

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Public Hearing on the Budget

March 28, 2017

Attendance: 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 and District Clerk Shanai Lee.

President White convened the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

President White stated that the purpose of the budget hearing is for the Board to receive input from the public on the Superintendent's proposed budget for the 2017-18 fiscal year.

President White requested public comment regarding the proposed budget.

Elaine Erbland

Ms. Erbland, a community member and retired teacher, urged the Board to consider allocating funds for restorative justice practices.

Victoria Robertson

Ms. Robertson, a parent, thanked the Board for addressing priorities in the proposed budget, particularly increasing the number of Reading teachers and increasing arts and sports programming. She also asked the District to identify needed areas of support for community partnership.

Juan Callodo

Mr. Callodo, a community member and former student, spoke about the effects of bullying and urged the Board to hire more social workers and special education teachers.

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Evans at 6:20 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 7-0.