

# ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Special Meeting Minutes  
Policy Committee of the Whole  
June 2, 2020  
Minutes

**Board Members in Attendance:** President White, Commissioner Powell, Commissioner Adams, Vice President Elliott (at 7:03 p.m.), Commissioner Sheppard, Commissioner Lebron, and Commissioner Maloy

**Board Members Excused:** N/A

**Administration and Board Officers in Attendance:** Superintendent, Lesli Myers-Small; District Monitor, Shelley Jallow; General Counsel, Karl Kristoff; Deputy General Counsel, Steven Carling; Chief, Amy Schiavi; Chief, Shirley Green; Chief, Ruth Turner; Chief, Sandra Chevalier; Chief, Glen VanDerwater; Chief of Accountability, Ray Giamartino; Chief of HCI, Harry Kennedy, District Clerk, Marisol Ramos-Lopez; Board Staff, Kallia Wade

President White convened the Special Meeting at 5:40 p.m.

**I. Speakers:** No speakers.

**II. Special Meeting Discussion Topics**

RCSD Crisis Response

Superintendent Lesli Myers-Small addressed the Committee noting support for the Black Lives Matter Movement and George Floyd given the weekend's happenings. She also pointed out the possible resultant trauma that could affect the District's students and families and the need to address this. Finally, she noted that the Cabinet convened twice on Sunday to exchange facts and to discuss any actions that would need to be taken.

Presentation: Monroe Upper/Lower School Plan 2020-21

Superintendent Myers-Small turned over the presentation to Deputy Superintendent Lynda Quick and School Chief Amy Schiavi. Both shared a PowerPoint document detailing the transition of James Monroe High School. They advised about stakeholder involvement and the communications timeline to parents and community. Following this, they explained what the reconfiguration of the Lower School would look like.

Following this, the Board recognized Chief Schiavi and thanked her for her service

with the RCSD, as she transitions out of the District.

Resolution Consideration

**Motion** by Commissioner Adams to approve Resolution 2019-20: 954. Seconded by Commissioner Maloy. **Adopted 5-1 with Commissioner Sheppard dissenting and Vice President Elliott absent.**

**Motion** by Commissioner Maloy to approve Resolution 2019-20: 955. Seconded by Commissioner Adams. **Adopted 6-0 with Vice President Elliott absent.**

**Motion** by Commissioner Maloy to approve Resolution 2019-20: 956. Seconded by Commissioner LeBron. **Adopted 6-0 with Vice President Elliott absent.**

**Action: Commissioner Powell made a request for the District organizational plan to be placed on the website**

New Business

Heroes of Hope Recognition: The Board recognized Melissa Sample, an ELL substitute teacher

**III. Policy Committee of the Whole Meeting:**

President White convened the Policy Committee as Chair of the Board's Policy Development and Review Committee at 6:23PM.

**President White noted that Minutes would be accepted in the next Business Meeting.**

Policy Update Plan and Policy Deliverables Chart

General Counsel, Karl Kristoff and Board Staff Kallia Wade addressed the Committee and advised about the updates to the chart. Both also advised the priority items for the Policy Committee as the new academic year approached. The Policy Committee will be focusing on the Code of Conduct, the Student Attendance Policy, the Purchasing Policy, AIS Compensatory services as well as the Student Data Policy for review and update. General Counsel Kristoff also called attention to the policies on the third page of the document that may not have been updated in several years and that the Committee would eventually be reviewing as well for potential updates.

President White noted, for the benefit of Superintendent Myers-Small, that the expectation for District Administration is to have staff assigned to each policy to assist in updating the policies and ensuring that the deliverables are met.

Board Staff Wade also mentioned that recent NYSSBA updates suggested the adoption of a new policy—Policy 4765: Online Course Credit. She shared the sample policy information to the Committee and the Committee agreed with moving forward to

develop such a policy.

Code of Ethics Policy: Conflict of Interest

Commissioner Sheppard noted concern for the Conflict of Interest Policy as it relates the State Monitor position. She also requested that this policy be added to the Policy Update Chart. State Monitor, Dr. Shelley Jallow, suggested having a meeting with General Counsel to discuss the Conflict of Interest provisions within the Code of Ethics Policy.

**Action: Code of Ethics Policy to be added to the Board Policy Update Chart**

Board Bylaws: Standards of Conduct (Appendix A) (Policy 2160)

Commissioner Powell addressed the Committee and indicated a desire to reconsider the inclusion of two items to the Standards of Conduct. She noted that while these were previously considered and not included in the policy, that these are major responsibilities of the Board. She requested that the Board consider re-adding the points “participate in training relevant to Board Service”, and “keep abreast of issues in education” as standards.

Vice President Elliott joined the meeting at 7:03p.m.

Commissioner Sheppard left the virtual room due to technical difficulties at approximately 7:05pm.

**Motion** to refer the aforementioned changes to amend Appendix A of the Code of Ethics Policy (*Policy 2160*) to June Business meeting for consideration made by Commissioner Powell. Seconded by Commissioner Maloy. **Motion carries 4-2 with Commissioner Lebron and Adams dissenting, and Commissioner Sheppard absent.**

**Policy Committee Meeting adjourned** at 7:30 p.m. Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Lebron, seconded by Commissioner Maloy. **Motion carries 7-0.**

Special Meeting reconvened at 7:31pm and **Motion to enter into Executive Session** to discuss a student disciplinary matters and to discuss matters related to the employment of a particular individual, or other matters permitted by Section 105 of the Open Meetings Law, or to receive the advice and counsel of the General Counsel, made by Commissioner Adams. Motion seconded by Commissioner Maloy. **Motion carries 7-0.**

**Motion to come out of Executive Session** made by Vice President Elliott at approx. 8:30 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Maloy. **Motion carries 7-0 with Commissioner.**

**Motion to Adjourn** made by Commissioner Lebron at 8:30 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Powell. **Motion carries 7-0.**