

**ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Business Meeting**  
**June 28, 2012**

**Attendance:** President Evans and Vice President Cruz, Commissioners Adams, Campos, Elliott, Powell, and White; Interim Superintendent Bolgen Vargas; Board Clerk Shanai Lee.

Vice President Cruz convened the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

- I. Commissioner Powell led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
- II. **Acceptance of Minutes:** Motion to accept the minutes of the May 22<sup>nd</sup> Business Meeting made by Commissioner Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans absent.
- III. **Recognition:** Recipients of the Alberta Moss Scholarship were recognized for their academic and civic accomplishments. The Alberta Moss Scholarship Fund has been established to support promising students who demonstrate financial need.
- IV. **Speakers Addressing an Agenda Item:** None.
- V. **Speakers Not Addressing an Agenda Item:** None.
- VI. **Superintendent's Report:** Superintendent Dr. Vargas introduced members of the Rochester Schools Modernization Program to present information of the proposed redesign of Henry Hudson School No. 28. Henry Hudson School No. 28 is being designed as a 2-story structure. This design remains consistent with the intent of the Master Plan and the approved model K-8 grade configuration adopted by the Board. The current construction cost are estimated at \$21.5 million, and take into consideration all reasonable input from the school principal, administration and teaching and learning staff, the education facilities department and neighbors that attended Building Advisory Committee (BAC) and Town Hall Meetings. It is anticipated that construction will begin in July 2013, with an estimated completion date of August 2014.
- VII. **Board Reports:**  
**Audit Committee**  
*Chair Mary Adams:* The Audit Committee has not met since the May 2012 Business Meeting; the Committee is scheduled to meet in July.  
  
**Finance Committee**  
*Chair Willa Powell:* The Finance Committee met on Thursday, June 14th to consider resolutions 831 through 843. The Committee recommends approval of the May 2012 Financial Report and the following resolutions: Resolutions 831 through 834 for Procurement & Supply; Resolutions 835 through 842 for Educational Facilities; and Resolution 843 for Information Management & Technology. Vice President Cruz requested a motion to accept the May 2012 Financial Report. Motion to accept the reports was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans absent. The next regular Finance Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, July 19<sup>th</sup>.

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

**Chair Van Henri White:** The Excellence in Student Achievement Committee met on Monday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, to receive an update on the Youth in Transition Initiative. The Committee was brought up-to-date on status of 49 students who transition during the months of January-May of 2012. The Committee was provided data on demographics of these students. Thirty-five of the 49 transitioned students are male, and 14 are female. The students ranged between the ages of 11-18; with the majority of the students being 16 years old (21 of the 49 students). Thirty-three of transitioned students are currently re-enrolled in the Rochester City School District. Three of the students who were not returned opted for a GED program instead and did not re-enter our district. The balance of the 49 students was either dropped, never released or went back into placement. Some of the system improvements include: a Memo of Understanding among RCSD and placement systems/programs is in place, joint pre-discharge planning in in progress, and planned positive school re-entry is tied to Response to intervention (RTI ) Teams.

The Committee also received an update on the All City High Program. All teachers and administrators are in place and ready to begin in September when school opens. To date 1,183 students are enrolled into the All City High Program; with 53% of the students being on track to graduate on time. Only eight percent of these students are 18 or older and have less than three credits. The majority of the students enrolled for in All City High Program have come from Edison and Franklin. The Committee had some concern about the Springboard reading program that will be utilized at All City High as it is the same program that is currently being used in the district's schools without great student success, and suggested that ways be found to enhance the program.

Next month's Excellence in Student Achievement Committee meeting will be held on Monday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. The Committee will be presented with an Integrated Arts Proposal from School 46.

### **Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee**

**Chair Cynthia Elliott:** The Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee has not met since the May 2012 Business Meeting, the Committee is scheduled to meet on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **Policy Committee**

**Chair Jose Cruz:** The Policy Committee met on Thursday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, to discuss the proposed Hiring & Recruitment Policy to offer incentives for employees to reside in the District and to diversify the RCSD workforce, transportation options and the steps necessary to phase in strengthened zone boundaries, and proposed amendment to Responsible Bidder policy, as recommended by the Diversity Committee.

The proposed Hiring & Recruitment policy offers preference in hiring candidates with urban experience, which is defined as: 1) graduating from a high school in a city of at least 110K population; or 2) volunteering or working with urban youth for a minimum of two years in a city with a population of at least 110K. In addition, this policy proposal enables District employees to participate in the City's Employer-Assisted Housing Initiative, which offers up to \$3,000 to cover closing or down payment costs for an employee who is purchasing a home in the City for the first time. This is a one-time benefit to a specified number of employees, based on budget appropriations. The members of the Policy Committee approved this policy and it is introduced this evening as an Information Item.

