

**ROCKFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS
Meeting Minutes**

**Administration Building
Tuesday, April 10, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education was called to order by President Kenneth Scrivano at 5:00 p.m.

Present: President Kenneth Scrivano, Vice President Jude Makulec, Secretary Michael Connor, Mr. Anthony Dixon, Mr. Tim Rollins, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Jaime Escobedo

Absent: None

Motion by Mr. Seigel seconded by Mr. Connor 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: 7-0-0

The Board was in executive session from 5:02 p.m. until 6:53 p.m.

1. Call to Order – *President Kenneth Scrivano called the regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education to order at 7:09 p.m.*
2. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
Present: President Kenneth Scrivano, Vice President Jude Makulec, Secretary Michael Connor, Mr. Anthony Dixon, Mr. Tim Rollins, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Jaime Escobedo
Absent: None
Mr. Scrivano thanked RPS 205 graduate, Rod Weddle, for volunteering his time and his assistance in running the cameras for the Board Meeting.
4. Recognition
 - A. State-Level Competitors: Winter Activities – Earl Dotson, Jr.
ICCA Cheer
Lincoln Middle School competed this year in the Illinois Cheerleading Coaches Association State competition with hundreds of teams across the State. The Lincoln Loggers competed in the small junior high division.
FIRST Lego League State Tournament
Eisenhower Middle School's FIRST Lego League Robotics teams qualified for the State competition. The team won the Core Values Award, a trophy given to the team that best demonstrates FIRST Lego League core values, like outstanding teamwork, strong work ethic, illustrating that what the team learns, and the amount of fun they have is more important than winning.
IESA Chess
Flinn Middle School and Thurgood Marshall School each sent teams to compete at the IESA State Chess Tournament. Marshall's sixth grade won fourth place overall, and Marshall's eighth grade place in 12th place overall. Flinn's seventh grade won 16th overall.
In individual play for sixth grade, Marshall's Jadon Horng was the State runner-up, and Marshall's Sayana Bilguun was the second runner-up. In individual play for eighth grade, Marshall's Ethan Vanderkolk was the State runner-up, and Marshall's Samraat Zagade was the second runner-up.
IESA Wrestling
Nine wrestlers from Rockford Public Schools qualified for the IESA State Wrestling meet; seven students from Flinn and two from Lincoln. Flinn eighth grader Joseph Pineda won the first IESA State Wrestling Championship in Rockford Public Schools history, competing at 215 pounds. Flinn's Skyler James took fifth place at 275 pounds. Congratulations to these wrestlers
MATH COUNTS
The Math Counts Math Team from Thurgood Marshall School won the regional competition at NIU Rockford in March, which qualified the team for the State Math Counts Competition earlier this month.

Congratulations to the Marshall Math Counts Team of Andrew Jace Bernardo, Jay Gupta, Xander Keller and Ruth Mathew.

5. Petitions & Communications

Mr. Scrivano read the guidelines.

- Kate Rehak asked to have after-hours access granted to teachers only when Aramark employees are in the buildings. She thanked Board members for the time they give to the District.
- Nancy Gdowski spoke of HVAC systems not functioning correctly in the schools and requested an investigation into these issues.
- Denise Pearson spoke of attending both Education and Operations Committee meetings and asked Administration to limit major purchases for FY2019 and reexamine them in FY2020.

6. Board Member Comments

- Mr. Connor spoke of abstaining from voting for the HR Report during the meeting. His wife, Carla Connors, is retiring at the end of the school year. She has been a paraprofessional in the District for twenty-five years.
- Mr. Rollins spoke of the District's recent receipt of \$8.5MM from the State. He spoke of his concerns regarding school finances. The District receives three categories of payments from the State; General State Aid, Categorical payments (a set of payments made quarterly), CPPRT (Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax). Mr. Rollins explained the history of CPPRT. Prior to 1970, school districts and other municipalities were allowed to tax the personal property of corporations. In 1970, Illinois adopted a new constitution that prohibited taxes on personal property, but directed the legislator to replace them with a different taxing system that would make school districts and other municipalities whole. This was done by adopting a 2-1/2% additional income tax on corporations and other business entities.

