

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Business Meeting

September 24, 2020

MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM

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

Board Members Absent:

Administration and Board Officers in Attendance: Superintendent Dr. Lesli Myers-Small, Superintendent Shaun Nelms, Deputy Superintendent Genelle Morris, Deputy Superintendent Melody Martinez-Davis, Chief of Communications and Intergovernmental and Community Relations Marisol Ramos-Lopez and other Cabinet members, State Monitor Dr. Shelley Jallow, Chief Counsel Karl Kristoff; Student Leadership Congress President Ayana Simmons; Student Leadership Congress Vice President Tatiyana Spencer; Board Executive Assistant Francine Scott and District Clerk Kallia Wade.

President White called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

I. Act of Reverence and The Pledge of Allegiance

II. Acceptance of Minutes: August 27, 2020 Business Meeting; September 3, 2020 Special Meeting; September 10, 2020 Special Meeting, and September 17, 2020 Special Meeting; Moved by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with one vacant Board seat.

III. Speakers:

1. Jamil Trammell, Parent, Virtual Learning;
2. Dan DiClemente, Staff, BENTE Layoffs;
3. Sonia Alvarado, Staff, BENTE Layoffs;
4. Edward FeLong, Staff, BENTE Layoffs;
5. Pear Perry, Staff, BENTE Layoffs (unable to connect to audio);
6. Lillian Esquilin, Staff, BENTE Layoffs;
7. Amy Schramm, Staff, BENTE Layoffs;
8. Cynthia Nado, Staff, BENTE Layoffs;
9. Leonela Malinao, Staff, BENTE Layoffs;
10. Kristen French, Staff, Communications;
11. Angelina Rivera, Staff, RAP and BENTE Layoffs;
12. Deverin Dillon, Staff, BENTE Layoffs;
13. Markieth Logan, Staff, BENTE Layoffs (unable to connect).

Comments submitted in writing by:

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1. Jamil Trammell, Parent, Virtual Learning
2. Michelle Sapere, Staff, BENTE Layoffs
3. Daivd Worl, Community, Budget
4. Julia Clayton, Community, Layoffs
5. Jody Nagle, Staff, Budget
6. Victoria Bolton, Staff, Budget
7. Amy Schramm, Staff, Budget
8. Marla DeLario-Brown, Staff, Budget
9. Ashley King, Staff, Budget
10. Sarah Clayton, Staff, Layoffs

IV. Advisory Council Reports:

- **Student Leadership Congress** Student Representative Ayana Simmons reported on the most recent meeting of the Student Leadership Congress September Zoom Meeting and the virtual start of the school year.
- **Bilingual Education Council** President Myrna Gonzalez submitted a written report that informed the Board of the Council's activities and agenda items over the past month. In the report she advised, in particular, about the first meeting of the group for the 2020-21 academic year, the parental challenges faced and how BEC is providing assistance and support. Finally, the report details next steps for the group.

V. Board Reports:

Policy Committee – President White reported that the Committee met as a Committee of the Whole via Zoom Video Conferencing on Tuesday, September 24, 2020:

- The majority of the Policy Committee was dedicated to a discussion on the Code of Conduct (Policy 1400). For this discussion, the Committee was joined by representatives of the School Climate Advisory Committee (SCAC) and District Administration to discuss the SCAC's 2018 recommendations to the Code of Conduct. Each recommendation, now delineated and organized in a "Review and Comparison Chart", is being compared with the current Code of Conduct provisions and District Executive Cabinet's response to each of these recommendations. This type of discussion will be a main feature of the foreseen Policy Committee meetings and will be aimed at determining which changes to the Code will be finally accepted by the Board.

Finance and Resource Allocation Committee – Commissioner LeBron reported that the Committee met as a Committee of the Whole via Zoom Video Conferencing on Tuesday, September 15, 2020

- The Finance Committee recommends the approval of:
 - The District's (unaudited) August 2020 Financial Report
 - The 2019-20 Year End Student Activity Funds Report

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- The Finance Committee discussions during the August meeting focused on a variety of topics and several discussions were entertained:
 - Finance Committee resumed the procedure of including a “Resolution Review” on the Committee agenda. This procedure was previously in place before the suspension of Committees and the Board moved to the meeting of the Whole structure. This segment of the agenda provides the opportunity for Commissioners to review and ask questions about the financial resolutions to be considered at the next Business Meeting. It is hoped that the continuation of this procedure will allow for better Board oversight and more efficient Board meetings
 - CFO, Carleen Pierce presented to the Board on the “Current District Budget, Revenue and Expenditure Trends, Financial Status and Charter School Data”. This was an update from last month’s presentation, which alerted us to the new fiscal challenges facing the District. The Finance Committee will continue to receive updates on the District’s financial status as a standing agenda item in upcoming meetings.
 - CFO, Carleen Pierce and District Monitor, Dr. Shelley Jallow presented on the “District’s Multi-Year Financial Plan” (a component of the State Monitor’s Report for finance), and shared the benefits of having such a plan and how it aligns with the DE recommendations and the CGCS Monitoring for Results Document.
- Note: The next Finance Meeting will feature a presentation on the Finance PD schedule and will also begin discussions on the budget calendar and budget priority development

Governance Committee – Commissioner LeBron reported that the Committee met as a Committee of the Whole via Zoom Video Conferencing on Tuesday, September 24, 2020
Topics discussed during that meeting included:

- A discussion on Board Goals and Metrics, as a follow-up from the Board’s Goal Setting Retreat with Sherry Johnson from the Monroe County School Board Association. The Board voted to adopt the following goals for the 2020-21 School Year:
 - Improve Fiscal Condition of RCSD
 - Increase Academic Achievement
 - Equity
- In concluding this discussion, the Board decided to fine-tune the suggested metrics for each goal. It is intended that the discussion on Board goals and metrics will be revisited and finalized in the October Governance Committee meeting.
- A brief update on the DE Report and how this will be facilitated in the Governance Committee meetings moving forward.

