

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Business Meeting
November 21, 2019

Board Members in Attendance: President Van Henri White, Vice President Cynthia Elliott, Commissioner Judith Davis, Commissioner Elizabeth Hallmark, Commissioner Willa Powell, Commissioner Beatriz LeBron, Commissioner Natalie Sheppard and Student Leadership Representative Tatiyana Spencer

Board Members Excused: None.

Administration and Board Officers in Attendance: Superintendent Terry Dade, Chief of Staff Annmarie Lehner and other Cabinet members, Chief Counsel Karl Kristoff and District Clerk Marisol O. Ramos-Lopez.

President White called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

I. The Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Acceptance of Minutes: None

III. Speakers: Parent Cynthia Clay discussed concerns with racism. Community Member Alex White spoke about OACES. Staff Members Angie Ferris, Angie Rivera, and Kristen French discussed concern over the proposed budget cuts.

IV. Advisory Council Reports:

Student Leadership Congress – Tatiyana Spencer, Junior at World of Inquiry High School reported on the outcomes of the monthly meeting of the Student Leadership Congress. Students discussed the RCSD Budget; reviewed expectations, opportunities and projects; discussed calendar and brainstorm ideas for the school year; provided a recruitment update; and reviewed the Superintendent’s message and goals.

Parent Advisory Council – No Report

Bilingual Education Council – Myrna Gonzalez, President of the Council requested that the Board consider compensating parent leaders who are involved in the various advisory groups with gas cards and funds for child care. She thanked Chief Ray Giamartino for all his assistance. The council will be participating in the Annual Family Engagement Day on November 23rd. The next BEC meeting will take place on December 10, 2019 at the David Gantt Center.

V. Board Reports:

President’s Report: None

Finance and Resource Allocation Committee: Commissioner Powell reported that the Finance Committee convened as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, November

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12, 2019 to consider a Budget Update Presentation prepared by Superintendent Dade and District Administration. This presentation provided a clearer picture of the District's financial standing and revealed the Superintendent's plans to address the budget shortfall via staff reduction. Superintendent Dade presented the Board with 5 different scenarios for District direction and noted his own recommendation of a 5% reduction in staff. Following Committee discussion, Commissioners were invited to provide their feedback on the options presented and the Board directed Superintendent Dade to move forward with the proposed 5% cost saving cuts.

The December Finance Committee Meeting will convene to discuss the District's September, October and November 2019 financial reports, the First Quarter Student Activity Funds Report and the Quarterly Change Order Report for July-September 2019.

Policy Development and Review Committee: The Policy Committee met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, November 5, 2019 to consider the presentation—"Becoming a Restorative District: Ending K-3 Suspensions", prepared by the Community Task Force (CTF). The CTF is a coalition of community leaders who are committed to improving the climate of RCSD schools. The group's collaborative efforts have helped secure the District's new Code of Conduct, anti-racism professional development, increased usage of restorative practices, help zones, and other school climate initiatives. Members of the Task Force helped to form the School Climate Advisory Committee, which provided recommendations to the Board in September 2018 for updating the Code of Conduct—one of these recommendations was the removal of K-3 suspensions in District schools. In following up on this effort, the CTF asked for the Board to consider a fast-tracking of the K-3 suspension ban proposal. This proposal was promoted as a means to assist the District in reducing drop-out rates and negative school attitudes and increasing academic gains and restorative practices. The CTF requested that the Board instead consider building capacity and adding tools to each school's tool-box of non-punitive procedures.

The Policy Committee will continue to engage in discussion on the CTF's proposal and will revisit the proposal following District Administration review. The December Policy Committee will convene to consider Updates to the Board Bylaws (Policy 2300) and Policy 2260 on Board Advisory Bodies.

Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee: Commissioner Davis reported on the CIGR Committee's The Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee met on Tuesday, November 19, 2019 to review and discuss the upcoming Family Engagement Day, the Committee's purpose statement, The Board's commitment to the District's Action Plan, as well as legislative plans for the upcoming year.

