

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Business Meeting
June 16, 2005
Minutes

Attendance:

Commissioners Bowers, Brown, Evans, Garcia, Porter, Powell and Thompson;
Superintendent Dr. Rivera

Absent: Student Representative Samantha Sanchez.

President Porter convened the meeting at 6:37 P.M.

Act of reverence led by Commissioner Thompson

Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion by Commissioner Evans to accept the minutes of May 19th (Special Meeting and Regular Business Meeting) and June 8th (Special Meeting).

Seconded by Commissioner Brown. Adopted unanimously 7-0.

Speaker(s) Addressing An Agenda Item:

None (one person had signed up to speak but withdrew his name just prior to the meeting).

Consideration of Resolutions:

President Porter called for a motion to move Agenda Item VI (Consideration of Resolutions) to come before Agenda Item IV. The change in order of agenda items was made so that the resolutions would be presented for vote as Commissioner Brown had to leave the meeting early. Motion made by Commissioner Powell, Seconded by Commissioner Garcia. Adopted 7-0.

President Porter asked for a motion to waive the 48 hour rule pertaining to Board notification of the two following resolutions:

Resolution No. 2004-05: 872 (SAT Preparation Camp – Iglesia Educational Center); Motion by Commissioner Bowers, seconded by Commissioner Brown. Adopted 7-0.

Resolution No. 2004-05: 873 (Reappointment of Dr. Manuel J. Rivera as Superintendent); Motion by Commissioner Bowers, seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 7-0.

President Porter requested a motion to separate Resolutions No. 2004-05: 871 and 2004-05: 873 to facilitate roll call votes. Motion by Commissioner Bowers; seconded by Commissioner Brown. Adopted 7-0.

Commissioner Thompson asked what the purpose was for separating these two resolutions.

Commissioner Bowers responded that the rationale is that some would consider it logical to separate these votes: Resolution 2004-05:871 – The Superintendent, in asking for the Board’s endorsement for the promulgation of regulations to establish criteria for construction contracts, is sending a message to stakeholders that we see this as an opportunity for our students. Resolution 2004-05:873 (Superintendent’s contract) was altered at the last minute (change in date for extending the contract from June 30th to June 15th, 2009) and needed a separate vote to waive the 48-hour ruling.

President Porter requested a motion to accept Resolution 2004-05: 806 through 838. Motion by Commissioner Evans; seconded by Commissioner Garcia. Adopted 7-0.

President Porter requested a motion to accept Resolution 2004-05: 839 through 870 and 872. Motion by Commissioner Powell; seconded by Commissioner Evans.

Resolution 2004-05: 839 through 841 were adopted 7-0.

Resolution 2004-05: 842 passed by a vote of 6 to 1, with Commissioner Bowers dissenting.

Resolution 2004-05: 843 through 849 were adopted 7-0.

Resolution 2004-05: 850 was adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Brown abstaining due to a business relationship.

Resolution 2004-05: 851 through 863 were adopted 7-0.

Resolution 2004-05: 864 was adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Brown abstaining due to a business relationship.

Resolution 2004-05: 865 through 870 were adopted 7-0.

President Porter called for a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2004-05: 871.

Motion made by Commissioner Bowers, seconded by Commissioner Evans.

Roll call vote:

Commissioner Thompson	Yes
-----------------------	-----

Commissioner Powell	Yes
---------------------	-----

Commissioner Garcia	Yes
---------------------	-----

Commissioner Evans	Yes
--------------------	-----

Commissioner Brown	Yes
--------------------	-----

Commissioner Bowers	Yes
---------------------	-----

Commissioner Porter	Yes
---------------------	-----

Adopted 7-0

President Porter thanked Commissioner Bowers for working on this project. Commissioner Bowers stated that Commissioner Brown also played an important role in the work supporting this resolution and that he should also be commended.

Commissioner Powell stated that recent articles point out that non-union apprenticeships had poor outcomes and stated that she prefers the use of union shops.

President Porter called for a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2004-05: 873. Made by Commissioner Bowers, seconded by Commissioner Evans.

Roll call vote:

Commissioner Thompson	Yes
Commissioner Powell	Yes
Commissioner Garcia	Yes
Commissioner Evans	Yes
Commissioner Brown	Yes
Commissioner Bowers	Yes
Commissioner Porter	Yes

Adopted 7-0

Commissioner Bowers acknowledged the academic success of our students under Superintendent Rivera's leadership. We are fortunate for the dynamic and forward thinking of the Superintendent. He also stated that this was the most important vote in his time on the Board.

Commissioner Evans echoed his colleague's comments. We need this type of forward thinking leadership and it is revolutionary in terms of ideas which will take this district to the next level.

Commissioner Garcia stated that he is appreciative of the work that Commissioner Bowers did on the Superintendent's contract. There was a minimum of delay; negotiations went smoothly.

Commissioner Powell stated that the Superintendent has set the bar high for our students to achieve and she is hopeful that he will keep things moving up.

Commissioner Thompson stated her appreciation for the work of Superintendent Rivera; he has set high standards for others to emulate and we are very fortunate to have him. She, however, maintained that she felt it was important for outside legal counsel to look over the contract paperwork to give the 'green light.'

Commissioner Porter thanked Commissioner Bowers for a job well done and he also thanked the full Board for recognizing that Superintendent Rivera is the person to lead the Rochester City School District forward.

Superintendent Rivera stated that the Board holds him accountable and that they work incredibly well as a team. He wants to continue to build on our successes; to celebrate excellence---remembering that there is always room for

improvement. He thanked the Board for their support and trust in his leadership.

As Commissioner Brown left the meeting, Commissioner Porter asked that it be part of the record that the Board acknowledges their well wishes for Priscilla Brown who has been hospitalized as the result of an accident.

Superintendent's Report:

A special edition video, "Focus on Students," was presented highlighting a year of progress in the District. In addition, a slide show included discussion on managed choice; \$1 million for energy efficiency; professional development; school nurses; PSAT requirements; long-range facilities planning; monthly accountability reports; Gates Foundation; school redesign; progress at Edison; positive audit results; the format and absence of large cuts in the current budget; and summer school.

Board Reports:

Motion to accept the Monthly Financial Reports made by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Brown absent.

Quality Assurance Committee - Commissioner Thompson - The committee met on June 9, 2005 to receive information on the District Diversity Initiative, proposed Sixth Grade Social Studies and Environmental Science textbook adoptions, an update on the textbook process questions posed at the March 2005 meeting, and the Quarterly Academic Achievement Report.

The committee recommends adoption of Resolutions 2004-05:

- 868 - Environmental Science Textbook
- 869 - Sixth Grade Social Studies Textbook

Commissioner Thompson met with members of the CURE (Citizens United for Real Education) group on May 28th. She provided Board Members with a set of the group's suggestions/recommendations in a memorandum dated June 3, 2005.

The Quality Assurance committee is not scheduled to meet in July.

Board Governance Committee - Commissioner Bowers - The committee met on May 24th and June 9th to continue work on the Board's goals, particularly new staff. Staff has been hired and will begin work on July 11th. Commissioner Bowers added that he and Commissioner Thompson should comprise a subcommittee to discuss matters she referred to earlier regarding her meeting with the CURE group.

Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee - Commissioner Evans - In the last meeting, the committee discussed the Rochester Children's Zone and the Districtwide parent initiative. He informed the Board that

legislation regarding EPE has passed the Assembly and will be voted on by the Senate before their session ends. Commissioner Evans thanked Michael Looby for his hard work on this issue.

Adjournment:

President Porter called for a Motion to Adjourn. Made by Commissioner Bowers, seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Brown absent at 7:35 p.m.