

# ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

## Business Meeting

March 28, 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:** Interim Superintendent Dan Lowengard, EPO Superintendent Shaun Nelms, and District Clerk Shanai Lee.

Vice President Elliott convened the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

**I.** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Hallmark.

**II. Acceptance of Minutes:**

Motion to accept the minutes of the March 5<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting, March 19<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting, March 21<sup>st</sup> Special Meeting, March 22<sup>nd</sup> Special Meeting, March 25<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting, and March 26<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting made by Commissioner Hallmark and seconded by Commissioner Powell. Motion carries 6-0 with President White absent.

**III. Speakers Addressing an Agenda Item:** No speakers present.

President White arrived at 6:48 p.m.

**IV. Speakers Not Addressing an Agenda Item:** Community member Clay Harris spoke about the need for funding for the OACES program. Staff member Andrea Berardi spoke about the need for Health Education programming and educators.

**Student Leadership Congress Report:** Student Representative Malik Jaff delivered a report covering discussion topics from a recent Student Leadership Conference meeting. He noted that the group recently addressed the current superintendent search process, selection process and qualities of school principals, and the upcoming annual educational student leadership conference to be held in Washington, DC.

**Superintendents Reports:** Interim Superintendent Dan Lowengard recognized Principal Sharon Jackson and the staff and school community of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School No. 9 for their efforts in advancing the school's academic performance and being designated as a NYSED school in Good Standing.

Mr. Lowengard also spoke about highlights of the District's programs including the ROC Urban Leadership Program, the Just Law initiative, music and arts programming. He also recognized the accomplishments of Nydia Padilla Rodriguez for achievements, community leadership and mentoring.

Mr. Lowengard introduced the Dr. Ray Giamartino and Mr. Robert Ulliman who delivered a presentation on District's projected graduation rate for the 2015 Cohort.

Deputy Superintendent Cecilia Griffin Golden, introduced by Mr. Lowengard, delivered a presentation on culturally responsive instruction. In her presentation, Dr. Golden highlighted the NYSED definition of culturally responsive instruction and the various tools and training that the Office of Teaching and Learning has implemented to enhance the delivery of instruction throughout the District.

## **V. Resolutions**

**Resolution Nos. 2018-19: 711-722:** Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting.

**Resolution Nos. 2018-19: 723:** Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 5-2 with Commissioner Davis and Commissioner Sheppard dissenting.

**Resolution Nos. 2018-19: 724-732:** Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting.

**Resolution Nos. 2018-19: 733-740:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner LeBron. Adopted 5-2 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Davis dissenting.

**Resolution Nos. 2018-19: 741-743:** Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting.

**Resolution Nos. 2018-19: 744-753:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting.

**Resolution Nos. 2018-19: 754:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Adopted 4-3 with Vice President Elliott, Commissioner Davis, and Commissioner LeBron dissenting.

**Resolution Nos. 2018-19: 755-760:** Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner LeBron. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting.

**Resolution Nos. 2018-19: 761:** Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner LeBron. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Adopted 7-0.

**Resolution Nos. 2018-19: 762-766:** Motion to adopt was made by Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner LeBron. Adopted 7-0.

**VI. Unfinished Business:** Members of the Board discussed the 2019-20 retreat session calendar.

**VII. New Business:** General Counsel Karl Kristoff and Board Staff member Debra Flanagan presented proposed revisions to the "Health and Safety Program" policy and the "Safe Schools" policy as Information Items for the Board's review and later consideration.

**VIII. Motion to enter into executive session** to discuss matters related to the employment of particular persons, the discipline of particular student, and other matters with the General Counsel was made by Commissioner LeBron and seconded by Commissioner Davis at 8:56 p.m. Motion carries 7-0.

**Motion to reconvene into open session** made by Vice President Elliott and seconded by Commissioner LeBron at 9:30 p.m. Motion carries 7-0.

**IX. Motion to adjourn** made by Commissioner Davis at 9:47 p.m. Seconded by Vice President Elliott. Motion carries 7-0.