

ROCKFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS
Meeting Minutes

Administration Building
Tuesday, May 14, 2019

President Kenneth Scrivano called the regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education to order at 5:01 p.m.

Present: President Kenneth Scrivano, Vice President Tim Rollins (arr. 5:08 p.m.), Secretary Jude Makulec (arr.5:03 p.m.)
Mr. Anthony Dixon, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor, Mr. Jaime Escobedo

Absent: None

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. *Seigel* 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.

Approved: 5-0-2

The Board was in executive session from 5:01 p.m. to 6:53 p.m.

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1. Call to Order – President Kenneth Scrivano called the regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education to order at 7:04p.m.
 2. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance
 3. Roll Call
Present: President Kenneth Scrivano, Vice President Tim Rollins, Secretary Jude Makulec, Mr. Anthony Dixon, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor, Mr. Jaime Escobedo
Absent: None
Mr. Scrivano thanked Conner Childers and RPS 205 graduate Rod Weddle who are working behind the scenes to produce the Board's broadcast on Channel 20.
 4. Proclamation
A. Resolution: 100th Anniversary of the Ratification of Women's Suffrage in Illinois
Mr. Scrivano read the following:
Whereas, Illinois had long been at the forefront of the movement to provide women the right to vote;
Whereas, in Illinois the first women's suffrage association was established in Earlville in LaSalle County in 1855, just seven years after the first women's rights convention in Seneca Falls, New York which called for suffrage for women;
Whereas, the first statewide suffrage organization, the Illinois Woman Suffrage Association was established in 1869, becoming the Illinois Equal Suffrage Association in 1891;
Whereas, also in 1891, Illinois enacted a law allowing women the right to vote for elective school offices;
Whereas, in 1913 Illinois enacted the Presidential Suffrage Bill which gave Illinois women the right to vote in federal and municipal elections, not otherwise restricted to men under the Illinois Constitution;
Whereas, with the enactment of that law, Illinois became the first state east of the Mississippi River to give women such right to vote for President of the United States, and is credited with being a major positive influence in advancing the women's suffrage movement in the United States;
Whereas, on June 4, 1919, the proposed 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution was passed by the United States Congress and sent to the States for ratification;
Whereas, 100 years ago on June 10, 1919, Illinois became the first State to ratify the 19th Amendment (one hour prior to Wisconsin);
Whereas, Illinois led the way for the necessary three-fourths of the States to ratify the 19th Amendment, which became part of the Constitution on August 26, 1920;
Now Therefore, Rockford Public Schools declares June 10, 2019, a day to celebrate women's right to vote and the important role Illinois played in achieving that right in the United States.
 5. Recognition
A. Spring State Competitors
Science Olympiad
Eisenhower Middle School's Science Olympiad team competed in the state tournament in April at the University of Illinois. The team took ninth place overall in a field of 50 schools! The team also brought home medals for finishing first, second and fifth place in events. Congratulations!

State Geography Bee

Thurgood Marshall School eighth grader Calvin Smith qualified for the National Geographic State Geography Bee competition in March. Calvin is among the top 100 students in the state! Congratulations!

IESA State Track & Field

Flinn Middle School seventh grader Rasheed Johnson took second place in the 100 meter dash and seventh in the 200 meter dash at the IESA boys state track & field tournament. Rasheed also ran the anchor leg of the 4x100-meter relay team that finished in second place in the state! Rasheed ran with Deterrace Dotson, Jayden Green, and Damien Parker-Moreland.

Flinn Middle School seventh grader Douglas Plaxico finished sixth in the state in the boys 110 meter hurdles.

Overall, the Flinn Falcons finished in fifth place as a team – congratulations!

For the girls, Eisenhower Middle School eighth grader Jayda Cruz finished eighth in the 100 meters!

Other state competitors include:

Eisenhower

-Natalyia Stallings: 100 meters, 200 meters

-Brandon Lawson: 800 meters

-Jayda Cruz, 100 meters

-Jolena Site, 100 meters, 200 meters, 400 meters

-Jaden Thornton: 200 meters

-4X100 meter relay team of Amanda Curry, Natalyia Stallings, Ja-Lin Craigs-Ingram, Jayda Cruz

Kennedy

-4X100 meter relay team of Essence Horton Graves, Makhia Marzette, Nevah Curtis and Malli Williams

-4x100 meter relay team of Aniyah Bell, Joleen Willams, Ciara Esper, and Alexia Gonzales.

