

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Business Meeting

Minutes

June 17, 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.

- I. President Evans led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
- II. **Motion to accept minutes** of the May 25th Business Meeting, May 25th Special Meeting, and the June 3rd Special Meeting was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioners Elliott and White absent.
- III. **Student Recognition:** The Board recognized members of the Student Leadership Congress for their participation in leadership development and community service activities throughout the year. Tom Petronio, Chief Communications Officer and staff liaison to the Student Leadership Congress, presented certificates to the following graduating seniors of SLC: Sarah DeLaus of Joseph C. Wilson Magnet High School Commencement Academy, Chelsea Pervenecki of Charlotte High School, Jada Harris of Joseph C. Wilson Magnet High School Commencement Academy, and Antoine McDonald of Joseph C. Wilson Magnet High School Commencement Academy.

The Board recognized recipients of the ATAD Gary Simon Memorial Scholarship, Khari Thompson, a sophomore, Honors student at the School of the Arts who will be spending this summer in Majorca, Spain; and runner-up Emma Doeblin a sophomore, Honors student at the School of the Arts who will be spending this summer in Caltanissetta, Italy.

The Board recognized over twenty RCSD Scholar Athletes for their academic and athletic accomplishments. Award recipients were announced by Carlos Cotto, Executive Director of Physical Education.

The Board recognized winners of the Anti-Violence Poster Contest conducted by the Rochester Violence Prevention Partnership. Award recipients were announced by Gladys Pedraza-Burgos, Chief of Youth Development and Family Services.

- IV. **Speakers Addressing an Agenda Item and Speakers on other than Agenda Items:** Parents, Peg Basile, Danelle Giannini, Jill Traver, Heather Parker, and Nanette Elliott spoke of the accomplishments and dedication of the current leadership at the Francis Parker School No. 23. Parent, Elaine Francesco spoke against the proposed reduction in force for the 2010/11 academic year. Staff member, Karen Spawton spoke against the proposed reduction in force for the 2010/11 academic year.

Commissioner White arrived at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Elliott arrived at 7:03 p.m.

- V. **Superintendent's Report:** Mr. Brizard began by recognizing members of the District's leadership team who have retired and accepted other opportunities outside of the District.

Mr. Brizard presented information on the programs and initiatives implemented by the Human Capital Initiatives Department that complement instructional alignment, achieve operational excellence, and foster stakeholder engagement. He expanded on the Department's transformation strategy that encompasses human capital, portfolio management, and the Rochester Curriculum to balance teacher talent and leadership talent. Mr. Brizard concluded the presentation by noting that human capital and performance management are essential in building a culture of innovation and excellence.

VI. **Board Reports:**

Audit Committee

Chair Allen Williams: The Audit Committee did not meet this month. The next meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Finance Committee

Chair Willa Powell: The Finance Committee met on Tuesday, June 10th to review and approve the May Financial Report and to consider resolutions 958 through 977, 993, and 1004 through 1005. The Committee seeks a motion to accept the May 2010 Financial Report. Motion to accept to the May 2010 Financial Report was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Cruz. The May 2010 Financial Report was accepted 7-0. Members of the Finance Committee have been asked to review proposed revisions to existing finance policies and provide feedback by Friday, June 18th, so that this information can be conveyed to the Policy Committee for their consideration. The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on July 15th at 5:30 p.m.

Excellence in Student Achievement Committee

Chair Van Henri White: The Excellence in Student Achievement Committee of the Whole met on Monday, May 17th to receive graduation projections from the Office of Accountability and to receive presentations for Math and Social Studies textbook adoptions for the upcoming school year. The Committee received details on how the particular textbooks were selected and discussed the purchase of high school Math books and K-2 Social Studies books. At next month's meeting, the Committee will continue discussion of the textbook adoption.

The Office of Accountability presented data that provided the approximate number of students in the 2006 cohort who are on target for graduation.

Next month's Excellence in Student Achievement Committee meeting will be a committee meeting of the whole and will be held on Thursday, July 13th 5:30 p.m.

Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Chair Cynthia Elliott: The Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee did not meet this month. The committee will meet in June to continue discussions related to the legislative agenda and the committee's goals.

Policy Committee

Chair Jose Cruz: The Policy Committee met on Wednesday, June 16th to discuss proposed revisions to the Code of Ethics policy introduced in the May Board Business meeting; proposals for new finance policies to enhance fiscal oversight; and organizations to provide policy update services.

Based on feedback received regarding the initial Code of Ethics policy proposal, revisions were made to clarify prohibited conflicts of interest. Essentially, prohibited conflicts of interest would be situations in which an employee has authority in decision-making and either they or their family could benefit financially from the outcome of their decision. This clarification was necessary to prevent unintended conflicts of interest from arising which are not actually a concern, such as an employee having a personal account with a bank with which the District conducts business. Unless the employee would receive remuneration from this arrangement, it should not be considered a prohibited conflict of interest. The revised policy proposal addresses these concerns.

