

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Business Meeting

Minutes

April 29, 2010

Attendance: President Evans, and Commissioners Cruz, Elliott, Powell, White and Williams; Deputy Superintendent of Administration John Scanlan; and Board Clerk Shanai Lee.

President Evans convened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Commissioner White arrived at 6:35 p.m.

Commissioner Williams arrived at 6:50 p.m.

- I. Commissioner White led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
- II. **Motion to accept minutes** of the March 9th Public Hearing, March 23rd Business Meeting, and March 29th was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioner White and Commissioner Williams absent.
- III. **Student Recognition:** The John Walton Spencer School No. 16 choir performed selections.
- IV. **Speakers Addressing an Agenda Item and Speakers on other than Agenda Items:** Student X'zaya Ivy performed a solo, "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me." Student Ronnie McQueen performed a rap that emphasized the importance of staying in school. Community member Charlie Richardson spoke of the Superintendent's portfolio plan and the importance of parent involvement. Staff members Gloria McClements, Dan DiClemente, and Alison Skvarla spoke against proposed budget cuts to support staff and arts and music programming. Staff member Lori Thomas spoke about the Superintendent's Portfolio Plan.

Parent Tiffany Brandon spoke against proposed budget cuts to arts and music programming. Community members Jacqueline Cady and Nancy Gearhart spoke about the importance of the District's programming in early childhood development.

Commissioner Williams left at 7:15 p.m.

Superintendent's Report: Mr. Scanlan began by recognizing newly appointed principals and assistant principals, the appointments are presented in Resolution No. 2009-10: 831 - 835. Mr. Scanlan then introduced Andrew Wheatcraft to deliver a presentation on the District's 2010-2015 proposed Capital Improvement Program. Mr. Wheatcraft presented information on the strategic objectives of the CIP, the District's enrollment trends and projections, proposed capital spending program, and program initiatives of the CIP.

VI. **Board Reports:**

Audit Committee

Chair Allen Williams: The Audit Committee of the Whole met on Monday, April 5 at 6:00PM. The Committee discussed the preliminary Corrective Action Plan's for all recommendations in the Office of

the State Comptroller's Audit of Selected Financial Transactions. The District's Corrective Action Plan was filed with the State on Tuesday, April 27, 2010.

Finance Committee

Chair Willa Powell: The Finance Committee of the Whole met on April 15th to review and approve the March Financial Report and to consider Resolution Nos. 2009-10: 784 – 802 and 825. The Committee seeks a motion to accept the March 2010 Financial Report. Motion to accept to the March 2010 Financial Report was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner White. The March 2010 Financial Report was accepted 6-0 with Commissioner Williams absent. The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on May 20th at 5:30 p.m.

Excellence in Student Achievement Committee

Chair Van Henri White: The Excellence in Student Achievement Committee of the Whole met on Thursday, April 11th, to discuss the Year End Performance. Data was presented data to the committee the district achievement and the current state of student performance in the district.

The Committee also met to review Resolution No. 2009-10: 818 which addresses a proposal for the establishment of two new schools at the Edison Campus; a science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) high school, and a construction and design (CAD) high school. An overview of the proposal for the new schools was provided by the administration. The committee recommended advancing Resolution No. 2009-10: 818 to the full Board for approval.

Next month's Excellence in Student Achievement Committee meeting will be a committee meeting of the whole and will be held on Thursday, May 13th at 5:30 p.m. At that time, the committee will hear a brief presentation from the Office of Accountability regarding this year's graduation rate, and will also receive a presentation relating to this year's summer school program.

Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Chair Cynthia Elliott: The Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee met on Thursday, April 1st to discuss the legislative agenda and committee goals. Board staff gave a presentation detailing the pros and cons relating to mayoral control.

The Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee will host a public forum on mayoral control at a date be determined.

Policy Committee

Chair Jose Cruz: The Policy Committee met on Tuesday, April 20th to discuss, the current status of review of required policies; process for prioritizing review of non-mandated policies; selection method for a parent representative to the Policy Committee; Board Goals for the Policy Committee for 2010-11; report on status of amending Student Attendance policy; Code of Ethics regulation, which could be used as a basis for developing Board policy; and the regulation regarding Education of Homeless Students.

In terms of reviewing mandated policies: six policies/regulations have been completed; fifteen are in process; and another six policies pertaining to Special Education are scheduled to be addressed by Kirsten Barclay in the fourth quarter of this year.

The Committee decided to review non-mandated policies in the following order:

1) Policies contained in the Board Workplan for 2010-11; 2) All existing policies containing an established review date; 3) All existing policies with a schedule of deliverables to be provided to the Board (e.g. reports, evaluations); and 4) All other remaining policies.

The members of the Policy Committee decided to submit to the Board Staff Liaison their choices among the applicants to serve as a parent representative by April 23rd. Selections are made on a weighted basis, so that the candidate with the greatest total number of points is chosen as the parent representative.