-Ciara Esper: long jump

Thurgood Marshall

-Kassandra Carpenter: Pole Vault

Flinn

-4X200 meter relay team of Jamir Hightower, Trent Lewis, Zyair Lee, Douglas Plaxico, and alternate Shawnquez Simmons

-Michelle Gasmund, 400 meters, 800 meters, 1600 meters

-Adrien Agee, 100 meters

IESA BOWLING

Once again, Rockford Public Schools was well represented at the IESA State bowling tournaments for both girls and boys. In girls bowling, Flinn Middle School eighth grader Ashley Harkey finished 9th in state with a total pinfall of 1,795. Other state competitors include Flinn's Leann Severson, Fallon Perry and Maddison Anderson; and West Middle School's Alyssa Ballard and Izabela Leathers-Donaldson.

In boys bowling, Eisenhower Middle School eighth grader Devan Skridla finished first in state with a total pinfall of 2,090 – just two pins ahead of the second place finisher. Other state competitors include

- Jermanion Simmons, Mikey Dobbs and Jaykob Wadsworth from RESA Middle School
- Job Salberg, Campbell Russo, Jacob Smith, Wyatt Derry and Nick Reeves from Eisenhower Middle School
- Charlie Hunt, Tyler Novak, Austin Morris and Kaden Horton from West Middle School
- Carver Villarreal, Eli Bowers, Jacob Thomas and Riddick Johnson from Flinn Middle School
- Damien Gunn and Shane Mosely from Lincoln Middle School

Illinois Science Olympiad

Twenty-three Auburn High School students competed among students from 50 schools in the Illinois Science Olympiad at the University of Illinois. Of the Knights, 13 students finished in fifth place or better in 28 competitions. Junior Victoria Wu and sophomore Phuong Pham brought home a state title in Chem Lab. The team finished eighth overall. Eduardo Rodriguez and Oscar Aranzolo finished second in Electric Wright Stuff. Nam Pham and Dhruv Ramaswami took third in WiFi lab and fifth overall.

Competitors include:

Victoria Wu

Phuong Pham

Eduardo Rodriguez

Oscar Aranzolo

Nam Pham

Dhruv Ramaswami
Ryuto Thew
Puranjay Gupta
Matt Lim
Wyatt Morris
Charlie Shriver
Puranjay Gupta
Wenhao Fan
Sophia Mores
Richelle Watson
Ryuto Thew

IHSA Boys Track & Field

Auburn High School senior Syreal Holland won both the 100- and 200-meter titles at the IHSA Class 3A track and field sectional meet to qualify for the IHSA state tournament. His preliminary round results at Eastern Illinois University this past weekend didn't allow him to advance to the finals, but we're so proud of his accomplishments this season! Congratulations!

IHSA Boys Tennis

Auburn High School senior Quinten Nevenhoven won the sectional tournament in singles play to qualify for the IHSA Class 2A boys state tennis meet. The trip marked his fourth consecutive state tournament. Auburn High School's Chris Park also qualified to compete at the state level in singles play – as a sophomore.

At the state tournament this past weekend, both Quinten and Chris lost their first matches, and Chris lost in the consolation bracket 6-3, 7-6. Quinten won his first two matches in the consolation bracket and was ultimately defeated 8-6 on Saturday in the third round of the consolation bracket.

Congratulations to Quinten and Chris for making it to the tough state-level competition! We hope Chris makes a return trip to the state tournament next year, and Quinten will continue his tennis career at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

IHSA Track & Field

Guilford High School junior Shaniah Johnson was the only female athlete to represent RPS 205 at the IHSA Class 3A state track meet. Shaniah finished third in the Antioch sectional in the triple jump with a leap of 36-10 3/4. She surpassed the qualifying distance in preliminaries and skipped the finals to compete in other running events.

