

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Business Meeting

Minutes

January 28, 2010

Attendance: President Evans, Vice President Campos, and Commissioners Cruz, Powell, White, and Williams; Superintendent Jean-Claude Brizard; Student Representative Sarah DeLaus; and Board Clerk Shanai Lee.

President Evans convened the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

- I. Student Representative Sarah DeLaus led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- II. **Motion to accept minutes** of the December 8th Special Meeting, December 14th Special Meeting, December 17th Business Meeting, and December 21st Special Meeting was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.
- III. **Student Recognition:** Students from high schools throughout the District who participated in Americans Promoting Study Abroad (APSA) and traveled to Beijing, China presented their experiences. Students spoke of how the opportunity increased their understanding of the world and reinforced the importance of foreign language study throughout the District.
- IV. **Superintendent's Report:** Mr. Brizard introduced Ms. Marlene Blocker as the new principal for the District's recently established Early College High School. He then introduced Dr. Jeanette Silvers, Chief of Accountability, who presented on how recent changes to the graduation rate calculation and accountability determination has effected the District. Dr. Silvers discussed changes in the determination of total cohort membership, the calculation used to determine Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), and the revised graduation rate goal and progress targets.

Commissioner White asked how realistic is the current graduation target of 80% within 4 years. Mr. Brizard said that the goal is aggressive for many of the District's schools, but the goal will push schools to employ programs and strategies that work to effectively educate students. Commissioner White asked about the consequences of not meeting the graduation target. Mr. Brizard said that some of the consequences include removing school leadership, changing staff, closing schools, and forcing leadership to develop systems that effectively educate students.

- V. **Speakers Addressing an Agenda Item and Speakers on other than Agenda Items:** Staff member Lori Thomas spoke about the need to improve schools through a variety of tactics including modernized instructional technology and facilities modernization. Community member Charlie Richardson spoke about the need to engage students and the proposed restructure of the District's parent council. Staff member Robin Valoris distributed a photostory presented by students of School No. 50 on the resources and services offered by school libraries and voiced concern on the consolidation of school and county libraries. Staff member Eileen Hartnett voiced concern on the consolidation of school and county libraries.
- VI. **Board Reports:**

Student Representative

Ms. DeLaus: Ms. DeLaus recognized the contributions of the Teaching and Learning Division and their organization of the Academic Showcase. Ms. DeLaus and members of the Student Leadership Council recently visited schools throughout the District to see how classrooms can be improved with the assistance of SLC. She also noted that the SLC recently met to discuss potential partnerships, projects, and goals for the upcoming year.

Audit Committee

Chair Allen Williams: The Audit Committee did not meet since the last Board meeting. The next meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Finance Committee

Chair Willa Powell: The Finance Committee met on Tuesday, January 26th to review the monthly Financial Report and Resolution Nos. 2009-10: 550 through 559. The Committee seeks a motion to accept the December 2009 Financial Report. Motion to accept the December 2009 Financial Report was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner White. The December 2009 Financial Report was accepted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent. The Finance Committee recommends the following reviewed resolutions to the Board for approval: Resolution Nos. 2009-10: 550 through 559. The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on February 18th at 5:30 p.m.

Excellence in Student Achievement Committee

Chair Van Henri White: The Excellence in Student Achievement Committee met on Thursday, January 14th to discuss the District's pre-kindergarten and early childhood programming. Dr. Robin Hooper, Executive Director of Early Childhood, presented an extensive program review. The Committee will meet on Thursday, February 11th at 5:30 p.m. to receive a presentation on the District's 2009 year-end highlights by Dr. Jeanette Silvers, Chief of Accountability.

Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Chair Cynthia Elliott: The Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee did not meet since the last Board meeting. The next meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, February 4th to discuss the formation of the legislative agenda and committee goals for the 2010 year.

Policy Committee

Chair Jose Cruz: The Policy Committee met on Tuesday, January 26th to discuss guidelines for reviewing the draft Policy Manual and review and forward the Education of Homeless Students, Policy No. 5110 to the full Board for discussion and vote. This policy emphasizes the Board's commitment to the education of all children in the community, including those who are identified as homeless and says that the Rochester City School District will make every effort to identify children who are homeless and to enroll them in school immediately. The Policy Committee recommends approval of Resolution 2009-10: 588 to adopt the Education of Homeless Students, Policy No. 5110.

The Committee also discussed and considered policies addressing change orders for public works projects, responsible bidding, and appointing parent representatives to the Board's committees. Chairman Cruz asked the commissioners to submit any requests or proposals for policy formation to the Committee by February 10th, so that they can be incorporated into the Committee's work plan for the 2010 calendar year.

The next Policy Committee meeting will be held on February 16th at 6:30 p.m.

Board Governance Committee

Chair Thomas Brennan: The Board Governance Committee will meet on Thursday, February 4th to start the discussion on the annual Board's goals and deliverables and Board reform training. This year, the Committee will actively work to better align the Board's oversight and management of the District to meet the needs of our students. The Committee's primary objectives will be to draft and deliver the Board's goals for administering fiscal oversight and accountability in 2010; formulate, discuss and deliver assessments of the Board's staff and the Superintendent, along with a Board self-assessment; and develop and communicate a system to track the work of the Board, including mandated practices (i.e. CAFR, resolution review) and those associated with annual goals.

President's Report: President Evans began by recognizing the students that travelled to Beijing, China through APSA and thanked them for their presentation. He then announced upcoming events scheduled in observance of Black History Month. President Evans then noted that he is the local representative to the Federal Relations Network for the New York State School Board Association, and announced that he will be lobbying in Washington, DC along with Vice President Campos and will report back to the Board at the next Business Meeting.

Motion to extend the meeting beyond 8:30 p.m. was made by Commissioner White and seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

VII. Resolutions

2009-10: 511: Motion to amend Resolution No 2009-10: 511 made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent. Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting and Commissioner Elliott absent.

2009-10: 512-514: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

2009-10: 515: Motion to amend Resolution No 2009-10: 511 made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent. Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting and Commissioner Elliott absent.

2009-10: 516: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

2009-10: 517: Motion to amend Resolution No 2009-10: 511 made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent. Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting and Commissioner Elliott absent.

2009-10: 518-519: Resolutions pulled.

2009-10: 520-549: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

2009-10: 550: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

2009-10: 551: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting and Commissioner Elliott absent.

2009-10: 552: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

2009-10: 553-554: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting and Commissioner Elliott absent.

2009-10: 555: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

2009-10: 556: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Campos. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

2009-10: 557: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

2009-10: 558: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with President Evans abstaining due to professional relationship and Commissioner Elliott absent.

2009-10: 559: Resolution pulled.

2009-10: 560-561: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

2009-10: 562: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-0 with Commissioner Williams abstaining due to familial relationship and Commissioner Elliott absent.

2009-10: 563-566: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

2009-10: 567: Resolution pulled.

2009-10: 568-582: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

2009-10: 583-587: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

VIII. **Unfinished Business:** None.

IX. **New Business:** The Board discussed and considered the Education of Homeless Students, Policy No. 5110 presented in Resolution No. 2009-10: 588.

2009-10: 588: Motion to waive the Formulation, Adoption and Amendment of Policies, Policy No. 2410 to consider Resolution No 2009-10: 588 made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by

Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent. Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent.

- X. President Evans announced that the next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Thursday, February 25th at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott absent at 8:41 p.m.