

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Business Meeting

October 23, 2014

Attendance: President White, Vice President Elliott, and Commissioners Adams, Campos, Evans, and Powell; Deputy Superintendent Christiana Otuwa; Board Clerk Shanai Lee.

President Van Henri White participated in the meeting via video conference from the annual conference of the Council of Great City Schools in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Vice President Elliott convened the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

- I. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Commissioner Evans.
- II. **Acceptance of Minutes:** Motion to accept the minutes of the September 25th Business Meeting, October 9th Special Meeting, October 9th Greater Works Charter School Public Hearing, October 9th Genesee Community Charter School Public Hearing, and October 16th Special Meeting was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent.
- III. **Recognition:** Commissioner Adams presented the *I Believe Award* to Kaidence Pacheco. Kaidence is an inquisitive and enthusiastic 5th grade student at Nathaniel Hawthorne School No. 25. She is a dancer and participates in many school activities, as well as serving as a role model by assisting younger students in the school. When asked about school staff most instrumental in her education, Kaidence Pacheco identified the school librarian, Mrs. Daitz, because of her assistance in researching topics of interest and ways to access information. Mrs. Daitz was also presented with the *I Believe Award* for her role in encouraging Kaidence's resourcefulness and love of learning.
- IV. **Speakers Addressing an Agenda Item:** No speakers were present.
- V. **Speakers Not Addressing an Agenda Item:** Parent Myrna Gonzalez spoke about the need for interpreting services during Committee on Special Education meetings for Spanish-speaking parents of students receiving or recommended for specialized services. Community member Tom Squilla spoke about the importance of support services in school operations. Community members Ana Casserly and Shirley Thompson spoke about the need for interpreting services during Committee on Special Education meetings for Spanish-speaking parents of students receiving or recommended for specialized services. Staff members Laura Kuhn, Ja'Net scott, Nancy Jo Bell, Pattie Dietz, Jo DiPaola, Brion Erickson, Atha Faulda, Richard Gonzalez, Ryan Griffith, Roslyn Henderson, Cedric Moorehead, Gail Elhilow, John Stewart, Linda Rohlfing, Karen Steinberg, Jessica Rinebold, Carmen Sheppard, Dan DiClemente, Nancy Springett, and Manuel Pacheco spoke about the importance of support services in school operations. Dr. Ray Giamartino, on behalf of staff member Regina Neri, presented the Board with seasonal gifts prepared by students of the District.
- VI. **Superintendent's Report:** Dr. Otuwa delivered a brief report highlighting pre-Kindergarten enrollment and progress made in reducing summer learning loss. She noted that during the summer of 2014 the District enrolled a record amount of students in summer school programming. Dr. Otuwa also

stated that the District's annual Open House for pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten registration is tentatively scheduled for February 7, 2015 at Central Office, located at 131 W. Broad Street. In concluding her report, Dr. Otuwa congratulated the accomplishments of the District's sports teams.

VII. Board Reports:

Audit Committee

Chair Mary Adams: The Audit Committee met on Tuesday October 21st. The Audit Committee received selected 2014 financial schedules that were submitted to the City of Rochester.

Commissioner Adams noted that a full set of financial statements will be available for review in November, when the Board receives a draft of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for review. All Board members are invited to attend the next Audit Committee meeting on Tuesday, December 2nd at 5:30 p.m., to review the CAFR with Freed Maxick, the District External Auditor.

At the last meeting, the Auditor General provided an update on current work being performed by the Office of Auditor General. The Committee also discussed findings and recommendations in several audit reports. The Committee expressed concerned about the amount of time it is taking management to complete action plans for outstanding recommendations, and as a result an increased focus will be made in this area. Commissioner Adams made a motion that the following reports be approved for posting: HCI Administration Follow Up Report, Northeast College Prep Student Activity Report, Northwest College Prep Cash and P-Card Audit Report, and the Student Behavior and Suspension Audit Report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Campos, and carries 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent.

Finance Committee

Chair Willa Powell: The Finance Committee met on Thursday, October 16th to consider Resolution Nos. 2014-15: 266 through 269. The Committee recommends approval of the September 2014 Financial Report and the Quarterly Change Order Report for July through September 2014. Commissioner Powell made a motion to accept the reports, Commissioner Evans seconded the motion. Motion carries 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent. The following resolutions were also reviewed by the Finance Committee, and are advanced to the Board with recommendation: Resolutions 266 through 269 for Educational Facilities. The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, November 13th following the Board Governance and Policy Committee meetings.

Excellence in Student Achievement Committee

Chair Malik Evans: On Tuesday, October 23rd, the Excellence in Student Achievement Committee received a presentation from the Ad Hoc Common Core State Standards Implementation Committee. Commissioner Adams presented recommendations from extensive research for the entire Board to consider. The presentation included an overview of the Committee's objectives and recommendations of the Committee. The ESA committee is introducing the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Common Core State Standards Implementation Committee as an information item. Commissioner Adams expects edits to be presented in December 2014.

Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee (CIGR)

Chair Cynthia Elliott: The Community & Intergovernmental Relations Committee met on Tuesday, October 14th, and received an update on the status of the proposed agreement with the Rochester Police Department for School Resource Officers (SROs). The agreement is still under negotiation at this time.

The Committee spent most of the October meeting reviewing and discussing each of the items on the Legislative Agenda in preparation for the Legislative Breakfast on November 15th. A number of revisions were suggested to the Agenda, which were presented to the Board for acceptance in this meeting. The Mayor will be invited to bring members of her team to give a presentation at the Legislative Breakfast about the Early Childhood Education Initiative. Vice President Elliott made a motion to approve the 2014-15 Legislative Agenda. Commissioner Evans seconded the motion, motion carries 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent. The Legislative Breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, November 15th at 9:00 a.m.

Finally, the members of the Community & Intergovernmental Relations Committee briefly discussed development of a Community Action Plan to inform community members on a regular basis about efforts to improve student achievement in the District and ways that they can participate. The Committee members received a Communications Plan that Board staff prepared a few years ago. This Plan will be reviewed and discussed as a starting point for creating the Community Action Plan.

Policy Committee

Chair Jose Cruz: The Policy Committee did not meet since the September 2014 Business Meeting.

Board Governance Committee

Chair Melisza Campos: The Board Governance Committee did not meet since the September 2014 Business Meeting.

VIII. Resolutions

2014-15: 239: No resolution submitted.

2014-15: 240-260: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent.

2014-15: 242: No resolution submitted.

2014-15: 252: No resolution submitted.

2014-15: 255-257: No resolution submitted.

2014-15: 260: No resolution submitted.

2014-15: 261-265: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Campos. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 5-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Cruz absent.

2014-15: 266-269: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Campos. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent.

2014-15: 270: Resolution withdrawn from consideration.

2014-15: 271: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 5-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Cruz absent.

2014-15: 272: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 4-2 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Adams dissenting and Commissioner Cruz absent.

2014-15: 273: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 5-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Cruz absent.

2014-15: 274-283: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent.

IX. Unfinished Business: None.

X. New Business: None.

XI. Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Campos, seconded by Commissioner Adams at 8:53 p.m. Motion carries 6-0 with Commissioner Cruz absent.