ESA Committee – Vice President Elliott reported that the Committee met as a Work Session via Zoom Video Conferencing on Tuesday, September 8, 2020
Topics discussed during that meeting included:

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- The Committee was newly reconvened since 2018 and discussions started with a review of the Committee's purpose. Commissioners in attendance agreed to move forward with what had been previously adopted before the Committee was tabled
- State Monitor, Dr. Shelley Jallow presented on how the Academic Plan could be streamlined through the work of the work of the ESA Committee, as well as how academic plan aligned with the Distinguished Educator's recommendations for District academics.
- Committee members brainstormed priorities for the academic year 2020-21 in order to develop a work plan. This conversation will be continued in upcoming ESA Committee Meetings
- Finally, the Administration Liaison to the Committee was determined to be Deputy Superintendent Genelle Morris, with frequent collaboration with Deputy Superintendent Melody Martinez. With this collaboration it is intended that alignment will be fostered between the work of the ESA Committee and the District's Strategic Plan.

CIGR Committee – Commissioner Adams reported that the Committee met as a Committee of the Whole via Zoom Video Conferencing on Tuesday, September 22, 2020

Topics discussed during that meeting included:

- An update on Parent Representative Application process was provided. A call to action was shared, calling for parents to be more involved with the District by applying for the Parent Representatives to Board Committees Positions. While the Board has received a few applications and have appointed 3 parents to Committees, 3 committee positions remain unfilled (Audit, ESA and HR). Interested parents are asked to visit the Board's tab on the District website for more information on applying.
- Director of the Office of Parent Engagement, Khadijah Mohammad presented an update on the Board's Parent Groups—the Parent Leadership Advisory Council, the Special Education Advisory Council, the Bilingual Education Council and the Multiple languages Parent Advisory Council.

HR Committee – Vice President Elliott reported that the Committee met as a Committee of the Whole via Zoom Video Conferencing on Tuesday, September 22, 2020

Topics discussed during that meeting included:

- The majority of the HR Committee was committed to receiving and discussing a presentation on District Staffing by Acting Chief of Human Capital Initiatives, Steven Carling. This presentation featured discussions on staffing levels, expenses related to health insurance, leaves/PTO, and substitutes. The Committee also discussed where staffing and expense trends are going in the future. We will continue to be updated

VI. Superintendents Report:

Superintendent Myers-Small provided an update on the deployment of the Crisis Team as it relates to the incident involving the death of an East High graduate; Support available to families as it relates to virtual schooling; Student Engagement at R-Centers; Enrollment; Attendance; Community Partners; Connecting Families to the Classroom; Chromebook and MiFi Distribution; Fall Athletics; information regarding the 2020 Back-to-school Immunizations and Hispanic Heritage Month.

Superintendent Nelms provided an update on Reopening for Parents/Families; The East Community and support following the death of East High graduate Jaquayla Young. Finally Superintendent Nelms and shared notable information about Jaquayla's participation at East and played a memorial video commemorating her life.

VII. Consideration of Resolutions

Resolution No. 2020-21: 319: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner LeBron. Seconded by Commissioner Maloy. Adopted 6-0 with one vacant Board seat.

Resolution No. 2020-21: 322: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner LeBron. Adopted 5-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting and one vacant Board seat.

Resolution No. 2020-21: 323: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner LeBron dissenting and one vacant Board seat.

Resolution No. 2020-21: 325: Motion to adopt made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with one vacant Board seat.

Resolution Nos. 2020-21: 326- 327: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner LeBron. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with one vacant Board seat.

Resolution Nos. 2020-21: 334-337: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner LeBron. Seconded by Commissioner Maloy. Adopted 6-0 with one vacant Board seat.

Resolution Nos. 2020-21: 338-340: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner LeBron. Adopted 6-0 with one vacant Board seat.

Resolution Nos. 2020-21: 342 and 343: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner LeBron. Seconded by Commissioner Maloy. Adopted 6-0 with one vacant Board seat.

Resolution Nos. 2020-21: 346 and 347: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Maloy. Seconded by Commissioner LeBron. Adopted 6-0 with one vacant Board seat.

Resolution No. 2020-21: 348: Motion to AMEND made by Commissioner

Powell to update “2019-20” with “2020-21” in subsection (E). Seconded by Commissioner Maloy. Motion carried 6-0 with one vacant Board seat.

A motion to TABLE Resolution 2020-21: 348 as amended until October 6, 2020 was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner LeBron. Motion carried 4-2 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Maloy dissenting and one vacant Board seat.

Resolution Nos. 2020-21: 349 and 350: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 6-0 with one vacant Board seat.

Resolution Nos. 2020-21: 351-366: Motion to adopt made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with one vacant Board seat.

Resolution Nos. 2020-21: 367-373: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner LeBron. Adopted 6-0 with one vacant Board seat.

Vice President Elliot left the meeting at 9:01 p.m.

Vice President Elliot returned at 9:03 p.m.

VIII. Unfinished Business from Previous Meeting – None

IX. New Business: —None

Motion to enter into Executive Session at 9:28 p.m. to discuss the appointment of a specific individual and have a confidential conversation with Counsel seeking legal advice made by Commissioner LeBron. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Motion carries 6-0 with one vacant Board seat.

Motion to exit Executive Session at 9:54 p.m. made by made by Commissioner LeBron. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Motion carries 6-0 with one vacant Board seat.

Motion to adjourn at 9:57 a.m. made by made by Commissioner LeBron. Seconded by Commissioner Maloy. Motion carries 6-0 with one vacant Board seat.