The news received by the District was positive regarding General State Aid, unfortunately it has not been the same with Categoricals or CPPRT. Last year, the State made three Categorical payments. This year, one payment for FY2017 was late and will be counted in this fiscal year's revenue. The District could receive three, four or five payments. Regarding CPPRT, a year ago, the State unilaterally decided it had overpaid every municipality in Illinois and would start collecting those overpaid funds. This has started this year. During the State's budget crisis, the State decided to start shifting CPPRT funds previously paid to K-12 education to community colleges which were not funded by the State. This is a permanent shift; school districts will not be receiving those funds. Lastly, the State decided to start charging an administration fee for the CPPRT. When those are added up, the District received \$6MM less in CPPRT this year than last year.

The school funding formula is good and will be positive going forward as it will create a base the District can build on. Currently, though, it is not \$8.5MM of new money because of different shifts in payments, etc. If the State begins timely payments of Categoricals, or make all four payments, as well as stop shifting CPPRT funds, the school funding formula would be good news.

7. *Consent Items

- A. Meeting Minutes: 03/20/18, 03/13/18
- B. Payroll
- C. Accounts-Payable
- D. Purchase Orders
- E. Construction Bid Request Log
- F. Contracts Under \$10,000
- G. Travel

8. *Bid Recommendations

- A. ~~IFB 18-16 Certified Nursing Assistants~~ – pulled by Mr. Rollins
- B. ~~IFB 18-25 Stage Curtains and Rigging~~ – pulled by Administration
- C. ~~IFB 18-32 Demolition of New Milford Elementary School~~ – pulled by Administration
- D. ~~IFB 18-34 Marshall HVAC Controls – Rebid~~ – pulled by Administration
- E. ~~IFB 18-36 Flooring at Auburn, East and Guilford High Schools~~ – pulled by Administration
- F. ~~IFB 18-37 New Milford Abatement~~ – pulled by Administration – pulled by Administration
- G. ~~IFB 18-38 Flooring at Eisenhower, Riverdahl and Marshall Schools~~ – pulled by Administration
- H. ~~IFB 18-42 Rubber Mulch~~ – pulled by Administration

9. Recurring Contracts

- A. Recurring Contract with Discovery Center for Summer Programming – Dr. Woulfe
- B. Recurring Contract Extension with Stuart Stotts/Dusty Rose for Arts Grant Services – Dr. Woulfe
- C. Arc Design Resources – Recommendation on Approval of Contract for Civil Engineering and Surveying Services for Washington – Kevin Behling, Exec. Director of Design & Construction
- D. R.L. Johnson & Associates – Recommendation on Approve of Contract for Modular Classroom at Hillman Elementary School – Kevin Behling, Exec. Director of Design & Construction
- E. ~~2018 Graduation Ceremonies at Rock Valley College—Earl Dotson, Jr. – pulled by Mr. Seigel~~

10. *Other Consent

- A. IHSA Membership Renewal
- B. 2018-2019 Academic Calendar
- C. Resolution Reauthorizing Participation in the Illinois School District Liquid Asset Fund Plus – Ms. Michelle R. Jahr, CPA, Chief Financial Officer
- D. Resolution Authorizing Conveyance of a Portion of Parcel at Jefferson High School – Atty. Hoadley
- E. 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** Bid Recommendation pulled 8A, IFB 18-16 Certified Nursing Assistants.

The annual fiscal impact is \$981,604. The term of the contract is three years with two additional option years.

The total Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Recurring Contract pulled 9E, 2018 Graduation Ceremonies at Rock Valley College.

Mr. Seigel commented that concerns regarding the high school graduations need to be discussed with the high school principals. Discussion also included having a seating area for late arrivals. Administration will communicate additional parking available at Rock Valley. Approximate savings to the District is approximately \$5,000 to \$10,000.