IHSA Journalism

East High School and Guilford High School sent students to compete in the IHSA Journalism state finals after an impressive showing at sectionals. At state, East High School's team finished tenth overall! Congratulations to the following students:

- Braulio Saucedo, East – finished third in Info Graphics
 - Martin Lozano, East – finished in fourth place in Advertising Design
 - Ethan Stark, Guilford – finished in fifth place in Info Graphics
 - Taylor Byrd and Peyton Fitchie, East – finished in fourth place in Yearbook Theme Development
 - Madie Miller, East – finished in fifth place in Yearbook Layout Double-Page Spread
 - Jonathan Jurgens, Guilford: competed in Broadcast News
 - Jackson Wyatt, East: competed in Review Writing
 - Ana Sifuentes, East: competed in Yearbook Caption Writing
- is generations deep. Of course we know, Once an E-Rab, Always an E-Rab. Congratulations!

6. Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget for 2019-2020

A. Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget For 2019-2020
There were no speakers.

7. Petitions & Communications

Mr. Scrivano read the guidelines.

- Shardi Calloway spoke of her child's discipline hearing.
- James Funk spoke of his unhappiness with his child's zone school.
- Shannon Del Santo spoke of her unhappiness with her child's zone school.

8. Board Member Comments

- Mr. Connor thanked Mr. Escobedo for his service stating he has been a tireless advocate for achievement and able to articulate his thoughts.
- Mr. Dixon thanked Mr. Escobedo for his service and pushing to close the achievement gap.

- Mr. Seigel commented that Mr. Escobedo demonstrates what grit means, encouraging parents to be involved with students.
- Mrs. Makulec thanked Mr. Escobedo for his service, as he was a member of the Education Committee before serving as a Board member.
- Mr. Scrivano thanked Mr. Escobedo for his service, calling him tenacious and relentless regarding student performances.
- Mr. Rollins stated that Mr. Escobedo would be missed.
- Mr. Escobedo thanked everyone stating all have the same goals in mind. Tough decisions continue to be made; the end goal is progress. He thanked teachers for rigor and high expectations. Work needs to continue to make sure there is consistency throughout the District.
- Mr. Connor spoke of Constance B Lane opening and the closing of John Nelson and Kishwaukee elementary schools. He, his sister and mother attended Nelson and his father attended Kishwaukee. He attended the open house at Nelson and Mr. Phillips and Ms. Redmond were there for the entire two hours, greeting everyone who came and visited.

9. *Consent Items

- A. Meeting Minutes: 5/14/19
- B. Payroll
- C. Accounts Payable
- D. ~~Purchase Orders (FY19)~~ – pulled by Mr. Seigel
- E. Purchase Orders (FY20)
- F. Contracts Under \$10,000
- G. Construction Bid Request Log
- H. Travel

10. *Bid Recommendation

- A. IFB 19-36 Chiller Replacement at Barbour School

11. *Recurring Contracts

- A. Amendment to Consulting Agreement – K12 Insight – Dr. Kelly Monson, Chief Continuous Improvement Officer
- B. ~~Rockford Park District Summer School at Kennedy~~ – ~~Dr. Matthew Vosberg On behalf of Kennedy Middle School~~ – pulled by Mrs. Makulec
- C. ~~NoRedInk~~ – ~~Dr. Matthew Vosberg, Deputy Superintendent on behalf of Kennedy Middle School~~ – pulled by Mrs. Makulec
- D. Independent Hearing Interpreter Contract Extension
- E. Excess Workers' Compensation Insurance – State National Insurance Company, Inc.
- F. Plan Administrator Renewal – Blue Cross Blue Shield

12. *Other Consent

- A. Monthly Cash and Investment Report-April 2019 – Ms. Jamie Murray, CPA – Executive Director of Finance
- B. Financial Results: April 2019 – Ms. Jamie Murray, CPA – Executive Director of Finance
- C. Fiscal year (FY) 2019 Third Quarter Treasurer's Report – Ms. Michelle R. Jahr, CPA, Chief Financial Officer
- D. ~~Facility Rental Fee Waiver – Rockford Police Department~~ – pulled by Mrs. Makulec
- E. New School Construction Change Order Logs
- F. RPS Managed Work Change Order
- G. ~~MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) Act of God Days~~ – pulled by Mrs. Makulec
- H. Freedom of Information Log

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Consent Items not pulled

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Consent item pulled 9D, Purchase Orders (FY19)

Yeas: Mr. Rollins, Mr. Scrivano, Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Connor, Mr. Escobedo, Mr. Dixon

Abstain: Mr. Seigel

Approved: 6-0-1

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Recurring Contract pulled 11B, Rockford Park District Summer School at Kennedy.