- Family Engagement Day will take place on Saturday, November 23rd, 11am to 3pm at School No. 33, and is a collaboration between the Board Office and the Office of Parent Engagement. Students, parents, and community members are encouraged to join BOE Commissioners, Superintendent Dade and key District leaders for an afternoon of togetherness. Families will have the opportunity to meet with their school's Board liaison, District administrators, and other families during workshops and a lunch round table. Childcare, interpretation services, and lunch will be provided.
- Following the discussion on Family engagement day, the Committee concluded a conversation started in the September meeting on CIGR's purpose. The Committee agreed

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to amend the current CIGR purpose statement, to include an increased community-centered focus, while still committing to advocating and lobbying to advance the District's interests on the legislative landscape. The newly adopted CIGR purpose will be posted to the District's website.

- The November meeting also featured a discussion on addressing the District's Action Plan:
 - The Committee discussed the Communications Plan and discussed strategies for implementation. Commissioners reviewed an updated chart of meeting dates for District schools' PTO/PTA meetings as provided by the Office of Parent Engagement. The group also discussed commitments for attending these meetings as described in the Communications Plan
 - Following this, the Committee accepted a procedure for the recruitment of Parent Representatives for Board Committees. This recruitment will launch at Saturday's Family Engagement Day and will run until January 15th. The Board encourages interested parents/guardians of current RCSD students to submit applications for the position. More information will be provided through the Board's parent groups, the Office of parent Engagement and on the District website.
 - The Committee Meeting concluded with a discussion on the Board's legislative agenda the importance of shared messaging with District Administration. In doing so, Commissioners discussed the Board's role in lobbying for the District with Superintendent Dade and considered the hosting of a legislative breakfast in 2020. This discussion is expected to continue in upcoming special meetings.

Audit Committee: commissioner LeBron reminded Board Members that the Audit/CAFR were to be reviewed prior to the next Audit Committee Meeting.

VI. Superintendents Reports: Superintendent Dade delivered a presentation where he provided updates for the month of November which included a Review of the November 12, 2019 District Finances presentation, including next steps; he congratulated the Roc the Future Parent Leader Award Winners; the Historically Black Colleges and Universities College Fair; the Roc Restorative Symposium; the Annual Family Engagement Day; he introduced the new District CFO Robert Franklin and Deputy Superintendent Lynda Quick.

VII. Consideration of Resolutions

Resolution No. 2019-20: 434: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner LeBron. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 435: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Vice President Elliott. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 436: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner LeBron. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 445: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

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Resolution No. 2019-20: 446: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 447: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 448: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Sheppard dissenting.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 449: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 451: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 451: Motion to table Resolution 457 until Tuesday November 26, 2019 was made by Board Member Vice President Elliott. Seconded by Commissioner Hallmark. Motion carries 7-0.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 458: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 459: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-2 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Davis dissenting.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 460: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 461(A): Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 461(B): Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 461(C): Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-2 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner LeBron dissenting.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 461(D): Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 462: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark.

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Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Powell. Adopted 5-2 with Vice President Elliott and Commissioner Davis dissenting.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 463: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Powell. Adopted 6-1 with Vice President Elliott dissenting.

Resolutions No. 2019-20: 464-467: Motion to table until the December 3, 2019 Audit Committee Meeting by Board Member Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner LeBron. Motion carries 7-0.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 468: [Resolution withdrawn]

Resolution No. 2019-20: 469: [Resolution withdrawn]

Resolution No. 2019-20: 470: [Resolution withdrawn]

Resolution No. 2019-20: 471: [Resolution withdrawn]

Resolution No. 2019-20: 472: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 473: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 474: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 475: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Commissioner Powell. Adopted 7-0.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 476: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Vice President Elliott. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 477: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Vice President Elliott. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 478: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Vice President Elliott. Adopted 7-0.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 479: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Vice President Elliott. Adopted 7-0.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 480: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Vice President Elliott. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 481: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark.

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Seconded by Member of the Board Vice President Elliott. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 482: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Vice President Elliott. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 484: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Vice President Elliott. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 485: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Vice President Elliott. Adopted 6-1 with Commissioner Davis dissenting.

Resolution No. 2019-20: 486: Motion to adopt was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Member of the Board Vice President Elliott. Adopted 7-0.

VIII. Motion to enter into executive session to discuss a matter related to a personnel issue with Counsel was made by Commissioner Hallmark. Seconded by Commissioner LeBron at 8:52 p.m. Motion carries 7-0.

IX. Motion to reopen Board Business Meeting at 10:28 p.m. Motion carries 7-0.

X. Motion to adjourn at 10:29 p.m. Motion carries 7-0.