

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Business Meeting

Minutes

February 25, 2010

Attendance: President Evans, Vice President Campos, and Commissioners Cruz, Elliott, Powell, White and Williams; Superintendent Brizard; Student Representative Sarah DeLaus; and Board Clerk Shanai Lee.

President Evans convened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Commissioner White arrived at 6:33 p.m.

- I. Student Representative Sarah DeLaus led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
- II. **Motion to accept minutes** of the January 4th Organizational Meeting and January 7th Special Meeting was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner White absent. Motion to accept minutes of January 11th Special Meeting and January 28th Business Meeting was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting and Commissioner White absent.
- III. **Student Recognition:** None.
- IV. **Speakers Addressing an Agenda Item and Speakers on other than Agenda Items:** Students Tekeyla Francis, Day'la Smullen, LaVerne Thompson, Hector Paulino, Timothy Ellison, Noah Jermyn, Ty'mir Puryear, and Juliana Soto spoke about the need for arts education and programming in the District's curriculum. Students Jack Jones, Antwoine Lights, Cameron Duncan, Jovany Martinez, and Gabriel Trevino spoke about the importance and benefits of participating in the Wilson Robotics Team. Parent Rhonda Petrone spoke about the need for arts education and programming in the District's curriculum. Parent Elaine Francesco spoke against any potential budget cuts to the arts education and programming in the District's curriculum. Community member Charlie Richardson spoke about the need for increased parental involvement. Community members Natalie Rogers-Cropper, Shannon Elliott, Jeffrey Grubbs, and Anne Laver spoke about the need for arts education and programming in the District's curriculum. Community members Ron Dukes and Lisa Sutherland spoke about the importance and benefits of participating in the Wilson Robotics Team. Staff members Robert Hoose, Alicia Messenger, and Linda Davis spoke about the need for arts education and programming in the District's curriculum. Staff member Joseph McEvoy spoke about the importance and benefits of participating in the Wilson Robotics Team.
- V. **Superintendent's Report:** Mr. Brizard began by expressing support for the FIRST robotics program and noted that he has witnessed the program's successes as a principal in New York City. Mr. Brizard then introduced Mr. Kevin Klein and announced his appointment as principal of the Integrated Arts and Technology High School.

Mr. Brizard introduced Ms. Lowan Brown of the Human Capital Initiatives department to present the District's new diversity recruitment campaign. The campaign is designed to encourage recent college graduates to consider a career with the Rochester City School District. She spoke of the need and effort to recruit teachers of color in the District's critical subject areas. She mentioned that the District experiences some of the same challenges that are present in many of the nation's urban districts. Ms.

Brown presented the District's Grow Your Own: Para to Teacher Initiative designed to prepare paraprofessionals with the education and skills needed to become teachers, the Bilingual Extension Program which is a partnership between Nazareth College and the District that focuses on Spanish bilingual education, and the District's many teacher retention efforts.

Commissioner Elliott asked about some of the barriers experienced by teachers of color at the District. Ms. Brown said that some teachers of color have said that they experience a lack of support from District leaders. Commissioner Elliott also mentioned that there is a need to increase the salaries of paraprofessionals and develop opportunities for higher education that will allow paraprofessionals to participate. Commissioner Elliott stated that although we must make efforts to diversify our staff, we must actively work to recruit teachers that are sensitive to the urban environment.

Commissioner White urged the District to aggressively recruit more students of color.

Commissioner Elliott spoke of the need to reconsider having a standing committee geared specifically towards personnel, given that a large portion of the District's budget is allocated for personnel.

VI. **Board Reports:**

Student Representative:

Ms. DeLaus: Ms. DeLaus recognized Ms. Lowan Brown for her presentation and the Wilson X-Cats for their work in engaging and inspiring students. Ms. DeLaus also thanked Timothy Mitchum for sharing his talent during the Black History Month Observance. She stated that the Student Leadership Congress met on February 24th with Mr. Brizard to discuss student perceptions and community service projects. Ms. DeLaus announced that the next meeting for the Student Leadership Congress is scheduled for March 24, 2010.

Audit Committee

Chair Allen Williams: The Audit Committee did not meet in October; the next meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Finance Committee

Chair Willa Powell: The Finance Committee met on Thursday, February 18th to review the monthly Financial Report and the 2nd Quarter Student Activity Funds Report, as well as to consider resolutions 630 through 642 and 655. The Committee seeks a motion to accept the January 2010 Financial Report. Motion to accept to the January 2010 Financial Report was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner White. The January 2010 Financial Report was accepted 7-0. The Committee seeks a motion to accept the 2nd Quarter Student Activity Funds Report. Motion to accept the 2nd Quarter Student Activity Funds Report was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner White. The 2nd Quarter Student Activity Funds Report was accepted 7-0. The Committee recommends the following reviewed resolutions to the Board for approval: 630 through 642 and 655. The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on March 18th at 5:30 p.m.

Excellence in Student Achievement Committee

Chair Van Henri White: The Excellence in Student Achievement Committee did not meet in February 2010, the next meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, March 11th at 5:30 p.m.

Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Chair Cynthia Elliott: The Community and Intergovernmental Relations did not meet in February 2010, the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 1st at 6:00 p.m.

Policy Committee

Chair Jose Cruz: The Policy Committee met on Tuesday, February 16th to obtain a status report regarding the review of legally mandated policies as part of the process of updating the Policy Manual. This report indicated that six policies have either been completed or determined not to be necessary, four policies are in process, and another nine policies remain to be addressed. The Policy Committee will continue to report on the status of updating the Policy Manual.

In the February 16th meeting, Shanai Lee gave a presentation regarding proposed amendments to the Responsible Bidder policy, which highlighted the criteria to be used for the internal qualified bidders' list, grounds for suspension or removal from the list, and a two-year prequalification period for qualified bidders to remain on the list. Additional time is needed to finalize the proposed amendment. The Policy Committee will be addressing this proposal again in their March meeting.

The Policy Committee also revisited a change order policy proposal, which engendered considerable discussion. Since there was quite a bit of debate as to the implications of implementing this policy proposal, all parties were asked to generate alternatives for review in the March 16th Policy Committee meeting. Consideration was also given to the way in which Board policies and Superintendent regulations are implemented. It was suggested that each Board policy contain standard language, which stipulates whether the Superintendent is expected to formulate regulations for implementation. In this way, there is clear indication as to the expectations for accountability. General Counsel also offered to ensure that Board staff receive a copy of any new Superintendent regulations as soon as they have been formulated, so that the Board can be aware of these changes.

The Policy Committee also addressed the process for recruiting and selecting parent representatives to serve on Board committees. A number of suggestions were made and the resulting announcement and form are presented to you this evening for your consideration and vote. Parents would be asked to submit an Interest Form by March 15th, which would be reviewed by the appropriate Board liaison to each committee. The Youth & Family Services Division will verify that each applicant is currently a parent or legal guardian of a student attending an RCSD school. Information regarding these applicants will then be submitted to Committee members to make a selection. An orientation regarding the work of the Board, Committee structure and functions would be provided to the parent representatives in April. Parent representatives would serve a term from May 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.

Lastly, the Policy Committee finalized its agenda for the upcoming year. In addition to reviewing policies to update the Policy Manual, the Committee will consider the following policies over the next year: Attendance, Responsible Bidder, Purchasing (Buy American Act), Change Order proposal, ELL/LEP policies, and Student Wellness.

The next Policy Committee Meeting is scheduled for March 16th at 5:30p.m.

Board Governance Committee

Chair Melisza Campos: The Board Governance Committee met on February 4th to discuss proposed 2010/11 Board Goals, proposed 2010/11 Board Deliverables, and Board reform training. At that meeting, the Committee discussed and compiled a list of Board goals and objectives for 2010/11 addressing the following areas: Academic Achievement, Fiscal Oversight and Accountability, Performance Management, School Safety and Environment, and Customer Service.

The full Board will further discuss these goals at an upcoming retreat, in anticipation of presenting the goals for the 2010/11 fiscal year to the public next month. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 8th at 5:30 p.m., at that time the Committee will continue the discussion on the Board's annual goals and work plan.

President Evans requested a **motion to extend the meeting** beyond 8:30 p.m. Motion to extend the meeting beyond 8:30 p.m. made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Motion carried 7-0.

VII. Resolutions

2009-10: 589-591: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 592: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2009-10: 593-601: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 602-605: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2009-10: 606: Motion to separate Resolution No. 2009-10: 606 into 606 and 606a was made by Commissioner Elliott and seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0. Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2009-10: 606 was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2009-10: 606a: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 607-609: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 610: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2009-10: 611: Motion to separate Resolution No. 2009-10: 611 into 611 and 611a was made by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0. Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2009-10: 611 was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2009-10: 611a: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 4-3 with Commissioners Elliott, White, and Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 612-621: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2009-10: 622-629: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 630: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 631: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 5-2 with Commissioner Elliott and Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 632: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 633-634: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 635: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 636: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Williams abstaining due to professional relationship.

2009-10: 637-638: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 639: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 640: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 641: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz abstaining due to professional relationship.

2009-10: 642: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 643: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 644: Resolution pulled.

2009-10: 645: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 5-2 with Commissioner Elliott and Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 646: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 647: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 4-3 with Commissioners Elliott, White, and Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 648: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 5-2 with Commissioner Elliott and Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 649: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 650: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 5-2 with Commissioner Elliott and Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 651: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 4-1 with President Evans abstaining due familial relationship, Commissioner Cruz abstaining due to professional relationship and Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2009-10: 652: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 653: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 5-2 with Commissioner Elliott and Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 654: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Williams abstaining to familial relationship and Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2009-10: 655-667: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 668: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans abstaining due to professional relationship.

2009-10: 669-670: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 671-672: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2009-10: 673: Resolution pulled.

VIII. **Unfinished Business:** None.

IX. **New Business:** None

X. **Motion to adjourn** made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0 at 10:56 p.m.