

ROCKFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

Administration Building
Tuesday, November 27, 2012

The regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education was called to order by President Harmon Mitchell at 5:10 p.m.

Present: President Harmon Mitchell, Vice President Jude Makulec, Secretary Lisa Jackson (5:12 p.m.), Ms. Ronnell Moore (arr. 5:16 p.m.), Mr. Kenneth Scrivano, Mr. Tim Rollins, Mrs. Powers

Absent: None

Motion by Mrs. Makulec seconded by Mr. Scrivano that the Board **hold** an executive session to consider the appointment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of employees; the discipline of students; pending or imminent litigation; collective bargaining matters; or other matters provided for pursuant to §2 (c) of the Open Meetings Act.

Yeas: 5

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Approved: 5-0-0

The Board was in executive session from 5:11 p.m. until 7:18 p.m.

1. Call to Order – *President Harmon Mitchell called the regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education to order at 7:30 p.m.*
2. Moment of Silence
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Roll Call
Present: President Harmon Mitchell, Vice President Jude Makulec, Secretary Lisa Jackson
Mr. Kenneth Scrivano, Mr. Tim Rollins, Ms. Ronnell Moore, Mrs. Powers
Absent: None
Mr. Mitchell introduced Auburn High School Media students Valerie Stenerson, Marie Stravinskis, Ronald Cash, Stephen Hahlen, and DeAvonte Pope who work with District staff to operate the broadcasting equipment.
5. Recognition – Mr. Dotson presented for recognition:
 - A. Middle School All City Football Champs
West Middle School's varsity football team was recognized for earning first place in the Middle School Playoffs at Wyeth Stadium in October, 2012. The team exhibited great teamwork, determination, and skill during the championship game.
 - B. Teacher of the Week
Each week, WREX-TV and WZOK-FM honor a "Teacher of the Week" who has been nominated by a student, peer, administrator or community member. Three Rockford Public Schools employees have been honored in the past month. Kisha Napper, of Ellis Elementary School, and Jolyn Himes, of Beyer Elementary School, were recognized by WREX – Channel 13; the WZOK staff recently recognized Erica Medearis in her West View Elementary School classroom as well. Mrs. Medearis was present.
6. Petitions & Communications – *the guidelines were read by Mr. Mitchell.*
There were no public speakers.
7. Board Member Comments
Mr. Scrivano spoke of attending the Career Academy Expo at Jefferson High School, on Thursday, November 15, 2012. He had a one-on-one tour with Laurie Preece from Alignment Rockford. The tour was thoroughly enjoyable and it was great to see the engagement by the students; freshmen, sophomores and

juniors, as they selected the career area they wished to spend some time in. Mr. Scrivano thanked the Jefferson students.

8. *Consent Items

- A. Payroll
- B. Accounts Payable Checks
- C. Purchase Orders
- D. Contracts Under \$10,000
- E. Air Travel

9. *Bid Recommendations

10. *Recurring Contracts

11. *Other Consent

- A. Resolution to Approve 2012 Tax Levies—Mr. Lewis – pulled by Mr. Rollins
- B. Monthly Investment Report October 2012
- C. Interest Transfer from Working Cash – October 2012
- D. Freedom of Information Log

Motion: by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mr. Scrivano to **approve** consent items not pulled.

Approved: Unanimously

Consent Item Pulled

Item 11-A Resolution to Approve 2012 Tax Levies

Mr. Rollins spoke of how the District has told the community for the past six months that the levy would be reduced by \$0.58, giving back this amount to the community. The effect of that is in this levy being approved. The funds levied for the current fiscal year are \$163.2MM; this resolution will levy approximately \$146.8MM, which reduces the taxes in the District by \$16.4MM year over year.

Motion: by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mrs. Makulec to **approve** the Resolution to Approve 2012 Tax Levies.

Approved: Unanimously

12. Closed Session Consent Items

- A. Patricia Rohde as the Director of Payroll
- B. Human Resource Workforce Organization Report and Addendum

13. Closed Session Consent Items – Student Discipline

- A. M J 1 – expelled for the remainder of the 2012/13 school year
- B. DH 2 – expelled for the remainder of the 2012/13 school year
- C. KD 3 – expelled for the remainder of the 2012/13 school year
- D. CS 4 – expelled for the remainder of the 2012/13 school year
- E. JB 5 – expelled for the remainder of the 2012/13 school year
- F. SA 6 – held in abeyance contingent upon a Conditional Probation Agreement
- G. RGY 7 – held in abeyance contingent upon a Conditional Probation Agreement
- H. KH 8 – expelled for the remainder of the 2012/13 school year
- I. SR 9 – expelled for the remainder of the 2012/13 school year
- J. ~~RM 10~~ – pulled by administration
- K. DN 11 – ten day suspension affirmed
- L. ~~GW 12~~ – pulled by administration
- M. ~~LG 13~~ – pulled by administration
- N. ~~NH 14~~ – pulled by administration

