

**ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Business Meeting**  
**May 22, 2014**

**Attendance:** President White and Commissioners Adams, Campos, Cruz, Evans, and Powell; Student Representative Sophie Gallivan; Superintendent Bolgen Vargas; Board Clerk Shanai Lee.

President White convened the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

- I. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by two students of James P.B. Duffy School No. 12.
- II. **Acceptance of Minutes:** Motion to accept the minutes of the April 24<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting, May 6<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting, and May 8<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting was made by Commissioner Evans and seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Vice President Elliott absent.
- III. **Recognition:** The Rochester Board of Education presented “I Believe” awards to student Unique Fair and teacher Ingrid Dickson of World of Inquiry, School No. 58. Unique was honored by the Board for his recent receipt of the annual Rochester region Princeton Prize in Race Relations. Sponsored by Princeton University, the award honors high school students who work to increase understanding and mutual respect among all races. Rochester is one of 24 localities across the nation that awards a prize of \$1,000 to each winner and a weekend at Princeton that focuses on racial issues. Unique selected his teacher, Ms. Dickson, to receive the award for her work in inspiring and motivating him throughout his academic career. The “I Believe” Award was created by the Board of Education to recognize exemplary achievements of students and staff of the Rochester City School District.
- IV. **Speakers Addressing an Agenda Item:** No speakers present.
- V. **Speakers Not Addressing an Agenda Item:** Staff member Regina Neri presented the Board with artwork of second grade students of The Children’s School of Rochester, School No. 15.
- VI. **Superintendent’s Report:** Ms. Beverly Burrell-Moore, Deputy Superintendent of Schools delivered a presentation on how the District will work to better address the needs of students who need non-traditional high school education programming. She proposed that the District work to expand the All-City High School program to serve more over-age and under-credited students; increasing enrollment in the current program from 416 students to 600-800 students. Ms. Burrell-Moore suggested that increasing and enhancing the programming at All-City High School could benefit students by establishing smaller learning communities, delivering innovative, non-traditional instruction, offering smaller class sizes and more flexible scheduling to allow for more student engagement and stronger parent and community partnerships. This programming would serve a targeted population of over-age and under-credited students from traditional high schools with 60% or less attendance and limited suspensions. Ms. Burrell-Moore stated that the Superintendent will propose a resolution for the expansion of the All-City High School program for the Board’s consideration at the June 2014 Business Meeting.

## **VII. Board Reports:**

### **Audit Committee**

*Chair Mary Adams:* The Audit Committee met on Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> with Freed Maxick, the Board's External Auditor, to review the Audit Plan for the financial audit for the year ending June 30, 2014. The Committee discussed the plan and reviewed the timelines for receiving the audit results. The audit will take place in the fall. The Committee is planning to meet with Freed Maxick on Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30 p.m. to review the final results of the District Financial Audit. All Board members are invited to attend. The Committee also received a status update on the work of the Office of Auditor General.

### **Finance Committee**

*Chair Willa Powell:* The Finance Committee met on Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> to consider Resolution Nos. 2013-14: 664 through 671. The Committee recommends approval of the April 2014 Financial Report, Quarterly Change Order Report, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Student Activity Funds Report. Motion to accept the reports made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Evans. The reports were accepted 6-0 with Vice President Elliott absent. Commissioner Powell announced the following meetings for the 2014-14 Budget: City Public Budget Hearing on Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. and City Council Meeting for Budget Adoption on Tuesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>. The next regular Finance Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

### **Excellence in Student Achievement Committee**

*Chair Malik Evans:* The Excellence in Student Achievement Committee met on Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> and presentations on the Three Academic Priorities for improving student achievement and progression and the UPK Vendor Selection Criteria and Process for the 2014-15 fiscal year. In addressing academic priorities the Committee received a presentation from Dr. Ray Giamartino and Katie Yarlett on programming and initiatives to address the priorities. Highlights of tools and strategies that are proposed for the 2014-15 fiscal year include ending early dismissal Wednesdays, creating five expanded learning schools, developing initiatives to reduce summer learning loss, expanding Pre-K offerings, and implementing new programs to ensure success such as Innovation Greenhouse, Family Reading Outreach, additional Horizons partnerships, School Based Planning Team Summer Institute, PBS Kids in the Classroom, and Family Involvement.