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

Approved: Unanimously

11. *Closed Session Consent Items

- A. Appointment of Kimberly Ramsby as 12 Month Director of Special Education
- B. Appointment of Michael Rya as 12 Month Program Administrator for Special Education
- C. Appointment of Joseph Rue as 12 Month Program Administrator for Special Education
- D. Appointment of Amy Galvan as 12 Month Program Administrator for Special Education
- E. Appointment of Christina Southwick as 12 Month Program Administrator for Special Education
- F. Appointment of Sonia Perez as 12 Month Program Administrator for Special Education
- G. Appointment of Brett Vosburg as 12 Month Program Administrator for Special Education
- H. Appointment of Ellen Masters as 12 Month Program Administrator for Special Education
- I. Appointment of Kimberly Ver Vooren as 12 Month Program Administrator for Special Education
- J. Appointment of Lisa Jackson as 12 Month Program Administrator for Special Education
- K. Appointment of Gary Kulpa as 12 Month Program Administrator for Special Education
- L. Residency Hearing Officer Report Re: Student X's Family Residency Dispute
- M. Appeal of Uniform Grievance Decision Pursuant to Board Policy 2.260
- N. ~~HR Organizational Report & Addendum – pulled by Mr. Connor~~

12. *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 the 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-2030-18 – expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the second trimester of the 2018-2019 school year.
- B. GDM-4167-18 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the entire 2018-2019 school year.
- C. GDM-4168-18 – expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the first semester of the 2018-2019 school year.

- D. GDM-4169-18 – the expulsion is held in abeyance contingent upon an Expulsion in Abeyance Agreement for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the entire 2018-2019 school year.
- E. GDM-4170-18 – expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the first semester of the 2018-2019 school year.
- F. GDM-4171-18 – expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year and the entire 2018-2019 school year.
- G. GDM-4172-18 – the ten day suspension is affirmed.
- H. GDM-4173-18 – expelled for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year through the first semester of the 2018-2019 school year.

13. *Closed Session Consent Items – EIAs

- A. GDM-3494-18
- B. GDM-3498-18
- C. GDM-3499-18
- D. GDM-3500-18
- E. GDM-3501-18
- F. GDM-3502-18
- G. GDM-3503-18
- H. GDM-3504-18
- I. GDM-3505-18
- J. GDM-3506-18
- K. GDM-3507-18
- L. GDM-3508-18
- M. GDM-3509-18
- N. GDM-3510-18
- O. GDM-3511-18
- P. GDM-3512-18
- Q. GDM-3513-18
- R. GDM-3514-18
- S. GDM-3515-19
- T. GDM-3516-18
- U. GDM-3517-18

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

Approved: Unanimously

Motion by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** Closed Session Consent item pulled 11E, HR Report and Addendum.

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

Abstain: Mr. Connor

Approved: 6-0-1

14. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett

A. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett

Dr. Jarrett ceded his time to Ms. Grimmert.

B. Alignment Rockford Quarterly Update – Anisha Grimmert – Executive Director, Alignment Rockford
 Ms. Grimmert gave a PowerPoint presentation with updates to the Healthy Starts program. Phase Two Playgroup program pilot began in March and takes place at The Grove at Keith Creek. The Connected Families has a Single-Point-of Entry Referral card. Phase 2 will be Online Simple Enrollment Process. Updates to College & Career Readiness included the Capstone program, developing a framework that enables non enrolled English 12 Capstone students to have the experience. The Academy Expo will take place October 3, 2018 at Mercyhealth ISC Sportscore II. The Academy Expo is in its Institutionalization phase. This will be executed in three phases; Phase 1 allows two to three businesses to shadow from event planning to execution phase. Phase 2 including choosing a business and transferring ownership of the Academy Expo to the business partner for one year. Phase 3 will be a three year agreement with Alignment Rockford in an oversight role. Industry Councils focuses on Law and Public Safety, and Fire Science/Emergency Medical Technician. These are to implement and develop a workforce pipeline to grow local capacity. The presentation may be viewed by clicking on this link: [Alignment Rockford](#).

15.

Committee Reports

A. Education Committee – Mrs. Makulec

The committee has not met since the last Board meeting. It will meet Tuesday, April 17, 2018.

