

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Business Meeting

Minutes

January 27, 2011

Attendance: President Evans, Vice President Cruz and Commissioners Campos, Elliott, Powell, White and Williams; Student Representative Sophie Gallivan; Superintendent Jean-Claude Brizard; Board Clerk Shanai Lee.

President Evans convened the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

- I. President Evans led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
- II. **Motion to accept the minutes** of the December 16th Business Meeting and the December 20th Special Meeting made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 7-0.
- III. **Student Recognition:** Student winners of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Essay Contest hosted by Harter, Secrest and Emery. Winners of the contest were Yarushka Caraballo, Enyzah Love Robinson and Meredith Sheils. Teachers who have recently earned National Board Certification were recognized. Teachers recognized for this credential were Scott Lazarek, Sharon Fronheiser, Carrie Varno and Robin Hill.
- IV. **Speakers Addressing an Agenda Item:** Students Briana Ali, Shasona Moran and Dejuan Steele spoke about the need for sex education and condom availability for the District's students. Students Dianajha Fulton, Diamani Madden, and Roland Watson spoke in opposition to the proposed school closings. Parents Margaret McFerran, Vincenzo McNeill, Jackie Williams and Howard Eagle spoke in opposition to the proposed school closings. Parents Ernest Green, Yolanda Green and Ricardo Adams spoke in opposition to school reconfigurations and proposed school closings. Community Member Cathy Gartland spoke in opposition to the proposed school closings. Community Member Sandra Brewer spoke in opposition to school reconfigurations. Staff Members Erika Lange-Geyer, Matt Lavonas, Diana Hasman, Mark Friedman and Lori Thomas spoke in opposition to the proposed school closings. Staff Members Larry Ellison and Tim Mains spoke in favor of using the facility at 690 St. Paul Street for swing space during the facilities modernization program.

Speakers Not Addressing an Agenda Item: Parent Sheila Driscoll spoke about the need for sex education and condom availability for the District's students. Community Members Nancy Adams, Kim Urbach, Susan Yussman, Shari Hogan, Hawa Ibrahim, John Franklin and Meera Beharry spoke about the need for sex education and condom availability for the District's students.
- V. **Superintendent's Report:** Dr. Andrew Doniger, Director of the Monroe County Department of Public Health, presented the Board and the Superintendent with information about sexual activity and the rate of HIV infection and other sexually transmitted infections and diseases among young people under the age of 25. Dr. Doniger encouraged the Board to address the need for sex education for the District's students.

Commissioner Williams asked about the efforts being taken to prevent the spread of sexually transmitted infections and diseases. Dr. Doniger said various agencies have assumed roles in educating students on the dangers of sexually transmitted infections and diseases.

Commissioner White asked about the rate of adolescents engaging in sexual activity and the stance of the Department of Public Health as it relates to teen pregnancy and birth control. Dr. Doniger said the Department has taken steps to educate the community about abstinence, but urged the Board to focus on the startling statistics on the spread of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases and infections.

Commissioner Powell asked if there is a way to publicize the need for sexual health, i.e. routing buses with relevant messages to the District's secondary schools.

Commissioner Elliott said that she, in response to her own religious beliefs, would not support condom availability. However, given the community's alarming trends related to the spread of sexual infections and diseases she understands the necessity for sexual education for the District's students. She urged the Board to consider the moral positions and responsibilities of families.

Commissioner Campos urged the Board to solicit the feedback of parents and the community as relates to sexual education and condom availability for our students.

President Evans agreed and noted that the community must be engaged before the Board makes any decisions relating to the well-being of students, particularly decisions that could ultimately impact the sexual health of community's youth.

VI. President's Report: President Evans began by announcing that the meeting is broadcast on RCTV-15 until 8:30 p.m., after 8:30 p.m., viewers can continue watching on our website, www.rcsdk12.org. President Evans noted that the District's Information Management and Technology department hosted a Technology Expo to provide the Board with a hands-on view of the technology that the District invests in to meet the needs of our students. At the expo Board members had the opportunity to observe the District's use of technology in the classroom, use some of the state of the art equipment and software that is made available to our students and engage members of the IM&T team. President Evans thanked Annmarie Lehner and members of the IM&T department for their work in meeting the academic needs of students and the operational needs of the District.

VII. Board Reports:

Audit Committee

Chair Allen Williams: The Audit Committee did not meet during the month of January 2011.

Finance Committee

Chair Willa Powell: The Finance Committee met on Thursday, January 13th to consider resolutions 2010-11: 487 through 493. The Committee recommends acceptance of the December Financial Report. The Committee also recommends acceptance of the Quarterly Change Order Report for October through December 2010. President Evans requested a motion to accept the December Financial Report and the Quarterly Change Order Report. Motion to accept the December Financial Report and the Quarterly Change Order Report made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. The reports were accepted by the Board with consensus. The Committee recommends the following reviewed resolutions to the Board for approval: Resolutions No. 2010-11: 487 through 490 for Educational Facilities; Resolution No. 2010-11: 491 for Procurement and Supply; and Resolutions No. 2010-11: 492

through 493 for Information Management & Technology. The Finance Committee will meet again on February 10th, following the Audit Committee meeting.

