

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Business Meeting

March 24, 2011

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

President Evans convened the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

I. Student Representative Sophie Gallivan led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

II. **Motion to accept the minutes** of the February 16th Special Meeting, the March 3rd Special Meeting, and the February 17th Business Meeting made by Vice President Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Campos absent.

Commissioner Campos arrived at 6:50 p.m.

III. **Student Recognition:** NONE

IV. **Speakers Addressing an Agenda Item:** Students Tanya May, Donna Gonzalez, Rondell Ellis, Nathaniel Ridley, Jr., Campbell McDade-Clay, Kyle Steine, Eileen Traver, Ashley Diltz, Bria Adams, Gabriel Giannini, Carina Giannini, and Ty'mir Puryear spoke in opposition to proposed budget reductions. Parent Victoria Robertson voiced concern about the Board's proposed revision to the Wellness Policy. Community members Wade Norwood and Rachel Pickering spoke in support of the Board's proposed revision to the Wellness Policy. Community member Dominic Pickard spoke in opposition to proposed reductions to the District's arts programming. Staff member Lori Thomas spoke in opposition to the District's Portfolio Plan.

Speakers Not Addressing an Agenda Item: Parents Philip Davis, Hilary Appelman, Tavya Hall, Giancarlo Giannini, Jill Traver, Dagmar Kaufmann, Maranne McDade-Clay, Eileen Wrona, Elizabeth Hallmark, Rhonda Petrone, Evan Lowenstein, Katie Sollame, Gloria Sabastro, Nicole Gauss, and Lisa Hanlon spoke in opposition to the proposed budget reductions. Community members Michele Cardulla, Adam Urbanski, David Ells, and Susan Walsh spoke in opposition to proposed budget reductions. Community members Rod Green and Ernest Wilson spoke in support of the Hillside Work Scholarship Program. Staff members Deed Ranger, Tim McMullen, Gayle Keating, Eva Zweifler, Michelle Kapa, Laura Tai-Maneiro, Candace Rubin, Michele Liguori-Alampi, Alicia Messenger, Mary Robey, Laura Ferris, Alan Murphy, Ellen Best, Sally Bubb, Susan Reuter and Cheryl Hazell spoke in opposition to proposed budget reductions.

V. **Superintendent's Report:** NONE

VI. **President's Report:** President Evans began by announcing that the meeting is broadcast on RCTV-15 until 8:30 p.m., after 8:30 p.m., viewers can continue watching on our website, www.rcsdk12.org. President Evans recognized the following teachers and non-teaching staff members for their commitment to the District's children and school community: Tim Steward, Heather Belanger, James

Carbone, Victoria Tilbe, Thelma Ames, Kristie Nelson, Jeremy Ventura, Nadia Marzouk, Donna Crosley, Rosalie Andino, Dianna Speranza, Thomas Murphy, Daniel Strassner, and Don Smith.

VII. Board Reports:

Audit Committee

Chair Allen Williams: The Audit Committee met on March 10th to discuss the recent Democrat & Chronicle FOIL Request for audit reports. The Committee recommended that complete, unredacted reports be released and forwarded to the full Board for acceptance at the next Board Meeting. The next meeting has not been scheduled.

Finance Committee

Chair Willa Powell: The Finance Committee met on Thursday, March 17th to consider resolutions 2010-11: 629, 631 through 647, and 660 (Resolution No. 2010-11: 630 was withdrawn). The Committee recommends approval of the February 2011 Financial Report. The Committee recommends the following reviewed resolutions to the Board for approval: Resolutions 629 and 631 for Procurement & Supply; Resolutions 632 through 644 for Educational Facilities; Resolution 645 for Information Management & Technology; and Resolutions 646 (Strategic Leadership) and 660 (Non-Resident Tuition and Tutoring Rates). The next regular Finance Committee will be held on April 21st, following the Policy Committee meeting. A Special Meeting of the Board will be conducted on March 29th at 6:00 p.m. for the Superintendent to present the proposed 2011-12 RCSD Budget to the Board. Budget deliberation meetings (Finance Committee Meetings of the Whole) will be held on April 7th and 14th at 6:00 p.m. Public hearings on the budget will be conducted on April 5th and April 12th at 6:00 p.m. here in the third-floor conference room of the Central Office Building.

