

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
Business Meeting
July 26, 2012

Attendance: President Evans and Vice President Cruz, Commissioners Adams, Campos, Powell, and White; Superintendent Bolgen Vargas; Board Clerk Shanai Lee.

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

- I. Commissioner Powell led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
- II. **Acceptance of Minutes:** Motion to accept the minutes of the June 26th Special Meeting, June 27th Special Meeting, and June 28th Business Meeting made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.
- III. **Recognition:** None.
- IV. **Speakers Addressing an Agenda Item:** Parents Diane Watkins, Harriet Fisher and Bridget Monroe spoke about the temporary relocation of John Walton Spencer School No. 16. Community member MaryAnn Brody and staff member Andrea Ebner spoke about the temporary relocation of John Walton Spencer School No. 16.
- V. **Speakers Not Addressing an Agenda Item:** None.
- VI. **Board Reports:**
Audit Committee
Chair Mary Adams: The Audit Committee met on July 23rd. The Committee welcomed Ms. Annie Sealy and Mr. Ronald Hall to participate on the Audit Committee as the Financial Expert and Parent Representative, respectively. The Committee discussed concerns regarding the quality of information communicated to the Board of Education regarding the Facilities Modernization Program. The Committee recommends that the Board meet to identify quarterly reporting to keep us abreast of the project.

During the Risk Assessment process, each Board member was given an opportunity to meet individually with the Auditor General. At the meeting the Auditor General communicated the results of the assessment. The Audit Plan identifies the planned work that will be performed by the Office of Auditor General during the 2012-2013 fiscal year. Commissioner Adams made a motion to accept the Office of Auditor General 2012-13 Audit Plan and the following audit reports that were completed in the 2011-2012 year: School 28 Cash Management, Monroe Attendance, Monroe Graduation Readiness, Substitute Management, Unemployment Insurance, Medicaid Reimbursement Follow Up, Procurement Card Follow Up, Student Activity Fund Administration Follow Up, and Supplemental Educational Services Follow Up. Seconded by Commissioner Campos and Plan and the reports were accepted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

Finance Committee

Chair Willa Powell: The Finance Committee met on Thursday, July 19th to consider Resolution No. 2012-13: 27 through 37. The Committee recommends approval of the unaudited June 2012 Financial Report and the Quarterly Change Order Report for April through June 2012. The Committee also

recommends approval of the following reviewed resolutions: Resolutions 27 through 31 for Procurement & Supply; and Resolutions 32 through 37 for Educational Facilities. Commissioner Powell requested a motion to accept the June 2012 Financial Report and the Quarterly Change Order Report for April through June 2012. Motion to accept the reports was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent. The next regular Finance Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, August 16th at 5:30PM.

Excellence in Student Achievement Committee

Chair Van Henri White: The Excellence in Student Achievement Committee met on Monday, July 16th and began the meeting by introducing and welcoming Dr. Craig Cypher, our new Parent Representative for the 2012-13 school year. Dr. Cypher comes to us with considerable experience in serving youth in several community agencies. His expertise and professional perspective will provide valuable insight to the Committee regarding students' needs and potential barriers to achievement. Dr. Cypher has two children who both attend Francis Parker School No. 23.

The Committee discussed a proposed resolution for the process of closing schools that was put forward by Commissioner. The Committee discussed whether not the school closings resolution should be presented as a Board policy or if the resolution should be presented as a Superintendent regulation. It was decided that that after the Administration had an opportunity to review the proposed resolution with the Law Department a decision would be made as to whether or not the resolution would be presented as a policy or a regulation.

Commissioner Adams also presented a proposed resolution for discussion. This proposed resolution is a resolution requesting the New York State Education Department, the New York State Legislature, and the Governor to re-examine public school accountability systems and to develop a system based on multiple forms of assessment which do not require extensive standardized testing. It was determined by the Committee that this proposed resolution, as the proposed school closings resolution, should be reviewed by the Law Department prior to being advanced to the full Board for consideration. Next month's Excellence in Student Achievement Committee meeting will be held on Monday, August 13th, at 6:00 p.m. The Committee will receive an update on the SOTA II Proposal at that meeting.

Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Chair Cynthia Elliott: The Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee has not met since the June 2012 Business Meeting.