Excellence in Student Achievement Committee

Chair Van Henri White: The Excellence in Student Achievement Committee met on Tuesday, January 17th to review Resolutions No. 2010-11: 529-535 relating to Comprehensive Education Plans for the following elementary schools: Nos. 8, 34, 41, 44 and 50; and for the following high schools: Wilson Foundation Academy and Northwest College Preparatory. Principals representing the 7 schools presented Comprehensive Education Plans (CEPs) relating to their schools. Comprehensive Education Plans are required for all schools identified by New York State as not meeting Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) for two or more consecutive years. Each principal of schools needing to prepare a CEP was given the opportunity to formally present the highlights of their plan to increase student achievement in the area(s) where their school was cited. The committee recommended advancing the resolutions to the full Board for approval. The committee also reviewed and discussed Resolution 506 which addresses adoption of the School Portfolio Plan. An extensive overview of the Plan was provided by the Administration.

Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Chair Cynthia Elliott: The Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee did not meet this month in order to allow committee members the opportunity to attend the Parent Meeting at School No. 2 regarding the school's closure that was being held on the same day that was scheduled for the committee meet. The next Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 9th at 6:00 p.m.

Policy Committee

Chair Jose Cruz: The Policy Committee met on Thursday, January 13th and addressed the current status of reviewing and updating the Policy Manual including 5 legal mandates remain for managing access and privacy of information (breach of security, employee personal identifying information, student privacy and parental access to information, and controlling access of students on the Internet) and 5 legal mandates regarding Special Education. With the completion of these policies, all legal mandates will be incorporated into the Board Policy Manual. Vice President Cruz said the Policy Committee will continue to review and update policies essential to the District's mission of improving student achievement and to enhancing oversight and accountability. Additional revisions to the Wellness policy (5405) and the accompanying regulation. The proposed policy and regulation contain substantial changes in establishing nutrition standards for all food offered in schools, including vending machines and school stores. This will be initiated on a pilot basis in several elementary and secondary schools, so that this experience can be used to inform necessary policy changes before implementation throughout the District. The proposed revision to the Wellness policy is presented this evening as an Information Item. The Policy Committee will host a Parent Forum regarding Parent Involvement on Thursday, February 3rd at 6:00 p.m., the next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for February 10th at 5:30 p.m.

Board Governance Committee

Chair Melisza Campos: The Board Governance Committee met on January 13th to review electronic document management software and is recommending that the Board select Emerald Data Solutions' BoardDocs as the District's electronic document management solution. Members of the Board have received information on the solution including details of the evaluation process and associated costs. Some of BoardDocs' special features and service highlights include:

- BoardDocs is currently in place at over 400 districts throughout the country; including 27 districts in New York along with Atlanta, Baltimore and San Diego school districts;

- BoardDocs offers a 24/7 customer service center and is fully compatible with our current web technology, SchoolWires;
- Included in the cost of the software, BoardDocs offers 3 on-site training sessions for Board members and administrative staff;
- BoardDocs and the information contained therein is available to anyone, anywhere that has internet access and browsers (i.e. Internet Explorer, Firefox);
- BoardDocs allows for instant access to the most current information;
- BoardDocs has a MetaSearch© application that allows users to search past and present public documents of all BoardDocs users (around the country) – this will come in handy as we research programs and policies for best practices;

In February, the Board will be given access to a customized BoardDocs site along with resolution packets and supporting information for reference anticipation of a complete, public roll-out in March; and the Board will receive a presentation at the February Business Meeting and an introductory training session that has been tentatively scheduled for Thursday, March 3rd at 5:30 p.m.

Student Representative Report: NONE

Motion to extend the meeting past 8:30 p.m. made by Commissioner Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

VIII. Resolutions

2010-11: 463: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 464-468: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 469-470: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 471-473: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 474: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 475: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 476-480: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 481: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 482-484: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 485: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 4-1 with President Evans abstaining due to familial relationship, Commissioner Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 486-488: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 489: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 490: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting and Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 491-493: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 494-496: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 497: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 498: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 499: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 500: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 501: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 502-503: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 504: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 505: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 506: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 5-2 with Commissioners Elliott and Williams dissenting.

2010-11: 507-508: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 509-517: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 518-526: Resolutions pulled.

2010-11: 527: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Rejected 3-3 with Commissioners Elliott, Powell and Williams dissenting and Commissioner Campos absent.

2010-11: 528: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Rejected 3-4 with Commissioners Elliott, Powell, White and Williams dissenting.

2010-11: 529-536: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Campos absent.

IX. Unfinished Business: None.

X. New Business: Commissioner Cruz, as Chairman of the Policy Committee, presented the recently Wellness Policy, No. 5405 as an Information Item and the Authorization for Contracts Policy, No. 6745 and the Financial Reporting and Resolutions Policy, No. 6630 as discussion items. Commissioner Cruz explained that the policies have been vetted by the Policy Committee and is now being forwarded to the full Board with recommendation from the committee.

XI. President Evans announced that the next Business Meeting of the Board will be held on Thursday, February 17th at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Elliott. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner White absent. The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 a.m.