The Committee also received a presentation from Beverly Burrell-Moore, Pat Dangler, Brian O'Connor, and Sue Menz on the Universal Pre-kindergarten vendor selection criteria and process outlining how the process was streamlined to offer each vendor opportunity and access to render UPK services to the District. This new process incorporated changes that were based on community feedback and recommendations that were expressed after the previous RFP issuances. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Tuesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> immediately following Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee.

### **Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee (CIGR)**

*Chair Cynthia Elliott:* The CIGR Committee did not meet in the month of May.

### **Policy Committee**

*Chair Jose Cruz:* On Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup> the members of the Policy Committee met to discuss Revisions to Parent and Family Engagement policy (1900) and the Values Education Policy (4311.2). In discussing the Parent and Family Engagement policy the Committee discussed minor revisions that were proposed for Board consideration. In discussing the Values Education Policy Parent representative, Ms. Barbara VanKerk and Community Member, Mr. Bill Benet discussed the revisions to the policy. The proposed changes include the name of policy change to Civics Education and complete redesign of the content within the policy. The policy will provide provisions for students to

incorporate civic learning, democratic values and principles. The policy is designed to be more flexible and allow students and teachers to create value definitions in ways that have real meaning to the students. The Committee also received an update on the report of policies requiring deliverables for the 2014-15 fiscal year. The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 12<sup>th</sup> following the Board Governance Committee meetings.

### **Board Governance Committee**

**Chair Melisza Campos:** The Board Governance Committee met on Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss an agenda and objectives for an upcoming Board retreat, review the proposed calendar of meetings for the 2014-15 fiscal year, and set performance review dates for the Superintendent of Schools.

The Committee suggested that the theme of the next retreat be “Building Trust and Working Collaboratively” with anticipated discussion and activities centered on definitions of trust and varying philosophies of governance. This retreat will be held with members of the Board and the Superintendent.

The Committee also reviewed a draft calendar of meetings for the 2014-15 fiscal year. This year’s calendar does not differ much from that of years past, with the exception of the ESA and CIGR meetings scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month.

The Committee also discussed performance review dates for the Superintendent of Schools. These meetings are scheduled to provide Dr. Vargas with regular feedback throughout the year. The Committee has suggested the following dates for these meetings: July 31<sup>st</sup> and October 30<sup>th</sup>. The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Thursday, June 12<sup>th</sup> following the Finance and Policy Committees.

## **VIII. Resolutions**

**2013-14: 637:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 5-0 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Campos absent.

**2013-14: 638:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-0 with Vice President Elliott absent.

**2013-14: 639-644:** No resolutions submitted.

**2013-14: 645-649:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-0 with Vice President Elliott absent.

**2013-14: 650:** No resolution submitted.

**2013-14: 651:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-0 with Vice President Elliott absent.

**2013-14: 652-656:** No resolutions submitted.

**2013-14: 657:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-0 with Vice President Elliott absent.

**2013-14: 658:** No resolution submitted.

**2013-14: 659-680:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-0 with Vice President Elliott absent.

**2013-14: 681-682:** No resolutions submitted

**2013-14: 683-684:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-0 with Vice President Elliott absent.

**2013-14: 685:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioner Evans abstaining due to familial relationship and Vice President Elliott absent.

**2013-14: 686-694:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-0 with Vice President Elliott absent.

**2013-14: 695:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioner Campos abstaining due to familial relationship and Vice President Elliott absent.

**2013-14: 696:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-0 with Vice President Elliott absent.

**IX. Unfinished Business:** None.

**X. New Business:** Commissioner Cruz presented revisions to the Student Records and Privacy Policy, No. 5500 and proposed revisions to the Suspected Child Abuse Policy, No. 4560 as Discussion Items to be considered by the Board at the June 2014 Business Meeting. Members of the Board made no comments on the proposed revisions.

**XI. Motion to enter into executive session to discuss matters related to the employment of a specific individual** made by Commissioner Evans at 8:19 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Motion carries 6-0 with Vice President Elliott absent.

Commissioner Campos left at 8:19 p.m.

**Motion to enter into open session** made by Commissioner Powell at 8:30 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Motion carries 5-0 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Campos absent.

**XII. Motion to adjourn** was made by Commissioner Evans, seconded by Commissioner Powell at 8:30 p.m. Motion carries 5-0 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Campos absent.