

**ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
Special Meeting – Committee of the Whole  
Governance Committee Meeting  
October 22, 2019

**Board Members in Attendance:** Commissioner Judith Davis, Commissioner Elizabeth Hallmark, Commissioner Beatriz LeBron, Commissioner Willa Powell, Commissioner Natalie Sheppard

**Board Members Participating via Teleconference:** President Van Henri White (via Zoom)

**Board Members Excused:** Vice President Elliott was in route to Louisville, Kentucky to participate in the Council of Great City Schools conference.

**Administration and Board Officers in Attendance:** Superintendent Terry Dade, Chief of Staff Annmarie Lehner and other Cabinet members, Deputy Counsel Steve Carling and District Clerk Marisol O. Ramos-Lopez.

President White called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

**I. Speakers Addressing the Board of Education:** None

**Discussion Items:**

- a) Board Fall Forum/National Family Engagement Day on Saturday, November 23, 2019 at School No. 33 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The format will include an opportunity for Board Members to meet with parents from the schools where they serve as liaisons. Superintendent Dade will be the keynote and workshops will be offered to parents.
- b) Google Docs Calendar has been set up for Commissioners to add the events and meetings they are attending
- c) Board Newsletter – a bi-monthly publication will be developed by staff with articles submitted by Commissioners and relevant news impacting the District.

**II. Consideration of Resolutions**

**THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE INTRODUCED AT THE OCTOBER 22, 2019 SPECIAL MEETING**

**Resolution No. 2019-20: 408:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner LeBron. Adopted 5-0 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Powell absent.

**Resolution No. 2019-20: 409:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner LeBron. Adopted 5-0 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Powell absent.

**THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE TABLED AT THE OCTOBER 17, 2019 BUSINESS MEETING:**

**Motion to lift Resolutions from Table made by Member of the Board Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner LeBron. Adopted 5-0 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Powell absent.**

Commissioner Powell arrived at 5:52 p.m.

**Resolution No. 2019-20: 384 (A):** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner LeBron. Adopted 5-1 with Vice President Elliott absent and Commissioner Davis dissenting.

**Resolution No. 2019-20: 384 (B):** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner LeBron. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 5-1 with Vice President Elliott absent and Commissioner Davis dissenting

**Resolution No. 2019-20: 400:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner LeBron. Adopted 4-2 with Vice President Elliott absent and Commissioner Davis and Commissioner Sheppard dissenting.

Commissioner LeBron left at 5:57 p.m.

**President White handed over the Gavel to Commissioner Hallmark for the commencement of the Governance Committee Meeting at 6:17 p.m.**

**Discussion Items**

- ❖ **Governance Matrix Review.** Commissioners reviewed the work to be completed by the Committee this year.
  
- ❖ **Superintendent Evaluation** Top 6 Goals: • Achieve a 5% increase in the graduation rate between August 2019 and August 2020. • Increase student proficiency in ELA and math by 7% by August 2020. • Reduce the disproportionate special education classification of students of color and the disproportionate suspension of students of color by 1.5% by 2020; and increase the enrollment of students of color in advanced coursework by 5% by June 2020. • Reduce chronic absenteeism by 5% by June 2020. • In order to better define family engagement by June 2020, we will ensure there is an active Student Leadership Group in all high schools and that all schools will meaningfully engage families in the School-Based Planning Team process, in accordance with the School-Based Planning Team manual. • Achieve and maintain fiscal stability by implementing a plan that will put the District on secure financial footing.
  
- ❖ Distinguished Educator Report Update – **Item tabled until the October 29, 2019 Board Work Session**

- ❖ **Book Club:** 10 Questions Every School Board Member Should Ask by: Ken Odom, Jr. This book was listed in the Distinguished Educator's report as a self-prescribed assignment where Board Members would meet to discuss its chapters, aiming to interpret its content in the context of real scenarios that have been experienced by the District during the past years. The Commissioners agreed to reconvene to discuss the book at a Retreat Session on November 14, 2019.

**Governance Committee adjourned and Committee of the Whole Special Meeting resumed at 6:41 p.m.**

- III. Motion to enter into Executive Session** to discuss a matter related to a legal advice regarding pending litigation as well as a personnel issue with Counsel was made by Commissioner Hallmark and seconded by Commissioner Sheppard at 6:41 p.m. Motion carries 5-0 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner LeBron absent.

President White left the meeting.

- IV. Motion to enter into Executive Session** to discuss a matter related to a legal advice regarding pending litigation, to review the contents of an employee's personnel file, as well as a to discuss a personnel issue with Counsel was made by Commissioner Hallmark and seconded by Commissioner Sheppard at 6:41 p.m. Motion carries 5-0 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner LeBron absent.

**Upon advice of the General Counsel's office, the procedure recommended for a Board member to view documents in an employee's personnel file is as follows:**

- The Board member shall submit a written request to the Superintendent, and copy in the other Board members, for the Superintendent to bring one or more personnel files to the meeting.
  - The Board member shall state the purpose for this request, so the other Board members can make an informed decision.
  - The Board shall take a vote to go into executive session to review the personnel file(s) requested.
  - Any discussion about the basis for the request that involves discussing the particular employee(s) should be done in executive session.
  - If there is no need for discussion of specific employee(s), the Board shall vote immediately.
  - If a majority of the Board votes to adjourn to executive session for this purpose, then the personnel file(s) shall be shared in executive session.
- V. Motion to adjourn** made by Commissioner Davis. Seconded by Commissioner Sheppard. Motion carries 4-0 with President White, Vice President Elliott and Commissioner LeBron absent.