Kennedy Middle School is holding a separate summer school for its students in an effort to get better attendance. This is financed through the School Improvement Grant (SIG). The agreement is an extension to the current contract. Attendance will be compared to previous years. Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

Yeas: Mr. Scrivano, Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Seigel, Mr. Connor, Mr. Escobedo, Mr. Dixon

Abstain: Mr. Rollins

Approved: 6-0-1

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to approve Recurring Contract pulled 11C, NoRedInk.

Kennedy chose this product for summer school based on their experience. This program helps students with writing and grammar. It is classified as recurring as it is being used by other schools. Kennedy used a no-cost version and now wishes to buy the license. Moving forward, there will be school based menu items, including NoRedInk that will be grouped together around subjects such as writing improvement, literacy development, etc. The District is moving toward a decentralized, school-based model. Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to approve Other Consent item pulled 12D, Facility Rental Fee Waiver.

This is a partnership with Rockford Police Department for the youth summer program, Community Kids Zone. This program serves over one hundred at risk youths within Rockford School District boundaries. This is the third year of the program and is funded by the police department. It is free for all participants. Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to approve Other Consent item pulled 12G, MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) Act of God Days.

Teachers do not have to make up lost days this year. Effective July 1, 2019, for each day teachers can engage in three hours of work duties and engage in two hours of scheduled professional development. The three hours can be accomplished in half-hour increments. If a member chooses not to make up the requisite five hours, they must either use a full day of accrued paid sick or personal leave, or take a full unpaid day of leave. Comments included being disappointed that the make-up time is in 30 minute increments and not an hour. To view the memorandum, please click on this link: [Act of God Days MOU](#). Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

Yeas: Mr. Connor, Mr. Escobedo, Mr. Dixon, Mr. Rollins, Mr. Scrivano, Mr. Seigel

Nays: Mrs. Makulec

Approved: 6-1-0

13. *Closed Session Consent Items

- A. Appointment of Kourtni Gray as 10 Month Middle School Dean at Kennedy Middle Schools
- B. Appointment of Ronald J. (R.J.) Kulgowski as 10 Month Middle School Dean at Kennedy Middle School
- C. Appointment of Kristina Miller as 11 Month Elementary Principal at Carlson Elementary School
- D. Appointment of Stephen Heidel as 12 Month Assistant Principal at East High School
- E. Appointment of David Graffy as 10 Month Assistant Principal at Auburn High School
- F. Salary Adjustment for Non-Bargaining Employees and Updated Salary Ranges
- G. HR Organizational Report & Addendum

14. *Closed Session Consent Items – Student Discipline

Unless otherwise modified below, the Board adopts and accepts the Hearing Officer's findings and recommendations in the following cases in which students expelled or suspended are prohibited from being on school grounds and school-sponsored activities without the prior written permission of the principal.

- A. GDM-4278-19 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year through the entire 2019-2020 school year.
- B. GDM-4279-19 – expelled for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year through the entire 2019-2020 school year.
- C. GDM-4280-19 – expelled for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year through the entire 2019-2020 school year.
- D. GDM-4281-19 – expelled for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year through the entire 2019-2020 school year.
- E. GDM-4282-19 – expelled for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year through the entire 2019-2020 school year.
- F. GDM-4283-19 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year followed by an expulsion for the 2019-2020 school year.

15. Closed Session Consent Items – Student Discipline (EIAs)

- A. GDM-1048-19
- B. GDM-1049-19
- C. GDM-1050-10
- D. GDM-3853-19
- E. GDM-3900-19

- F. GDM-3901-19
- G. GDM-3902-19
- H. GDM-3903-19
- I. GDM-3904-19
- J. GDM-3905-19
- K. GDM-3906-19
- L. GDM-3907-19
- M. GDM-3908-19
- N. GDM-3909-19
- O. GDM-3910-19

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to approve Closed Session Consent items not pulled.