A number of new policies were suggested to improve fiscal oversight. The Policy Committee decided to refer the policy suggestions regarding the Board's audit functions (Audit Committee, Internal Auditor, Claims Auditor) to the Audit Committee for consideration. The remaining policy suggestions are to be referred to the Finance Committee, as this is their area of expertise. After each of these committees has had an opportunity to review policy suggestions, any draft policies would then be advanced to the Policy Committee for consideration.

Four organizations have been identified to provide policy update services: New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA), Erie 1 BOCES, and two law firms. New York State School Boards Association seemed to provide the most service for the lowest cost, and a proposal will be sought from them. One of the law firms offers an email alert of changes in legislation and case law, as well as monthly bulletins with updates regarding school law. A proposal will also be sought from this firm to obtain a cost estimate for these particular services.

In this evening's meeting, three policies will be presented for discussion:

- Code of Ethics policy proposal, with revisions
- Naming Facilities policy proposal
- Student Attendance and Withdrawal policy proposal

Each of these policy proposals was vetted by the members of the Policy Committee and advanced to the Board with approval. The Naming Facilities policy proposal would provide the Board with greater input into the selection of names for schools, while also ensuring community involvement.

The Student Attendance and Withdrawal policy proposal clarifies efforts to be taken to reach out to students who have been absent and establishes an internal review process to ensure that every effort has been made to retain students prior to initiating withdrawal from school.

The next Policy Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, July 15th immediately following the Finance Committee meeting. In this meeting, we will be discussing feedback from the Finance Committee regarding proposed revisions to existing finance policies and proposals received from NYSSBA and the law firm for policy update services. The next Policy Committee Meeting has been scheduled for June 22nd at 5:30 p.m.

Board Governance Committee

Chair Melisza Campos: The Governance Committee hosted a Board retreat on June 12th that was facilitated by the New York State School Boards Association. At the retreat, the Board discussed priorities and objectives for the 2010/11 fiscal year; strategies to assess Board performance; and the creation of a communications plan to effectively engage our students, parents, and community

stakeholders. The Committee looks forward to engaging NYSSBA at the upcoming retreats that will be scheduled throughout the year. The next Committee meeting has been scheduled for July 15th.

VII. Resolutions

2009-10: 935: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2009-10: 936-944: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 945: Resolution No. 2009-10: 945 was removed from consideration prior to meeting.

2009-10: 946: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

Motion to separate Resolution No. 2009-10: 947 into Resolution No. 2009-10: 947 and Resolution No. 2009-10: 947a made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Williams. Motion carried by consensus.

2009-10: 947: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 947a: Motion to table Resolution No. 2009-10: 947a was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Williams. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 948-951: Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Campos. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 952-957: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2009-10: 958-960: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 961: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 962-968: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 969-970: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Elliott. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 971-972: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2009-10: 973: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Williams abstaining.

2009-10: 974: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 975-978: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 979: Motion to table Resolution No. 2009-10: 979 made by Vice President Campos. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 980: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 981-982: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 983: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 984: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans abstaining due to professional relationship.

2009-10: 985: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Williams abstaining due to personal relationship.

2009-10: 986: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 987: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 988: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 989: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 990: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 991: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Williams abstaining due to professional relationship.

2009-10: 992: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 993-996: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 997: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 998: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 999: Resolution No. 2009-10: 999 was removed from consideration prior to meeting.

2009-10: 1000: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Williams abstaining due to professional relationship.

2009-10: 1001-1002: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 1003: Resolution No. 2009-10: 1003 was not presented for consideration.

2009-10: 1004: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-2 with Commissioners Elliott and Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 1005-1006: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2009-10: 1007-1008: Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Campos. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

Motion to refer Resolution No. 2009-10: 1009 to the Excellence in Student Achievement Committee for further review made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Cruz dissenting.

2009-10: 1009: Referred to the Excellence in Student Achievement Committee for further review.

2009-10: 1010-1014: Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Campos. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

Motion to amend Resolution No. 2009-10: 1015 to reflect a commencement date of June 18, 2010 was made by Commissioner Williams. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 1015: Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Campos. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 1016: Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Campos. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 1017: Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Campos. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2009-10: 1018-1020: Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Campos. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 1021: Resolution No. 2009-10: 1021 was not presented for consideration.

2009-10: 1022: Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Campos. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 5-2 with Commissioners Elliott and Williams dissenting.

Motion to remove Resolution No. 2009-10: 870 from the table made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 870: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

VIII. **Unfinished Business:** None.

IX. **New Business:** Commissioner Cruz, as Chairman of the Policy Committee, opened discussion of the newly drafted Student Attendance Policy, revised Naming Facilities Policy (No. 7500), and revised Code of Ethics Policy (No. 2160). Commissioner Cruz requested that the Board consider the proposed policies at the July 2010 Business Meeting.

X. President Evans announced the next meeting Board Business Meeting, scheduled for Thursday, July 22, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn made by Vice President Campos. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0 at 10:36 p.m.