

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Special Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2019

Board Members in Attendance: President Van Henri White, Vice President Cynthia Elliott, Commissioner Judith Davis, Commissioner Elizabeth Hallmark, Commissioner Beatriz LeBron, Commissioner Willa Powell and Commissioner Natalie Sheppard.

Board Members Excused: None

Administration and Board Officers in Attendance: Interim Superintendent Daniel Lowengard, General Counsel Karl Kristoff, Interim Chief of Staff Linda Cimusz and District Clerk Francine Scott.

President White convened the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

- I. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Beth Mascitti-Millar, Deputy Superintendent of Administration.
- II. **Acceptance of Minutes:** No minutes
- III. **Speakers Addressing an Agenda Item** No speakers present.

Commissioner Sheppard arrived at 7:05 p.m.

IV. **Review of Financial Reports and Resolutions**

Chief Financial Officer, Everton Sewell presented on the 2018-19 Budget and Fiscal Update. CFO Sewell stated the overall 2018-19 budget increased by \$3.3 million due to an increase in General Fund \$1.6 million, Special Aid Fund increase by \$1.3 million and School Food Service Fund increase of \$.04million. CFO Sewell also outlined management actions taken with a hold on hiring for Central Office vacant positions, a review of all non-school position prior to hiring, reduction in non-essential maintenance. General fund appropriations are recoded to new grants when possible, and the current appropriation usage is reduced. CFO Sewell stated the 2018-19 budget is on track to be balanced at the end of the year.

V. **Data Warehouse Update SPA to ROC3D Upgrade Expansion**

Chief Information Officer, Annmarie Lehner presented on the Data Warehouse SPA ROC3D K-12 360. The upgrade will restructure and minimize current dashboards and newer technology offers enhanced pivoting and charting capabilities, new alerts and publisher features. The new dashboard additions include executive views of all key areas. Ms. Lehner lastly reported on the 1 Million Project Foundation where its' mission is to help one million high school students who do not have reliable home internet access, achieve their full potential by giving them devices and free high school mobile internet access. This

project will allow students with a free device and connectivity that would help eliminate the homework gap.

Superintendent Lowengard and Commissioner LeBron thanked Ms. Lehner for her diligent work to ensure students have internet access.

VI. Presentation of African and African American Studies Curriculum

Jason Willis, Ph.D., Director for African and African American Studies Department presented on the department's curriculum. Dr. Willis presentation included an overview Curriculum Projects for the 2018-19 and 2019-20 School Year with implementation dates. Dr. Willis included appendices for Pan African Course Description, Pan African Studies Competencies, Learning Outcomes, and a Draft Lesson Plan. Dr. Willis is working various departments to ensure that teachers receive ongoing professional development.

Commissioner Sheppard asked Dr. Willis if there was a rubric for the Implementation Action Plan Template for Exit Surveys and Self Reflection. Dr. Willis stated he would provide a copy. Vice President Elliott commended Dr. Willis and Dr. Golden for their work to implement the African American and African American Studies curriculum. As part of the curriculum, Vice President Elliott suggested Dr. Willis consider including white pathology, independent courses for students to do their own research, and the psychological devastation of racism, as these elements could be critical to learning about African American history. Commissioner Hallmark and Commissioner Powell also thanked Dr. Willis for a great presentation. President White also expressed his gratitude to Dr. Willis and everyone who worked diligently to put together the curriculum and the ongoing work to come.

VII. Consideration of Resolutions

2018-19: 834: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner LeBron. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting

2018-19: 835: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 5-2 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent.

2018-19: 836: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 5-2 with Commissioner Sheppard dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent.

VIII. Motion to enter into executive session to discuss a matter related to the employment of a particular person and to seek legal advice from District counsel made by Commissioner LeBron and seconded by Commissioner Hallmark at 8:15 p.m. Motion carries 7-0.

Commissioner LeBron left at 8:15 p.m.

Motion to reconvene into open session made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Hallmark at 8:25 p.m. Motion carries 6-0 with Commissioner LeBron absent.

IX. Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Hallmark at 8:25p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Davis. Motion carries 6-0 with Commissioner LeBron absent.