Excellence in Student Achievement Committee

Chair Van Henri White: The Excellence in Student Achievement Committee met on Tuesday, March 15th to review Resolution No. 2010-11: 655: Formal submission to the State Education Department CTE Team, the CTE program approval applications for the following programs: East High School: Academy of Finance, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism, Academy of Information Technology; School of Imaging & Information Technology at Edison: Computer Technology, Print Media, Media Education, Photography and Graphic Design; and the School of Business, Finance & Entrepreneurship at Edison: Academy of Finance. Ms. Beverly Gushue, Director of Career and Technical Education, provided a presentation detailing the programs in each of the schools listed above. Upon reviewing the presentation and the resolution submitted, there was consensus to pull the resolution from the March, 2011 Resolution Packet until further information could be provided at the May, 2011 Excellence in Student Achievement Committee Meeting. The committee also received a report from Jean-Claude Brizard, Superintendent of Schools, outlining college and career readiness initiatives and programs in the district. Next month's Excellence in Student Achievement Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 26th, at 6:00 p.m. The committee will meet to receive an update on high quality school choice.

Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Chair Cynthia Elliott: The Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee met on March 16th to host the Health Forum. The forum was well attended (over 150 people) by students, parents, health care providers as well as by members of the community. The forum consisted of a panel of seven community members who provided points of view on the issue of whether or not it is the responsibility of school districts to provide condoms to students to prevent STDs and teen pregnancies. The panel was formed of the following individuals: Dr. Andrew Doniger, Commissioner of Health, Monroe County

Department of Health, Sheila Driscoll, Director, Metro Council for Teen Potential, Melanie Fauchet, Nurse Practitioner, Threshold, Sady Fischer, Associate Director of Minority AIDS Initiatives, AIDS Care, Rev. Dr. Lawrence Hargrave, Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School, Rev. George Nicholas of Grace United Methodist Church, and Dr. Rachael Phelps of Planned Parenthood. A video presentation of the Health Forum will be posted on the District's. The next Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 13th, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

Policy Committee

Chair Jose Cruz: The Policy Committee met on Thursday, March 17th, with an ambitious agenda to review and discuss seven different policy proposals. Two policies had been referred back to the Committee to address specific concerns raised in the February 17th Board Business meeting: Authorization of Contracts (6745) and Financial Reporting & Resolutions (6630). The proposed Authorization of Contracts policy has been revised to stipulate that the Board must approve all professional services contracts totaling \$35K or more during the fiscal year. The revised policy would allow the Superintendent to enter into one additional contract for less than \$10K without Board approval as long as: Board approval was obtained for the original contract with the same vendor during the same fiscal year and prior written notice is provided to the members of the Finance Committee of the additional contract. In addition, the Policy Committee reviewed suggested revisions proposed to the Wellness policy introduced in the January 27, 2011 Board Business meeting. Several policy proposals were presented to address legal mandates regarding information access and privacy protection: revision of current School District Records policy (1120), a new Student Records and Privacy policy, and a new regulation regarding Acceptable Use of the District Network (1950-R). The Policy Committee voted unanimously to advance the revised School District Records policy (1120) to the Board for consideration. The proposed Student Records and Privacy policy will be reviewed further in the April Policy Committee meeting to examine its implications in greater detail. The Policy Committee directed the provisions contained in the new Acceptable Use of the District Network regulation be established in policy to clarify that these guidelines apply to students and to all staff, including Board members. The proposed policy will be reviewed in the April Committee meeting. Finally, the Policy Committee members discussed input received in the Parent Forum held on February 3rd and the implications for revising the Parent Involvement policy. While the proposed policy incorporated many of the concerns raised in the Parent Forum, Committee members added further recommendations to be reviewed in the April Policy Committee meeting. While not on the agenda, the Committee discussed a potential policy to provide guidelines as to the use of skyping into Board meetings. Specifically, some limitations were proposed such as only skyping into Board meetings and not for Committee meetings, and to limit the number of individuals skyping into a meeting. A draft policy will be presented in the April meeting. In summary, the following policies are being advanced to the Board with recommendation: Authorization for Contracts (6745); Financial Reporting & Resolutions (6630); and School District Records policy (1120). The next Policy Committee Meeting is scheduled for April 21st at 5:30 p.m.

