

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
True North Preparatory Charter School
September 2, 2010
5:45 p.m.

Minutes

Attendance: President Evans, Vice President Campos, Commissioner Cruz, and Commissioner Elliott; Superintendent Brizard and Board Clerk Shanai Lee.

President Evans opened the hearing at 5:45 p.m.

President Evans stated that Education Law subdivision 2857(1) and regulations of the Commissioner of Education 8 N.Y.C.R.R. § 119.4 require the Board to conduct a public hearing within 30 days of receipt of notice of an application for a new charter school.

President Evans explained that the True North Preparatory Charter School located at 630 Brooks Avenue, Rochester, NY has submitted an application for a 5-year charter renewal commencing on June 27, 2011 with proposed 1st year enrollment/grades served – 514 students/K-2, 5-8; proposed 5th year enrollment/grades served – 664 students/K-8.

He then requested public input and questions regarding this school.

Mary Adams

Ms. Adams questioned why the Rochester Board of Education is required to hold public hearings for local charter schools, given that the Board does not play a role in approving charter school applications. Ms. Adams also expressed reservations on charter schools based on their evidence of success and operational management.

President Evans explained the Rochester Board of Education is required by law to conduct public hearings, on proposed charter schools and applications for charter renewals or amendments, to gather public input to report to the State to assist in their consideration of the charter school applications. He went on to explain that the District essentially acts as the vehicle for the State to obtain public input, and has no influence or decision-making authority regarding charter school applications.

Commissioner Elliott articulated her support for charter schools.

Mr. Brizard noted that True North Preparatory Charter School is part of a successful charter school organization.

President Evans concluded the hearing at 6:00 p.m.