Approved: Unanimously

16. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett

Dr. Jarrett commented on Mr. Escobedo's leadership as a Board member; how it resonated throughout the District. Administration is appreciative of placing students first and his deep commitment of keeping a sense of urgency moving the needle on student achievement. He thanked Mr. Escobedo for leaving a great legacy. He ceded the rest of his time to Mrs. Ellis and Mr. Youngblood

B. Summer Maintenance – Mrs. Catherine Ellis, Custodial Manager

Mrs. Ellis presented the summer maintenance schedule to members. Summer cleaning and capital projects are library remodels, interior painting and flooring, window replacements, roof replacements and HVAC upgrade, preparing EC move from Dennis to Beyer, science room renovation, and domestic piping phase 2 at West. Summer cleaning schedules are focusing on elementary sites in June, summer school sites in July, and final cleaning prior to Teacher's institute in August. To view the presentation, please click on this link: [Summer Maintenance](#).

C. Purchasing Report – Dane Youngblood, Purchasing Director

Mr. Youngblood presented the purchasing update to members. He reviewed purchasing requirements, purchasing thresholds, the process of purchasing to bill pay, purchasing spends, and exemption examples. Purchasing consortiums are exempt and benefits include assisting with competitive pricing, and efficiency for the District as bidding occurred with another entity. Consortiums do not always guarantee the lowest price or best value. Examples include furniture/flooring, computer equipment, and office/classroom supplies. Consortiums process change includes develop internal criteria; require second quote and annual Board approval. The presentation may be viewed by clicking on this link: [Purchasing Report](#).

17. *Action Items

A. ~~Rockford Systems LLC Safeguard Donation~~ – pulled by Administration

18. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

A. .Rockford Park District Facility Rental, Mat Parker, Director of Athletics

The agreement is to rent the UW Health Sports Factory for the NCAA-live recruiting taking place June 21-23, 2019 and June 28-30, 2019. The District's high schools are official hosts and the facility will be used. The total rental cost is \$12,800; however, the District has received a grant from RAVCB (Rockford Area Convention and Visitors Bureau) for \$7,500.00. The District anticipates gate revenue of \$22,000.

This will return for a vote at the 6/11/19 meeting.

B. New Playground for Lewis Lemon Elementary

The original playground was installed in 1993. Pieces of the equipment are outdated and non-functional. Paint is chipped, plastic parts are cracked, and some metal parts are bent. The District received a \$50,000 grant with the assistance of Senators Dave Syverson and Steve Stadelman from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. The fiscal impact for the District is \$81,076. The new Terry Lee Wells Playground at Haskell Elementary is being funded by Rockford Park District.

This will return for a vote at the 6/11/19 meeting.

C. Purchasing Consortia

Purchasing consortia are independent, third-party organizations that combine the purchasing power of multiple entities to leverage more value-added pricing and service out of purchasing contracts. Government purchasing consortia, specifically, are buying cooperatives that consist of only schools, municipalities, and other governmental units. There is no cost to the District for using these.

This will return for a vote at the June 11, 2019 meeting.

D. Paridad Consulting Agreement

This agreement is for an outside consulting firm to support the bilingual department team, the bilingual (Curriculum Leadership Team) CLT, and the curriculum department with the bilingual, and ESL curriculum alignment. This alignment requires expertise in all of the four alignment areas. The term of the contract is three years with a fiscal impact of \$184,000. The full information may be viewed by click on this link: [Paridad](#). This will return for a vote at the 6/11/19 meeting.

Mr. Scrivano spoke of the upcoming June Board meeting, specifically as the Strategic Update is scheduled. The consensus reached was to begin at 4:00 p.m. in Open Session, convene to Close at 5:30 p.m. and reconvenes in Open at 7:00 p.m.

19. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Seigel seconded by Mrs. Makulec to **adjourn**.

Adjournment: 9:22 p.m.

Approved: 6/11/19

President: *Kenneth J. Scrivano /s/*

Secretary: *Jude B. Makulec /s/*

/ljf