

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Special Meeting Minutes

December 11, 2018

Minutes

Board Members in Attendance: President Van Henri White, Vice President Powell, Commissioner Cynthia Elliott, Commissioner Melanie Funchess, Commissioner Elizabeth Hallmark, and Commissioner Natalie Sheppard.

Board Members Excused: Commissioner Beatriz LeBron.

Administration and Board Officers in Attendance: Deputy Superintendent Elizabeth Mascitti-Miller, Deputy Superintendent Cecilia Golden, Chief Financial Officer Everton Sewell, General Counsel Karl Kristoff, Distinguished Educator Jaime Aquino, and District Clerk Shanai Lee.

I. President White convened the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

II. Speakers Addressing an Agenda Item

No speakers were present.

Vice President Powell arrived at 5:45 p.m.

Commissioner Funchess arrived at 6:00 p.m.

III. Discussion of Distinguished Educator Report and Recommendations

President White opened the meeting by recognizing the efforts of District staff and suggested a process to review the plan. He introduced Dr. Aquino who discussed the intent and purpose of the report and responding to the action plan. He underscored the point that the recommendations, though separated by operational area, should be addressed systematically within the context of the entire District. Dr. Aquino added that the recommendations should not be viewed in isolation of the findings, as the findings provide the context for each recommendation. Dr. Aquino also noted that the plan is a multi-year plan, with some action items requiring resources that can only be applied over several years. He noted that the action items should provide an adequate amount of information, and some action items may require detailed project plans. Dr. Aquino stated that he will not be the final approver, it be the New York State Education Department. He concluded by urging the Board and Administration to regard the plan as a foundation to needed systematic change, not a compliance exercise.

Deputy Superintendent Cecilia Griffin-Golden, Executive Director of Specialized Services Kisha Morgan, and Executive Director of Multilingual Education Abel Perez Pherett presented action items in response to the Distinguished Educator's report concerning Teaching and Learning, Special Education, and English Language Learners, respectively. Members of the Board posed questions and discussed concerns.

IV. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.