In discussing the Board goals for the Policy Committee for 2010-11, a concern was raised regarding attaining goals through Board policy because of the length of the process involved and the need for the Board to assume a proactive role. A suggestion was made to raise these questions and concerns in the next Board retreat scheduled for June 12th.

A status report was provided regarding amending the Student Attendance policy. After further examination of NYS regulations, additional requirements were found regarding the process for withdrawing students from school. To implement this process effectively, a number of data elements and procedures had to be created to ensure adequate monitoring of students, outreach, and offering of services to maximize opportunities to keep them in school. The proposed policy amendment is planned to be presented in the May Policy Committee meeting.

The Administration recently developed a Code of Ethics regulation to supplement Board policy, but the regulation only pertains to District employees. If the Board deems it beneficial, this regulation could be used as the basis for crafting either a more extensive Board Code of Ethics policy or a Board regulation pertaining to Board members and staff. The regulation includes definition of conflict of interest, specifically prohibited interests based on the individual's ability to influence decision-making. The Policy Committee requested that the Code of Ethics regulation be re-designed as a proposed Board policy.

Chuck Johnson also provided an overview of the recently developed regulation for Education of Homeless Students, which outlines the procedural requirements involved in implementing the Board policy.

The Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for May 18th at 5:30 p.m.

Board Governance Committee

Chair Melisza Campos: The Board Governance Committee met on April 14th to discuss the proposed 2010/11 Board Goals and Deliverables, the proposed schedule for meetings of the full Board and Committees for 2010-11, and a proposal for a Governance Team Leadership Development Program.

At the meeting, the Committee discussed and compiled a proposed schedule for meetings of the full Board and Committees. Commissioners have had the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed model. The proposed schedule was compiled in attempt to standardize the Board's monthly meeting schedule. The model calendar presents the following: an open meeting date on the 1st Thursday of every month, a monthly work session to review resolution or receive other information from the Superintendent on the 2nd Thursday of the month, committee meetings on the 3rd Tuesday and 3rd Thursday of the month, and the monthly Business Meeting on the 4th Thursday of the month.

Given that the charge of the Board is to provide fiscal oversight and accountability and ensure that all students are academically prepared to succeed, members of the Governance Committee have suggested that the Policy, Finance, and Excellence in Student Achievement Committees meet monthly.

The Committee also reviewed and discussed a proposal for the Board Governance Team Leadership Development Program, administered by New York State School Boards Association. The program can be customized to deal with the Board's most pressing issues, including: Governance Team Performance Review/Setting Priorities, Governance Team Roles and Responsibilities, Developing Your Communications Plan, Running Effective School Board Meetings, and Fiscal Management in Hard Times

The Committee is advancing Resolution No. 2009-10: 823 that authorizes the Board to enter into agreement with Brown & Hutchinson for the negotiation of the superintendent's contract.

The next Committee meeting has not yet been scheduled.

VII. Resolutions

2009-10: 753-767: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Williams absent.

2009-10: 768: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 4-1 with President Evans abstaining due to familial relationship and Commissioner Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Williams absent.

2009-10: 769-782: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Williams absent.

2009-10: 783: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Williams absent.

2009-10: 784-787: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting and Commissioner Williams absent.

2009-10: 788-799: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Williams absent.

2009-10: 800-801: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Williams absent.

Commissioner Williams arrived at 8:20 p.m.

2009-10: 802-803: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 804-806: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 807: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner abstaining due to familial relationship.

2009-10: 808-809: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 810-813: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 814: Resolution pulled.

2009-10: 815: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 816-817: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 818: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 818a: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner White dissenting.

2009-10: 819: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 4-2 with Commissioner Powell abstaining due to personal relationship and Commissioners Elliott and Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 820-822: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 823: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Williams abstaining due to professional relationship.

2009-10: 824: Resolution pulled.

2009-10: 825-830: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 831: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2009-10: 832: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 833: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2009-10: 834-836: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 837: Resolution adopted at Special Meeting on April 26, 2010

Commissioner White made a motion to restore 15 FTEs to the School Food Services department utilizing funds from the Salaries and Benefits line. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 4-3 with Commissioners Elliott, Powell, and Williams dissenting.

Commissioner White made a motion to restore 10 FTEs to the Transportation department for use in the District-owned Transportation services utilizing funds allocated to the MCC Gateway program. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Rejected 2-5 with President Evans, Vice President Campos, and Commissioners Cruz, Elliott, and Williams dissenting.

2009-10: 838: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 7-0.

2009-10: 839-841: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 7-0.

Motion to extend the meeting past 8:30 p.m. made by Vice President Campos and seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

VIII. **Unfinished Business:** None.

IX. **New Business:** None.

X. President Evans announced the next meeting Board Business Meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, May 25th at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Williams. Adopted 5-0 with Vice President Campos and Commissioner Powell absent at 10:50 p.m.