Kronk Second: Majors Result: Motion Passed (7-0)

Motion to approve Ashley Barbour to serve as the Elementary School Secretary effective the 2026-2027 school year, at a rate of \$14.60 per hour (position will become available in August 2026) , as per contract, due to the retirement of Kimberly Pratte.

Motion: Kronk Second: Majors Result: Motion Passed (7-0)

Motion to approve the following individuals to be added to the approved volunteer list (clearances on file):

Tiffany Babinec (Middle School/High School)
Rebecca Hoskinson (Middle School/High School)
Daniel Summers (PTA, K-12)
Jamie Lynn Summers (PTA, K-12)

Motion: Kronk Second: Majors Result: Motion Passed (7-0)

Athletics

Motion to accept the resignation of Melissa Zawislak from the position of Women's Varsity Volleyball Head coach effective immediately.

Motion: Blackwell Second: Majors Result: Motion Passed (7-0)

Motion to table a cooperative sports agreement between the New Brighton Area School District and the Rochester Area School District per the guidelines of the WPIAL and PIAA beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, pending final approval by the WPIAL.

Motion: Daman Second: Blackwell Result: Motion Passed (6-1) with Blackwell, Bogolea, Daman, Hubbard, Majors, Pfeuffer voting Yea; Kronk voting Nay

Beaver County Career & Technical Center

Motion to approve the Articles of Agreement to govern the Beaver County Career and Technology Center's "Joint Operating Committee" composed of a Representative and an Alternate Representative among the Boards of Directors of the participating school districts.

Motion: Blackwell Second: Bogolea Result: Motion Passed (7-0)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

No public wished to address the Board on non-agenda items.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:46 p.m., Mr. Majors motioned to adjourn the Voting Meeting; Mrs. Kronk seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Sharmane Campisi, Board Secretary

ROCHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, November 17, 2025

ATTENDANCE

SCHOOL BOARD

AB	Mr. Randall Bacon
P	Mr. Lawrence Blackwell
AB (arriv 5:50 pm)	Mr. James Bogolea
P	Mr. Thomas Daman
AB	Mrs. Jocelyn Haskins
P	Miss Michelle Hubbard
P	Mrs. Christine Kronk
P	Mr. Thomas Majors
P	Mr. John Pfeuffer

ADMINISTRATION AND PRESENTERS

P	Dr. Jane Bovalino
P	Mr. Lou Campisi
P	Ms. Rachael Cipolla
P	Dr. Amanda Cwynar
P	Mr. Michael Damon
P	Mr. Ryan Herstine
P	Mr. Nathan Leeman
P	Mrs. Kathleen Onuska
P	Solicitor Fedeles

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Board met as a Committee-of-the-Whole at 5:00 p.m. in the Auditorium of Rochester High School on Monday, November 17, 2025. Dr. Bovalino and Athletic Director Mr. Brad Verrico provided an [overview of the recommendation to enter into an athletic co-op agreement with New Brighton for Girls' and Boys' Golf, Track and Field and Girls' Basketball](#) (slides attached).

Board member Tom Daman stated that he attended the Town Hall meetings in both New Brighton and Rochester and there was overwhelming support for a complete merger.

Nathaniel Hendon (Middle School Football Coach) stated he disagrees with a merger. He believes the declining numbers in football are due to the students not being familiar with the coaching staff. He said that this was his first year coaching at Rochester and the kids gravitated towards the system and the system has to change from top to bottom. He said as coaches they plan to right the ship.

Ed Johnson (Varsity Football Assistant Coach) spoke in opposition of the co-op and stated that his job as a leader is to teach perseverance through adversity - to teach them how to do better in the real world. He shared the declining enrollment, classification, and previous and current size of a variety of schools and stated that the PIAA knows everybody's numbers are declining because they reduced their numbers because they reduced numbers for classifications. He agreed that the football roster numbers have been declining for the past several years - even under coach Gene and said it is time for something new. He emphasized that the board should not co-op and

should give the football team a chance.

CJ Iannini spoke in opposition of the co-op agreement. He was opposed to the girls basketball accepting New Brighton as it would take the girls to 3A and questioned why softball was taken off the agenda. He asked if the board would consider voting by sport. When asked by board member Tom Daman his opinion of the football program, Mr. Iannini indicated that the board's decision in the head coach was the problem and they should have hired an alumni.

Amanda Starr questioned why board members were missing and that all should be in attendance.

Resident Emily Duchene questioned why the district is not moving forward with a merger.

Tom Hilliard spoke regarding his thoughts on a merger and his belief that we need to put kids first. He noted the decrease in population of both districts and noted that a merger is imminent. He stated, "We need to stop being the people who want to do something and we need to be the people who do something." He questioned the financial plan and transportation. Dr. Bovalino explained the plan for transportation and how we would definitely incur some costs with transportation and uniforms; however, we would eliminate double game costs, officials, etc. Mr. Hilliard asked about our new fields and Dr. Bovalino said they would be used for junior varsity and/or middle school teams, along with practice space for the marching band. Mr. Hilliard said that the fall youth girls program had to send girls to other districts and Dr. Bovalino agreed that the timing is right and we are going to have to work together to offer students these opportunities. Mr. Hilliard requested that the vote on a co-op agreement be tabled.

Dr. Dan Matsook emphasized that we can't run a football program with 14 players on the team. He emphasized the importance of looking back three years and forecasting three years. If the numbers remain low in the future, although it may be a tough pill to swallow, the board will have to decide. He also stated that if Rochester girls basketball co-oped with New Brighton, it would be at 3A and that might be a non-starter.

Lauren Ipson, who said she was there as a basketball, band and cheer advocate, asked that the board make an educated vote. She stated a merger is evident. But in the meantime, it is important to give the programs a chance.

Stephanie Kibler stated her son is a varsity player and wants to play at the next level. She questioned what happens if we don't have the numbers [in football] to play next year? Mr. Verrico said he would look to a school district that didn't move up in classification and ask to co-op.

Victoria Diliott stated she felt we were handing everything over to New Brighton to solve our problems. She stated that we have five new board members to make the overall school better as well as athletes.

Bob Williams stated the students should make the decision.

The committee meeting ended at 6:00 p.m.