The Policy Committee also reviewed policies related to transportation and strengthening the zone boundaries to reduce ongoing transportation costs. Changes in the existing transportation structure have

major implications for student placement and enrollment, so the Committee is looking at ways to gradually reinforce zone boundaries. Vicky Ramos' team has been examining these issues, and the members of the Policy Committee suggested that Ms. Flanagan participate in this team to add a policy perspective.

Finally, amendments have been proposed to the Responsible Bidder policy in accordance with the recommendations made by the Diversity Committee. The amended policy allows the Purchasing Officer to consider a bidder's non-discrimination policies and the demographic characteristics of their full-time workforce. This information may be considered in determining whether a bidder is considered "responsible". The Policy Committee approved these amendments, and the proposed policy is presented this evening as an Information Item.

Also submitted for your consideration this evening are amendments to the Code of Conduct and the District's Policy Against Harassment of Students and Employees. These amendments are to incorporate the requirements of the Dignity for All Students Act, which becomes effective on July 1st. For this reason, Vice President Cruz requested that these policies be expedited and voted upon in this evening's meeting.

Vice President Cruz also provided an update regarding the status of the Condom Availability Program. The NYS Commissioner of Education is currently reviewing the District's application to expand reproductive health education and AIDS instruction. A School Health Advisory Council has been formed to make recommendations regarding program implementation, content, and evaluation. The District hopes to receive a response shortly, so that staff can be trained over the summer.

#### **Board Governance Committee**

*Chair Melisza Campos:* The Governance Committee has not met since the May 2012 Business Meeting, the Committee is scheduled to meet in July.

### **VIII. Resolutions**

**2011-12: 808:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans absent.

**2011-12: 811-821:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans absent.

Motion to separate Resolution No. 2011-12: 822 into 822, 822b and 822c made Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Powell. Motion carries 6-0 with President Evans absent.

**2011-12: 822:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans absent.

**2011-12: 822b:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 5-0 with President Evans absent and Commissioner White abstaining due familial relationship.

**2011-12: 822c:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Adams. Failed 3-2 with President Evans and Commissioner Elliott absent, and Commissioners Powell and White dissenting.

**2011-12: 823:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans absent.

Motion to separate Resolution No. 2011-12: 825 into 825 and 825b made Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Powell. Motion carries 6-0 with President Evans absent.

**2011-12: 825:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 5-1 with President Evans absent and Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

**2011-12: 825b:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans absent.

**2011-12: 826-830:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans absent.

**2011-12: 831-834:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Elliott, seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans absent.

**2011-12: 835-842:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Elliott. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans absent.

**2011-12: 843-845:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans absent.

**2011-12: 846:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with President Evans absent and Commissioner Adams abstaining due to professional relationship.

**2011-12: 847-849:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans absent.

Motion to consider Resolution No. 2011-12: 850 and waive the requirement that all new policies or amendments to policies be presented as an agenda item to the Board in sequential order as an Information Item, Discussion Item, and Action Item in accordance with the Formulation, Adoption and Amendment of Policies, Policy No. 2410 made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner White. Motion carries 6-0 with President Evans absent.

**2011-12: 850:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans absent.

Motion to consider Resolution No. 2011-12: 851 and waive the requirement that all new policies or amendments to policies be presented as an agenda item to the Board in sequential order as an Information Item, Discussion Item, and Action Item in accordance with the Formulation, Adoption and Amendment of Policies, Policy No. 2410 made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner White. Motion carries 6-0 with President Evans absent.

**2011-12: 851:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans absent.

**2011-12: 852:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans absent.

**2011-12: 853-860:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans absent.

**2011-12: 861:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with President Evans absent and Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

**2011-12: 862:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 4-2 with President Evans absent and Commissioners Adams and Powell dissenting.

**2011-12: 863:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with President Evans absent and Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

Motion to table Resolution No. 2011-12: 864 made by Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Elliott. Motion carries 6-0 with President Evans absent.

**2011-12: 865-866:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans absent.

**2011-12: 867:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Elliott, seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans absent.

President Evans arrived at 7:40 p.m.

**2011-12: 868:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Elliott, seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner White dissenting.

President Evans left at 7:45 p.m.

**2011-12: 869-873:** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans absent.

**IX. Unfinished Business:** None.

**X. New Business:** A proposed Recruiting and Hiring Policy, No. 9240 and a revision to the Responsible Bidders Policy, No. 6725 were presented as Information Items.

**XI.** Vice President Cruz requested a **motion to enter into executive session** to discuss personnel matters related to a specific individual. Motion to enter into Executive Session made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Elliott, adopted 6-0 at 9:03 p.m.

**XII. Motion to enter into open session** made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Campos, motion carries 6-0 with President Evans absent at 10:11 p.m.

**Motion to adjourn** made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. Motion carries 6-0 with President Evans absent at 10:12 p.m.