Board Governance Committee

Chair Meliza Campos: The Board Governance Committee met on March 17th to discuss the superintendent's evaluation tool for the 2010/11 fiscal year, Board goals for the 2011/12 fiscal year and the implementation of BoardDocs. The Committee discussed developing the evaluation tool for reviewing the Superintendent's performance over the past fiscal year. The Committee proposes that the tool be tailored around the goals and objectives presented in the 2008-2013 Strategic Plan. The Committee will work to schedule a retreat in the Spring/Summer (May/June) to further discuss and finalize the Superintendent's performance evaluation process. The Committee has requested that all of the Board's committees review the 2010/11 Workplan, provide a status on progress that has been made in meeting the objectives articulated for the year, and develop objectives for the 2011/2012 fiscal year

that align with the needs of our students and the operations of the District. The Committee discussed logistics around the implementation of BoardDocs, including contract review, administration, and training for the system. Because of the aggressive Board calendar during the budget season, the Committee proposes that the system will be implemented in May. The Committee also discussed the evaluation of the Board's staff and will begin meeting with individual members of the Board's staff in May.

Student Representative Report: NONE

Motion to extend the meeting past 8:30 p.m. made by Commissioner Williams. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

VIII. Resolutions

2010-11: 609-614: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2010-11: 615-618: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2010-11: 619: Motion to separate Resolution No. 2010-11: 619 into Resolution No. 2010-11: 619a and Resolution No. 2019 was separated by consensus.

2010-11: 619a: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2010-11: 619b: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 7-0.

2010-11: 620: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner dissenting.

2010-11: 621-624: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 7-0.

2010-11: 625: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner White abstaining due to familial relationship and Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2010-11: 626-628: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2010-11: 629: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 7-0.

2010-11: 630: Resolution pulled.

2010-11: 631: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 7-0.

2010-11: 632: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2010-11: 633: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2010-11: 634: Motion to table Resolution No. 2010-11: 634 made by Commissioner Campos. Seconded by Commissioner White. Resolution No. 2010-11: 634 tabled 5-2 with Commissioners Elliott and Williams dissenting.

2010-11: 635: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2010-11: 636: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2010-11: 637-644: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner White. Adopted 7-0.

2010-11: 645: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2010-11: 646: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 5-2 with Commissioners Elliott and Williams dissenting.

2010-11: 647: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 7-0.

2010-11: 648: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 5-2 with Commissioners Elliott and Williams dissenting.

2010-11: 649: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 7-0.

2010-11: 650: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2010-11: 651: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 5-2 with Commissioners Elliott and Williams dissenting.

2010-11: 652-653: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2010-11: 654: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Elliott abstaining due to professional relationship.

2010-11: 655: Resolution pulled.

2010-11: 656: Motion to amend Resolution No. 2010-11: 656 made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner White. Resolution No. 2010-11: 656 amended 4-2 with Vice President Cruz absent and Commissioners Elliott and Williams dissenting. Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Williams dissenting.

2010-11: 657: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Elliott dissenting.

2010-11: 658: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 5-2 with Commissioners Elliott and Williams dissenting.

2010-11: 659: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 5-2 with Commissioners Elliott and Williams dissenting.

2010-11: 660-673: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 7-0.

2010-11: 674: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner White. Rejected 2-5 with President Evans, Vice President Cruz, and Commissioners Campos, Powell, and White dissenting.

2010-11: 675: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner White. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 7-0.

2010-11: 568: Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-2 with Commissioners Elliott and Williams dissenting.

2010-11: 569: Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-2 with Commissioners Elliott and Williams dissenting.

2010-11: 597: Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-2 with Commissioners Elliott and Williams dissenting.

IX. Unfinished Business: None.

X. New Business: Commissioner Elliott introduced a proposed policy, Recruiting and Hiring Policy. The policy directs the Superintendent to implement and maintain a high-quality recruiting and hiring program to attract, secure and retain the best-qualified staff. In doing so, the proposed policy defines best-qualified staff as those candidates that are able to meet the needs of students as evidenced by interest and significant experience in urban school districts. Motion to refer the proposed policy to the Diversity Committee was made by Commissioner White and seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 5-2 with Commissioner Elliott and Commissioner Williams dissenting.

XI. President Evans announced that the next Business Meeting of the Board will be held on Thursday, April 28th at 6:30 p.m.

XII. President Evans requested a **motion to enter into executive session** to discuss personnel matters related to a specific individual. Motion to enter into Executive Session made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Cruz, adopted 7-0 at 1:26 a.m.

Motion to enter into open session made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Cruz, adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Campos absent at 1:55 a.m.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Vice President Cruz. Adopted 6-0 with Commissioner Campos absent. The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 a.m.