

# ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

## Business Meeting

August 24, 2017

**Board Members in Attendance:** President Van Henri White, Vice President Elliott, Commissioner Mary Adams, Commissioner José Cruz, Commissioner Malik Evans, Commissioner Elizabeth Hallmark, and Commissioner Willa Powell.

**Board Members Excused:** None.

**Administration and Board Officers in Attendance:** Superintendent Barbara Deane-Williams, EPO Superintendent Shaun Nelms, and District Clerk Shanai Lee.

Vice President Elliott convened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

- I. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Evans

Commissioner Cruz arrived at 6:35 p.m.

- II. **Acceptance of Minutes:** Motion to accept the minutes of the July 27<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting, August 8<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting, August 10<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting, and August 22<sup>nd</sup> Special Meeting was made by Commissioner Cruz and seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 7-0.
- III. **Speakers Addressing an Agenda Item:** Community member Howard Eagle spoke about the services provided to students and staff of the East High School EPO. Community member Shirley Thompson spoke in opposition to the termination of a particular staff member.
- IV. **Speakers Not Addressing an Agenda Item:** Community member Jim Greco spoke about the intent and authenticity of recently released reports by the District. Community member Dr. Doris Meadows spoke about the Values Policy adopted by the Board in 1991.
- V. **Superintendents Reports:** Dr. Nelms presented the grade 3 through 8 ELA, Math and Science scores on recent statewide assessments. He spoke of various academic initiatives to address curriculum and instruction and restorative practices. Dr. Nelms also spoke about a new program known as the *Get Real Science 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Immersion* which provides students with academic experiences on how science works in “real life” that are aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards. He also spoke about efforts to enhance parent engagement. Dr. Nelms concluded his presentation with mention of a guest management system to improve the school’s safety and security efforts. He noted that the system is designed to enhance the school’s ability to track visitors to the building during the day.

Superintendent Deane-Williams delivered a presentation that highlighted recent programming and initiatives of the District. She spoke of the recent 2017 Leadership Summit designed to provide 5 days of world-class leadership programming to teachers, administrators, students, parents and community members. Ms. Deane-Williams also her effort to outline the District’s strategic framework and map a path forward to ensure equity and excellence for all students. In concluding her presentation, Ms. Deane-Williams spoke about her involvement in the District’s teacher orientation sessions and attendance blitzes to encourage chronically truant students to return to school.

## **VI. Board Reports:**

### **Audit Committee**

**Chair Mary Adams:** The Audit Committee did not meet since the last Business Meeting. No report was submitted.

### **Finance Committee**

**Chair Jose Cruz:** The Finance Committee met on Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup> to consider Resolution Nos. 2017-18: 140, 141 and 143, 173 through 180, 183 through 185, 187, 196 and 197. The Finance Committee engaged in a preliminary discussion of the 2016-17 Year-End Financials and received an update using the June 2017 Financial Report as reference. The Finance Committee recommends approval of the July 2017 Financial Report. The following resolutions were reviewed by the Finance Committee, and are advanced to the Board with recommendation: Resolutions 140, 141 & 143 for East EPO; Resolutions 173 through 174 for Procurement & Supply; Resolutions 175 through 180 for Facilities; and Resolutions 183 through 185, 187, 197. Resolution No. 2017-18: 196, a late submission, was verbally presented to the committee and was considered for review; the committee advanced this resolution to the Board for consideration. The next Finance Committee Meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2017.

### **Excellence in Student Achievement Committee**

**Chair Malik Evans:** The Excellence in Student Achievement Committee did not meet since the last Business Meeting. No report was submitted.

### **Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee (CIGR)**

**Chair Cynthia Elliott:** The Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee did not meet since the last Business Meeting. No report was submitted.

