

**ROCHESTER BOARD OF  
EDUCATION**  
Business Meeting  
January 24, 2019

**Board Members in Attendance:** President Van Henri White, Vice President Cynthia Elliott, Commissioner Judith Davis, Commissioner Elizabeth Hallmark, Commissioner Beatriz LeBron, Commissioner Willa Powell, and Commissioner Natalie Sheppard.

**Board Members Excused:** None.

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

Vice President Elliott convened the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

- I. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by members of the Board.
- II. **Acceptance of Minutes:**  
Motion to accept the minutes of the December 5<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting, December 7<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting, and the January 2<sup>nd</sup> Organizational Meeting made by Commissioner Hallmark and seconded by Commissioner Powell. Motion carries 5-0 with President White and Commissioner Sheppard absent.
- III. **Speakers Addressing an Agenda Item:** Student Khadijah Richardson spoke about the benefits of the OACES program. Parent Howard Eagle, Community Member Erin Egloff, and Community Meeting David Walling spoke in support of the need to address structural racism throughout the District.
- IV. **Speakers Not Addressing an Agenda Item:** Parents Jorge Casanova, Nilda Nieves, and Diane Lovett spoke about the benefits of the Rochester Early Childhood program and urged the Board to consider expanding the program to accommodate kindergarten students. Parent Angely Delgado spoke about the District's high rate of student suspensions. Community Members Joel Kraft, Alex White, and Cedriana Mitchell spoke about the benefits of the OACES program. Community Member Rodney Rice spoke about the need to address concerns of students. Community Member Clay Harris spoke about the need to address the state of the District.

Commissioner Sheppard arrived at 7:00 p.m.

President White arrived at 7:15 p.m.

Motion to accept the minutes of the December 11<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting Minutes, December 13<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting Minutes, December 19<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting Minutes, December 18<sup>th</sup> Special

Meeting Minutes, December 20<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting Minutes, July 12<sup>th</sup> Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee Meeting Minutes, August 9<sup>th</sup> Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee Meeting Minutes, November 13<sup>th</sup> Excellence in Student Achievement Committee Meeting Minutes, November 27<sup>th</sup> Policy Committee Meeting Minutes, and the December 6<sup>th</sup> Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee Meeting Minutes made Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Sheppard. Motion carries 5-2 with Commissioner Davis and Commissioner LeBron dissenting.

- V. Superintendents Reports:** In her presentation, Superintendent Deane-Williams welcomed newly elected Commissioner Judith Davis and in-coming Interim Superintendent Dan Lowengard and Interim Chief of Staff Linda Cimusz. She also provided an update on the District's progress in addressing schools in need of improvement, recognized the efforts of the District's staff in coordinating the annual RCSD Expo and Fair, announced the award of a \$2.1MM grant from the State to add five new pre-kindergarten classrooms with an projected enrollment of up to 164 additional seats, and spoke about the Digital Citizenship classes. Superintendent Deane-Williams concluded her presentation by introducing School Chief Amy Schiavi who spoke about the Principal Preparation Grant, which was awarded in partnership with New York City Leadership Academy and Bank Street University.

#### **President's Report**

**Board President Van Henri White:** President White recognized the contributions and efforts of Superintendent Deane-Williams.

#### **VI. Resolutions**

**Resolution Nos. 2018-19: 579 – 591, 595, 596, 598, 599, 607, 609-614, 629** were not considered.

**2018-19: 592:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 7-0.

**2018-19: 593:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 7-0.

**2018-19: 594-597:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 7-0.

**2018-19: 600:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 6-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting.

**2018-19: 601:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 6-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting.

**2018-19: 602-604:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 7-0.

**2018-19: 605:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Sheppard dissenting.

**2018-19: 606:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 7-0.

**2018-19: 615-620:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Davis. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting.

**2018-19: 621:** Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 7-0.

**Motion to amend Resolution No. 2018-19: 622 made by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Powell. Motion carries 7-0.**

**2018-19: 622:** Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Davis. Adopted 7-0.

**2018-19: 623:** Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 6-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting.

**2018-19: 624-630:** Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 7-0.

**Motion to amend Resolution No. 2018-19: 631 to include language to include an annual accountability measure and address the membership of the REAL team was made by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Powell. Motion carries 6-1 with Commissioner LeBron dissenting.**

**Motion to amend Resolution No. 2018-19: 631 to reflect that the REAL team is not a permanent body, change the annual review date from January 2020 to June 2019, and include language to require the Superintendent and Board to annually assess the REAL team's efficacy against performance goals was made by Commissioner Sheppard, seconded by Commissioner LeBron. Motion fails 2-5 with President White, Vice President Elliott, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Hallmark, and Commissioner Powell dissenting.**

**2018-19: 631:** Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 4-3 with Vice President Elliott, Commissioner LeBron, and Commissioner Sheppard dissenting.

**2018-19: 632:** Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 7-0.

**2018-19: 633-634:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 7-0.

**2018-19: 635:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Davis. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 7-0.

**2018-19: 636:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Davis. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

**VII. Unfinished Business:** Motion to accept the East EPO December 2018 Financial Report made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Motion carries 5-2 with Commissioner LeBron and Vice President Elliott dissenting.

Motion to accept the District's December 2018 Financial Reports and Quarterly Change Order Report made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Motion carries 5-2 with Commissioner LeBron and Commissioner Davis dissenting.

Motion to accept the 2019-20 Budget Calendar made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Motion carries 7-0.

Members of the Board postponed discussion of the Board's response to the Distinguished Educator's report.

**VIII. New Business:**

President White introduced a proposed amendment to the Board's Advisory Body Policy, No. 2260 as an Information Item.

General Counsel Karl Kristoff and Board staff member Debra Flanagan presented a plan to update some of the Board's existing policies based on legislative mandates and best practices.

Members of the Board postponed discussion of goals for the Interim Superintendent.

**Motion to enter into executive session** to discuss matters related to the employment of particular persons, pending litigation, matters related to a particular contract, and other matters with the General Counsel was made by Commissioner Hallmark and seconded by Commissioner Powell at 10:20 p.m. Motion carries 7-0.

**Motion to reconvene into open session** made by Vice President Elliott and seconded by Commissioner Hallmark at 11:30 p.m. Motion carries 7-0.

**IX. Motion to adjourn** made by Vice President Elliott at 11:30 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Motion carries 7-0.