Policy Committee

Chair Jose Cruz: The Policy Committee met on Thursday, July 19th, to discuss the status of examining options for strengthening zone boundaries to manage transportation costs without creating undue disruption to families, a draft resolution to be submitted to the New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA) to request that a change in Education Law affecting transportation be put on their legislative agenda, and the next set of priorities for updating the Policy Manual. In the June meeting, the members of the Policy Committee recommended that Vicky Ramos' team work with Debra Flanagan to examine options for strengthening zone boundaries and identify policy changes needed to support implementation. In the July 19th meeting, Ms. Flanagan discussed various factors affecting cross-zone transportation and plans for obtaining data to indicate their prevalence. Recommendations for policy changes and/or regulations will be presented in the September Policy Committee meeting. Members of the Policy Committee suggested drafting a resolution to submit to NYSSBA to request that

they include a change in this law in their legislative agenda. There is a resolution in this evening's packet requesting that the full Board authorize submission of this resolution to NYSSBA.

The Policy Committee also reviewed the next set of priorities for updating the Policy Manual: policies containing a specific schedule for Board review (e.g. "The Board shall review this policy annually"). Three policies were identified for which Board review is not required: Media Relations (1130), Policy Review and Evaluation (2460), and District/Community Collaborative Presentations, Programs and Services (4830.1). These policies have been revised to remove the requirement for Board review, and have been submitted this evening as Information Items for your consideration.

Also in this evening's packet is a proposed amendment to the Responsible Bidder policy (6725) to require bidders to submit information regarding the demographic composition of their workforce to ensure that it is representative of the Rochester community. This amendment has been made on the basis of the recommendation of the Diversity Committee, and is presented this evening as a Discussion Item.

Another Discussion Item for this evening is a proposed Hiring and Recruiting policy (9240) which would give preference in hiring candidates with at least two years of experience in working with youth in an urban setting (i.e. cities of at least 110K population). This policy proposal also enables the District to participate in the City's Employer-Sponsored Housing Initiative, which provides up to \$3000 toward a down payment or closing costs for employees purchasing a home in the City for the first time. This aspect of the proposed Hiring and Recruiting policy is to offer incentives for employees to reside in the District, and participation would be determined by the amount allocated for this program in the budget.

The next meeting of the Policy Committee is scheduled for September 13th immediately following the Finance Committee meeting.

Board Governance Committee

Chair Melisza Campos: The Board Governance Committee met today and discussed the following: the 2011-2012 Superintendent evaluation tool, proposed Committee calendar, communication protocols, and regular meetings of the Board to receive information and discuss progress.

The Committee suggests that Dr. Vargas be provided with a draft evaluation tool that will be used in the evaluation of the performance for the 2011/12 fiscal year. The Committee also suggests Dr. Vargas present the Board with his goals and strategic direction for the 2012/13 fiscal year within the next 3 weeks. The Committee reviewed the proposed Committee Calendar, a draft calendar is posted in BoardDocs for review. The Committee suggests that Board Governance be convened monthly, on the 3rd Thursday. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 16th.

VII. Resolutions

2012-13: 1-21: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

2012-13: 22: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent and Commissioner White abstaining due to familial relationship.

2012-13: 23-26: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

2012-13: 27-31: Motion to adopt made by Vice President Cruz, seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

2012-13: 32-37: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

2012-13: 38: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent and President Evans abstaining due to familial relationship.

2012-13: 39-41: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

2012-13: 42: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

2012-13: 43-45: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

2012-13: 46: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Elliott absent and Commissioner White dissenting.

Motion to amend Resolution No. 2012-13: 47 to state that John Walton Spencer School No. 16 will return to the facility at 321 Post Avenue at the beginning of the school year immediately following completion of building renovations made by Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Campos. Motion carries 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

2012-13: 47: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 6-0 with President Evans absent.

2012-13: 48-50: Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

VIII. Unfinished Business: None.

IX. New Business: Vice President Cruz introduced revisions to the proposed Media Relations Policy (No. 1130). Policy Review and Evaluation Policy (No. 2460), and District/Community Collaborative Presentations Policy (No. 4830.1) as Information Items. He also presented the Recruiting and Hiring Policy, No. 9240 and a revision to the Responsible Bidders Policy, No. 6725 as Discussion Items.

X. Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. Motion carries 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent at 8:45 p.m.