### **Policy Committee**

**Chair Willa Powell:** The Policy Committee met on Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, and reviewed a number of proposed amendments to policies, primarily to incorporate statutory and regulatory changes including: District Policy Prohibiting Harassment or Discrimination against Students and Employees (0100): the proposed policy changes reflect the provisions of the Dignity for All Students Act; Employee Obligations Surrounding Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect policy (5460): specific requirements have been added regarding reporting and investigation of suspected child abuse in educational settings, as mandated by NYS law; Wellness policy (5405): this policy has been updated to reflect recent changes in federal law and regulation, and the recommendations of the District's Wellness Task Force. Each of the abovementioned policy proposals has been reviewed by the Cabinet, and are presented this evening as Information Items. The Access to Education, Student Privacy, Law and Immigration Enforcement policy (5600) and De-Escalation of Crisis Situations policy (8200) were before the Board for consideration.

In addition, the members of the Policy Committee discussed a new proposed Student Harassment and Bullying Prevention and Intervention policy (0115). The Committee decided to submit the proposed policy to the Cabinet to consider the capability of the current information system to generate specific data and reports regarding student bullying, and in light of the system upgrades planned for later this year. This information will be used by the Committee in determining specific reporting requirements to include in the proposed policy.

The Policy Committee also reviewed the new proposed Educational Technology policy, and decided to obtain further information about potential student privacy concerns. Plans are under way to invite a member of the ACLU to an upcoming meeting to discuss these concerns.

For the next meeting on Tuesday, October 17, 2017 the Policy Committee plans to review the Code of Conduct and proposed revisions based on recommendations from the NYS School Boards' Association; discuss the findings from a survey of teen mothers about their child care needs, as part of considering amendments to the Day Care policy (4324.1); review recommended changes to the Preschool Education Programs policy (4320.5); discuss draft amendments to the Education of Homeless Students policy (5110); and review a draft of a new policy regarding Field Trips and International Travel.

### **Board Governance Committee**

**Chair Elizabeth Hallmark:** The Governance Committee did not meet since the last Business Meeting. No report was submitted.

President White arrived at 7:30 p.m.

## **VII. Resolutions**

**2017-18: 127:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

**2017-18: 130-138:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 7-0

**2017-18: 139:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting.

**2017-18: 140:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 7-0

**2017-18: 141:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting.

**2017-18: 142-143:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 7-0

**2017-18: 144:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Cruz. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

**2017-18: 145-150:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 7-0.

**2017-18: 151:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Adopted 6-1 with President White dissenting.

**2017-18: 152-155:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 7-0.

**Motion to amend Resolution No. 2017-18: 156 to accept the resignation Laura Thompson made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Cruz. Motion carries 7-0.**

**2017-18: 156:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Adams dissenting.

**2017-18: 157-165:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Evans. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. Adopted 7-0.

**2017-18: 166:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 5-2 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Adams dissenting.

**2017-18: 167-168:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting.

**2017-18: 169:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 5-2 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Adams dissenting.

**2017-18: 170-172:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting.

**2017-18: 173-174:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 7-0.

**2017-18: 175-179:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 7-0.

**2017-18: 180:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-0 with Vice President Elliott abstaining due to professional relationship.

**2017-18: 181-182:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 7-0.

**2017-18: 183:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 5-2 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Adams dissenting.

**2017-18: 184:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Adams dissenting.

**2017-18: 185:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 7-0.

**2017-18: 186:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 6-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting.

**Motion to amend Resolution No. 2017-18: 198 to remove the following language “Whereas, the list of Phase 1 projects did not include Helen Barrett Montgomery School No. 50 (“School No. 50”)**

**made by Commissioner Evans and seconded by Commissioner Powell. Motion carries 7-0.**

**2017-18: 187-202:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Adams. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Adopted 7-0.

**VIII. Unfinished Business:** None.

**IX. New Business:** The following policies were presented as Information Items: District Policy Prohibiting Harassment or Discrimination against Students and Employees (0100), Employee Obligations Surrounding Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect policy (5460), and the Local Wellness Policy (5405).

**X. Motion to recess into executive session to discuss matters related to the employment of a specific individual** made by Commissioner Hallmark at 8:40 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Evans. Motion carries 7-0.

**XI. Motion to reconvene** made by Commissioner Cruz at 10:18 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Motion carries 6-0 with President White absent.

**XII. Motion to adjourn** was made by Commissioner Cruz at 10:18 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Motion carries 6-0 with President White absent.