14. Closed Session Consent Items - Conditional Probation Agreements

- A. CR 1 – Conditional Probation Agreement
- B. DL 2 – Conditional Probation Agreement
- C. KW 3 – Conditional Probation Agreement
- D. JG 4 – Conditional Probation Agreement
- E. LL 5 – Conditional Probation Agreement
- F. MW 6 – Conditional Probation Agreement
- G. SB 7 – Conditional Probation Agreement
- H. NH 8 – Conditional Probation Agreement
- I. KM 9 – Conditional Probation Agreement
- J. AW 10 – Conditional Probation Agreement

K. JM 11 – Conditional Probation Agreement

Motion: by Mr. Rollins seconded by Ms. Moore to **approve** closed session consent items.

Approved: Unanimously

15. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Willis spoke of giving back to the taxpayers approximately \$16.4MM, which school boards usually don't do, either in Illinois or any state. Dr. Willis met with community members in the city assuring them the Board would keep their word and approve the \$0.58 reduction. The Board not only kept their promise, but also did not levy any additional monies. Dr. Willis congratulated the Board for the motion that kept its integrity of what it said it was going to do earlier in the school year.

Dr. Willis spoke of the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SSAC) meeting he had the previous week. Student council representatives from the five high schools, Auburn, Guilford, Jefferson, East, and Roosevelt, met to speak about activities at their schools. Each of the students spoke of how their school was a wonderful place to be; their clubs are active, there are many learning and involvement opportunities throughout the school day. There are some challenges in some of the schools, but that is a relatively small group of students compared to the total enrollment for the schools. Dr. Willis has asked them to come to the December meeting to share with Board members the good news about Rockford Public Schools.

A. Walking School Bus Update

Mrs. Alex Brewington gave Board members an update on the Walking School Bus. Beyer, Walker and Lewis Lemon Schools have been identified as high need schools. Mr. Wilson, Director of Transportation, is assisting in identifying densely populated areas where children walk within these school zones. Tentatively, implementation would start in 2013/14 school year. Ms. Jackson asked Mrs. Brewington to attend the next Operations Committee on December 4, 2012.

16. Committee Reports

A. Education Committee – Mrs. Makulec

The committee has not met since the 11/13/12 Board meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 3, 2012.

B. Operations Committee – Mr. Rollins

The committee has not met since the 11/13/12 Board meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 4, 2012.

17. **Action Items**

A. Resolution to Approve the FY12 Annual Audit – Mr. Lewis

Motion: by Mrs. Powers seconded by Mr. Rollins to **approve** the Resolution to Approve the FY12 Annual Audit.

Approved: Unanimously

B. Document Based Questions Contract – Mr. Woestman & Mrs. Wishowski-Wetzel

Motion: by Mr. Scrivano seconded by Mr. Rollins to **approve** the Document Based Questions Contract.

Approved: Unanimously

C. Lean Awareness Training and Value Stream Mapping Project – Mr. Woestman

Motion: by Mrs. Powers seconded by Ms. Moore to **approve** the Lean Awareness Training and Value Stream Mapping Project.

Approved: Unanimously

D. Policy 7.100 – Students-Health and Dental Examinations, Immunizations and Exclusion of Students – Atty. Hoadley

Motion: by Mr. Scrivano seconded by Mrs. Makulec to **approve** Policy 7.100 – Students-Health and Dental Examinations, Immunizations and Exclusion of Students.

Eye examinations are mandatory for kindergarten entry, but not subject to exclusion. Parents may request a waiver due to financial distress or religious exemptions. Mrs. Makulec thanked Mrs. Fisher for her diligence bringing this forward, her updates on nursing coverage including the medical component of the District. Mrs. Fisher has also encouraged staff to complete paperwork that helps with reimbursements to the District. These numbers have almost doubled since last year.

Approved: Unanimously

18. **Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations**

There are no items in this category.

Motion: by Ms. Jackson seconded by Mr. Scrivano for the Board to adjourn

Board adjourned 8:09 p.m.

President: Harvey L. Mitchell

Secretary: Lisa Jackson

Approved:

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