

# ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

## Business Meeting Minutes June 20, 2019

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

**Board Members Excused:** Commissioner Beatriz LeBron

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

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

- I. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by a young person
- II. Acceptance of Minutes: Motion to approve the May 14<sup>th</sup>, Special Meeting; May 23<sup>rd</sup>, Business Meeting; June 6<sup>th</sup>, Special Meeting, and June 13<sup>th</sup>, Business Meeting by Commissioner Hallmark and Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioner Judith Davis and Commissioner Beatriz LeBron absent.
- III. **Speakers Addressing an Agenda Item:** Student, Ian Pardo-Gonzalez spoke in support of Maria Diaz remaining as the librarian at the Bilingual Academy.
- IV. **Speaker NOT Addressing an Agenda Item:** Parent, Cynthia Clay spoke about the lack of support from the Office of Parent Engagement. Parent, Norymar Gonzalez spoke in support of Mary Diaz continuing her role as the librarian at the Bilingual Academy. Melanie Funchess, community member spoke about the Special Education Consent Decree. Staff members, Cornice Williams, Tammy Taylor-Brown, Karen Morales, Jeanne Markman, and Maria Castaneda spoke in support of Joyce Dunn remaining as the Assistant Principal at Anna Murray-Douglass Academy, School No. 12.

Commissioner Davis arrived at 7:15 p.m.

### V. **Advisory Council Reports:**

#### **Student Leadership Congress**

**Student Representative Malik Jaff:** Malik Jaff, President of Student Leadership Congress, reported that Brennen Colwell, Coordinator with the Office of School Innovation requested Student Leadership Congress provide feedback on the District's curriculum, and staff transfers and displacements. Mr. Jaff introduced Student Leadership Officers for the 2019-20 school year, Tatiyana Spencer, a junior attending World of Inquiry, School No. 58 elected President and Aidan Delehanty, also a student attending World of Inquiry elected as Vice President. Lastly, Mr. Jaff reported that Student Leadership Congress would continue

planning during the summer for the upcoming school year. Ms. Spencer introduced herself and expressed that as her role as President she would like students to be given the opportunity to voice their concerns.

**Bilingual Education Council:**

***Myrna Gonzalez, President of the Bilingual Education Council:*** Ms. Gonzalez introduced newly elected Vice President, Julie Garcia of the Bilingual Education Council. Ms. Garcia stated parent groups are volunteers, and spend a lot of time at the District meeting with parents. Ms. Garcia says the Bilingual Education Council is requesting the District compensate parent leaders from the BEC, PAC, and CPAC with gas cards, and fund childcare, as this may encourage other parents to get involved and feel they have support. Ms. Garcia also mentioned that the Bilingual Academy should separate students in grades K – 6 from students in grades 7 – 12 and add more resources. Ms. Garcia thanked the Office of Parent Engagement and the Bilingual Education Office for their support. The next meeting for the Bilingual Education Council is September 10, 2019, 5:00 p.m. at the Gantt Center, 700 North Street, and welcomed all to attend. Lastly, Ms. Gonzalez recognized a student that graduated from East High School who received a full scholarship to attend RIT. Ms. Gonzalez also stated that this student came to Rochester after Hurricane Maria, and has persevered with support from his grandmother and teachers.

**Parent Advisory Council: No Report**

**VI. Acceptance of Financial Reports:**

Motion to accept the May Financial Reports made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Motion carries 6-0 with Commissioner LeBron absent.

**VII. Superintendent Report:**

Interim Superintendent Lowengard did a presentation on the Rochester City School District Enrollment and Building Inventory. Superintendent Lowengard reported that student enrollment including PreK students in agency programs is expected to decline by 21% over a ten-year period. He also reported that Charter Schools are on the rise and the District will be financially responsible. Superintendent Lowengard stated considerations for evaluating a facility includes enrollment, grade level configurations, school programmatic needs, location of schools and specialized program for student with disabilities and English Language Learners. Superintendent Lowengard also shared necessary decision points for the 2020-2021 Budget Year; Actions needed for 2020-2021 Budget year to address the structural deficit: recommendation of potential building impacts based on the considerations and community input; zone structures; Elementary Neighborhood/Managed Choice, and ensure facilities modernization plan implementation completion.

Interim Superintendent Lowengard thanked the Commissioners for allowing him to serve as Interim Superintendent and applauded the staff for their great work and the support they provided. He lastly thanked Interim Chief of Staff Cimusz for her support. Interim Superintendent Lowengard also congratulated Commissioner Sheppard on receiving an award from the New York School Boards Association

***Spotlight on Charles Carroll School No. 46***

Charles Carroll, School No. 46 Instructional Leadership Team did a presentation from Priority to Good Standing. The Instructional Team used a Theory of Action Approach to ensure that every student would achieve academic growth and proficiency, and healthy relationships in a safe, supportive, respectful learning environment. The team also incorporated highly effective best practices for ELA and Reading.

President White asked for a personal point of privilege to recognize Vickie Gouveia for stepping in as Principal of the Anna Murray Douglass School No. 12. President White also thanked Interim Superintendent Lowengard and Interim Chief of Staff Linda Cimusz for their work in moving the District forward and wished them well.

**VIII. Consideration of Resolutions**

**2018-19: 949** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner LeBron. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 50** Motion to separate Resolution No. 2018-19: 950 into Resolution No. 2018-19:950a and Resolution No. 2018-19b by Commissioner Sheppard, seconded by Vice President Elliott. Motion carries 6-0 with Commissioner LeBron absent.

**2018-19: 950a** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Motion carries 3-3 with Vice President Elliott, Commissioner Sheppard and Commissioner Davis dissenting, and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 950b** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 951** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 954** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent.

Motion to reconsider **2018-19: 954** made by Commissioner Sheppard. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Motion carries 5-1 with Commissioner Powell dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent. **2018-19: 954**

Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 959** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 4-2 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Davis dissenting, and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 960** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 961** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 962** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 963** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 964** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 965** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 4-2 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 966** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 970** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 973** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 4-2 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 974** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner LeBron. Adopted 4-2 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 975** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 4-2 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 976** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 4-2 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 977** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by

Commissioner Powell. Adopted 4-2 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 978** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 4-2 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 979** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 980** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 981** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 982** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 983** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with and Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 984** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 985** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 986** Motion to adopt made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 987** Motion to adopt made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 988** Motion to adopt made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 989** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 991** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 992** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 993** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 994** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 995** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 996** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 997** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 998** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 975** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 4-2 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 999** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 1001** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 4-2 with Commissioner Davis dissenting, Commissioner Hallmark abstaining and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 1002** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 1003** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 1004** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Davis. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 1005** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Davis. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 1006** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 4-2 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 1007** Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 4-2 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

**2018-19: 1008** Motion to adopt made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting and Commissioner LeBron absent

President White thanked Todd Hall for his many years of service. Commissioner Powell asked for a point of personal privilege to recognize Tom Moughan for his work behind the scenes as well. President White shared a video to encourage students that are taking the regents exam.

- IX. Motion to enter into executive session** to discuss matters leading to the appointment of particular employees to discuss a charge under Section 3020b of the Educational Law and to discuss a potential litigation made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner Powell at 8:20 p.m. Motion carries 6-0 with Commissioner LeBron absent

**Motion to reconvene into open session** made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark at 9:55 p.m. Motion carries 6-0 with Commissioner LeBron absent

**Meeting to adjourn** made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Elliott at 10:10 p.m.

- X. Meeting to adjourn at 10:10 p.m.**