

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
Special Meeting Minutes
March 21, 2017

Board Members Present: President Van Henri White, Vice President Cynthia Elliott, Commissioner Mary Adams, Commissioner José Cruz, Commissioner Malik Evans, Commissioner Elizabeth Hallmark, and Commissioner Willa Powell.

Board Members Excused: None.

Administration and Board Officers in Attendance: Superintendent Barbara Deane-Williams, EPO Superintendent Shaun Nelms, and District Clerk Shanai Lee.

President White convened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

EPO Superintendent Nelms delivered a presentation that detailed the program enhancements for East High School. Dr. Nelms noted that the East EPO Plan calls for a redesign and reallocation of systems, structures, and roles; expanded learning time for students; committed faculty and staff members; and effective teachers and administrator leadership opportunities. In discussing the implementation of the plan for the coming year, he mentioned that East will continue to offer mandated professional development for instructional staff; the cost associated with training is approximately \$412,000. Dr. Nelms stated that \$1,543,246 was returned to the District during 2016-17 year and he anticipates similar savings for the 2017-18 year. Dr. Nelms also mentioned that the University of Rochester and East Administration will continue to evaluate existing community agency contractual agreements as well as identify and enter into new contractual arrangements as needed to fund additional supports and programming for students and families of East. He stated that the total contractual commitments and community agency contracts have been reduced by \$100,000 from last year. Dr. Nelms concluded the presentation noting that the proposed East EPO budget for the 2017-18 fiscal year is \$23,392,122, or 3% greater than last year's budget of \$22,710,798.

Superintendent Deane-Williams introduced Chief Financial Officer Everton Sewell who delivered a presentation on the proposed budget for the 2017/18 fiscal year. Mr. Sewell highlighted initiatives that reflect the District's commitment to student achievement and the fiscal condition of the District. He detailed plans to close the projected \$54.8 million gap while redesigning Central Office, conducting early teacher recruitment and hiring initiatives, increasing socioemotional supports for students, strengthening the voice of school-based planning teams, and improving teaching, pedagogy and curriculum through teacher and administrator development opportunities with national partners. Mr. Sewell concluded the presentation by discussing actions that could be taken to close the projected budget gap, ranging from requesting an addition \$12.5 million in Foundation Aid to realizing operational efficiencies estimated at \$10 million.

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Evans at 6:50 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 7-0.