

Rochester Board of Education
Public Hearing, Contract for Excellence
September 4, 2008
7 p.m.

President Malik Evans opened the hearing at 7 p.m. and invited anyone who wished to speak to come to the podium and state his/her name and any organization affiliation.

Charles Richardson, Alliance for Quality Education (AQE)

Mr. Richardson discussed the industry school in Rush. He suggested the District create such a program and send students there or perhaps partner with the Industry School.

Carle Carey, AQE

Ms. Carey stressed the need for class size reduction as it provides the biggest bang for the buck. She cited a longitudinal study supporting small class sizes and that RCSD students deserve the ideal.

Lori Thomas

Ms. Thomas said class sizes should be capped at 18, as even four extra students makes a tremendous difference in the classroom.

Glenny Williams, AQE

Mr. Williams discussed the process for the CFE hearing and urged better notification to parents and the community. He said accountability and achievement targets should be part of the process. If the CFE hearing had been on the District Calendar, family events could have been scheduled around it. He also cited the achievement gap for Hispanic students and said it requires a more focused initiative.

Nancy Sung Shelton

Ms. Sung Shelton asked whether programs are looked at through a cultural lens. The staff faces do not reflect the community.

President Evans adjourned the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

(Although President Evans said a transcript of the meeting would be taken, a technical malfunction occurred and the meeting was not recorded. Above is from notes taken by the District Clerk.)