

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
Community & Intergovernmental Relations Committee Meeting
September 14, 2016

MINUTES

Attending:

Commissioners – Vice President Cynthia Elliott, Commissioners Adams and Hallmark

District Staff – Karl Kristoff (General Counsel)

Parent Representative – Not in attendance

Board Staff – Kallia Wade

Vice President Elliott called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

I. Review of Minutes of October 19, 2016 CIGR Meeting

Motion by Commissioner Elliott to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2017 Community & Intergovernmental Relations Committee meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. **Adopted 2-0.**

II. Discussion of the 2017-18 Committee Goals

Vice President Elliott opened the discussion on 2017-18 CIGR Committee goals, by noting the need to be closely aligned with the Superintendent's goals. Additionally, emphasized that the School Board needed to establish a much more present representation in legislative events at the local, county and state level, as well as on various legislative committees (NYSBBA, Big 5, and Monroe County) i.e. lobby days. She asserted that this representation would be particularly useful for ensuring that the Board's voice is included in legislative conversations, and that support may be lent and relied on for relevant legislative requests. VP Elliott noted the need to confer with Commissioner Malik Evans to find out more about the VP Elliott also suggested another major goal of community interaction—committee members Hallmark and Adams supported the idea of hosting four meetings to be held in the community (split evenly between the fall and spring), and in quadrants, where the commissioners would be able to facilitate discussions on important topics facing the district. It was also decided that the Committee would host two public forums each spring and fall, starting in spring 2018. The committee also reconfirmed the goals to establish an updated, improved and completed communications plan and legislative agenda. Finally, the committee discussed the goal of engaging positively with district administration by garnering input on CIGR initiatives. This collaboration between Board committee and District administration will foster a shared vision in the 2017-18 year. The final goal discussed involved the Committee's meeting frequency. It was decided that a bi-monthly meeting schedule should

be upheld, excepting for times when events require additional correspondence. VP Elliott noted that the Committee will be meeting again on October 19th to prepare for the legislative breakfast. Additionally a November meeting may need to be held prior to the Breakfast as well, though a meeting date currently not on the Board calendar for that month.

Commissioner Hallmark arrived at 6:08pm

III. Legislative Breakfast Discussion

The Community & Intergovernmental Relations Committee members discussed plans to host a Legislative Breakfast on Saturday, November 18th, at 9:00-11:30am. The Committee noted the need to streamline the Legislative Agenda to present to legislators. Plans will be ongoing throughout the month.

Action Item: Board Staff Kallia to work with Vice President Elliott to plan the Breakfast

IV. Legislative Agenda

Moving on in discussion, the committee engaged in conversation re the legislative agenda, which would need to be established and approved before the Legislative Breakfast. The Committee will need to approve the agenda in the October CIGR meeting in order to forward for Board Approval at the October Business Meeting.

Commissioners Hallmark and Adams asserted that the Legislative Agenda should be aligned, streamlined, potent, and informed by district partners (NYSSBA, Big 5), as this will be the committee's most powerful voice. The committee will be working closely with General Counsel, Karl Kristoff to review the content of the legislative agenda. Two bills were suggested to be added—the Safe and Supportive School bill (S3036/A03873), and the Integrated Health Services for Fiscally Dependent School Districts Act (A1026). There was unanimous agreement regarding the need to acquire support for transportation funding, especially given the fiscal challenges faced by the district in this regard. Commissioner Hallmark suggested checking the January or February 2016 CIGR meeting minutes for discussion notes on quality control and testing—she noted that

Committee members also indicated the need to consider support for universal healthcare and immigration reform, based on the impact that changes in these federal policies may have on the District's students and families. Commissioner Adams detailed the experience of a District parent who was currently in the process of being deported by ICE officials—he will leave behind a wife and 4 children who attend RCSD schools. Additionally Commissioner Adams notes the Medicare for all proposal—there are two specific bills the district can support to help advocate.

Action Item: Board Staff Kallia to work with Counsel Kristoff regarding the legislative agenda items. General Counsel to identify legislative asks that will represent the District's interest on a local, state and national front.

Action Item: Board Staff Kallia to forward the legislative agenda to the Board for review and put a call out for input re suggestions on updating the agenda (addition or removal of items).

V. FYI: Legislative Updates

Lastly, the Community & Intergovernmental Relations Committee reviewed the most recent legislative updates provided in the CIGR meeting agenda packet, in order to inform legislative agenda suggestions.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00PM.

Next Meeting: October 19, 2017