

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Special Meeting Minutes

July 18, 2016

Minutes

Attendance: President White, Vice President Elliott, Commissioners, Adams, Cruz, Evans, Hallmark and Powell; Interim Superintendent Linda Cimusz; Acting Board Clerk Francine Scott

- I. President White convened the meeting at 12:30 p.m.
- II. **Speakers Addressing an Agenda Item:** No speakers were present
- III. **Resolution**

Motion to discuss Resolution No. 2016-17: 1 made by Vice President Elliott, seconded by Commissioner Evans.

President White thanked the following: Board staff, Shanai Lee, Francine Scott, and Debra Flanagan; parents that responded to the surveys; stakeholders for participating in the focus groups; Linda Cimusz for extending her contract until a permanent Superintendent was in place; Western New York Service Education Council for gathering the finest pool of applicants with grace and diligence; and the Board search committee, Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Evans. He also gave many thanks to the Board and praised them for staying focus because the last seven months were challenging with Dr. Vargas leaving six months early, Dan Lowengard becoming ill, and the finalist declining

President White went on to say that our focus is on the new Superintendent, Barbara Dean-Williams. President White noted Barbara's experience as a 37 year veteran in public education with 10 of those years as a Superintendent. He stated that her experience working in the Greece School District and the Boston School District uniquely prepared her for the challenges that Rochester faces. President White further added that this is the first time the Rochester City School has hired a permanent female superintendent and that Barbara is an exceptional public servant who has the capacity and experience to focus keenly on the key of values, equity, excellence, and unity in our schools and community.

Vice President Elliott thanked President White for taking the lead in the Superintendent Search in order to find the right person to lead the District. She also indicated that she is glad to support Barbara as they will work together to put students first and ensure students are career and college ready upon graduation.

Commissioner Adams welcomed Barbara and stated that she looks forward to collaborating on school initiatives.

Commissioner Cruz welcomed Barbara and noted her sense of humor.

Commissioner Hallmark thanked the Commissioners for working together through the challenging process and sensed a closer working relationship through a shared vision with the new superintendent.

Commissioner Evans thanked the Commissioners for working through the process and welcomed Barbara as a colleague. Commissioners Evans also mentioned that he knew Barbara at the Greece School District and felt she would be an asset to the Rochester City School District with her past experience, and as a seasoned leader she would hit the ground running. He looks forward to working with her.

Commissioner Powell stated she wants to make sure not only her grandchild, but that every Rochester City School District student has a first class education.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2016-17: 1 made by Vice President Elliott, seconded by Commissioner Evans.

Roll Call Vote

Commissioner Adams Yes
Commissioner Cruz Yes
Commissioner Evans Yes
Commissioner Hallmark Yes
Commissioner Powell Yes
Vice President Elliott Yes
President White Yes

Adopted 7-0.

Barbara stated that she is excited to serve the Rochester City School District and looks forward to a long fruitful partnership.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Cruz, seconded by Commissioner Evans. Motion carries 7-0 at 12:50 p.m.