

Rochester Board of Education

Business Meeting Minutes

August 17, 2006

Attendance: President Garcia, Commissioners Brennan, Elliott, Evans, Henley, Powell and Thompson.

President Garcia convened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.
Vice President Evans led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Acceptance of Minutes

Motion to accept minutes of July 20, 2006 and August 9, 2006 by Commissioner Evans, Second by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0. Commissioner Elliott complimented the thoroughness of the minutes.

Speakers Addressing An Agenda Item

None.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Rivera discussed the opening of school for students, Sept. 7, 2006, including transportation, food service, and modifications to secondary schools. He also reported that more than 6,000 students attended summer school. He noted the Dell Techno Program in which students were able to rebuild computers and keep one for themselves.

Committee Reports

Quality Assurance: Commissioner Thompson said she met with Community and Intergovernmental Relations Chair Evans. She said they discussed Quality Assurance's general role, explored areas of common interest between the QA and Community and Intergovernmental Relations committees, and considered possible joint ventures. She recommended, for the record, that Board Governance take up the issue of what is appropriate for a committee report and what is not. Commissioner Thompson said that following the next QA meeting on September 18, she anticipates providing the Board with a newly revised committee vision statement and priority goals for possible implementation this Fall, including a potential community forum on graduation.

Finance: Commissioner Powell said the Finance Committee met and discussed resolutions 140-157 and are recommending all of them for approval. She explained that, traditionally, there have not been monthly financial reports in the summer, but that there was a student activity fund report and she motioned that it be approved. Commissioner Evans seconded the motion. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

Community and Intergovernmental Relations: The Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee met August 17 for an update on legislation for the Facilities Modernization Program. In September the committee will identify items for the Board's Legislative Agenda. He asked Commissioners to pencil in October 21 and 28 for the fall legislative breakfast. Commissioner Evans also complimented the return on investment for the Board's membership in the Council of Great City Schools.

Audit: Commissioner Evans said Audit met July 20 and he was elected Chair. The committee meets again September 13.

Governance: The Governance Committee met August 1 at 5:30 p.m. and discussed a proposed personnel committee. That topic will also be discussed at the September meeting. The committee also continued discussion on changing the date of the Business meeting.

Commissioner Elliott asked why monthly financial reports are not issued in the summer. Acting Chief Financial Officer Susan Tripi said it is because of the year-end closing process and grants. Financial reports will be provided again in September.

Resolutions

President Garcia asked for a motion to approve Resolutions 80-107. Motion by Commissioner Evans, second by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

President Garcia asked for a motion to approve Resolutions 108-126. Motion by Commissioner Evans, second by Commissioner Henley. Adopted 7-0 except 112, 113 and 115, which were adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

President Garcia asked for a motion to approve Resolutions 127-136. Motion by Commissioner Brennan, Second by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

President Garcia asked for a motion to approve Resolutions 137-170. Commissioner Powell asked that Resolution 170 be separated. President Garcia asked for a motion to approve Resolutions 137-169. Motion by Commissioner Henley, second by Commissioner Brennan. Adopted 7-0 with the following exceptions: 137, 138, 140-142, 144-148 (6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting), 158-159 (6-1 with Commissioner Henley dissenting), 160, 163, 169 (6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting).

President Garcia asked for a motion to approve Resolution 170. Motion by Commissioner Evans, second by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0, Resolution 170 declared September as “Act for Education Month” in the Rochester City School District.

Unfinished Business

Commissioner Thompson provided an update on the Ethics Review Panel, the convening of which was requested by Commissioner Powell at the July 2006 meeting. Commissioner Thompson said the Ethics Review Panel would meet August 22 and the meeting would be in executive session.

New Business

Commissioners discussed individual and collective preferences for completing their due diligence.

Speakers on other than Agenda Items

Mr. Ron Ring discussed ways to use the curriculum to help achieve peace.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Evans, Second by Commissioner Thompson approved at 7:45 p.m.