B. Finance Committee – Mr. Rollins

The committee met April 2, 2018. Agenda items included updates on the FY19 Budget development. Each department has been asked to reduce their budget by one percent (1%) to find funds for strategic initiatives. The Tort fund shows an increase due to the contract with an athletic trainer with OSF. The initial terms were very favorable but there is a significant increase. City of Rockford police service is \$1.2MM, private security services is \$1.03MM, and the collective liability insurance cooperative is \$1.6MM. Human Resources budget was discussed. There are issues with workload and compensation. People are leaving for private industry. Talent Development budget is status quo with a potential request for a lead mentor for new teachers. Fine Arts has a potential request for a Fine Arts coordinator as there are many more events. Performance uniforms for band, choir, and orchestra have also been requested. Continuous Improvement showed a reduction in their budget 12.7% and in the Process Improvement budget a decrease 26%. Their potential requests are Dean of Instruction Leaders, an Elementary EOPA trainer, Secondary EOPA trainer, three auditors and a process for student record improvement. Communications Department including Security Services was the final budget presentation. The Literacy Council pays for Tutors and the Communications Department acts as a pass through for the funding.

The budget will be presented by break down of the location of the spending, centralized services, and direct services to schools. The Strategic Goals will be used as part of the budgeting process, which five goals the District is making the investment in. Reductions will be highlighted and the “ask” list will show what was cut and what was approved. The overall budget will be presented at the April 16, 2018 Finance Committee meeting. The complete packet can be viewed by clicking on this link: [Finance Committee](#).

C. Operations Committee – Mr. Connor

The committee met April 3, 2018. Agenda items three agenda items that were recommended to Board. In addition, the Facilities Master Plan update was discussed and members were given an update for custodial services. The packet can be viewed by clicking on this link: [Operations Committee](#). The committee will meet Tuesday, May 1, 2018.

16.

*Action Items

A. Defined STEM – Kari Neri, Executive Director of Curriculum and Heidi Dettman, Executive Director of Academics

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to **approve** item 16A, Defined STEM.

Discussion included items that are part of the curriculum adoption. The Cengage National Geographic materials are specifically for the District’s ESL students. Those students speak a variety of languages and are at different levels. The goal is to align the resource to support language acquisition and support the core instruction they are receiving in integrated literacy. It provides the content and key pieces of language. The difference between bilingual and ESL was explained. Transitional Bilingual Education (TBE) is separate from the TPI (Transitional Program of Instruction) or ESL. District teachers instruct students from 113 different languages to learn English. Teachers reviewed different curricula and found National Geographic is best for teaching English as a second language and provide the proper tools to accomplish this.

Professional development is available for staff. Board members requested moving forward with curriculum needs that a cost analysis needs to be included in the discussion.

- Cengage Learning/National Geographic Learning:
Each teacher receives a Teacher’s Edition Set (2 volumes), Teacher Support Pack
8 Literature Big Books, Language Songs Big Book, Cross-Curricular Teamwork Activities,
Language and Literacy Teamwork Activities, and Academic Talk Flipchart
Fiction Library Single-Copy Set 1 copy each of 48 titles
For each grade level "Nonfiction Library 48 titles set for each grade level Practice Book Blackline
Masters Assessment Handbook
Every student receives an anthology and an online account for activities Student Book Set plus my
NGconnect (6 year license)
- Defined STEM: Every building will receive three years online access
- Follett: For every essential learning outcome in the curriculum, each classroom will receive
1 teacher mentor text
5 copies of a literature text for small group instruction

5 copies of an informational text for small group instruction

All three trimesters are included in the quote

Copies in Spanish will be included

- NSTA Picture Perfect Science

Each teacher will receive a teacher lesson and activity books

Each building will receive 1 classroom supply kit for each grade level

Each building will receive 1 K-2 book collection and 1 3-5 book collection

- B. Core Connections Integrated1 – Kari Neri, Executive Director of Curriculum and Heidi Dettman, Executive Director of Academics
- C. Picture Perfect Science – Kari Neri, Executive Director of Curriculum and Heidi Dettman, Executive Director of Academics
- D. World Cultures and Geography – Kari Neri, Executive Director of Curriculum and Heidi Dettman, Executive Director of Academics
- E. Cengage Learning/National Geographic Learning – Misael Nascimento – Executive Director of Bilingual
Mr. Scrivano requested Board members amend the original motion to include approval of all the Action items.

Motion by Mrs. Makulec seconded by Mr. Connor to **amend** the original motion to include in the vote items 16A- 16E, Defined STEM, Core Connections Integrated 1, Picture Perfect Science, World Culture and Geography, Cengage Learning/National Geographic Learning

Approved: Unanimously

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote on the original motion.

Approved: Unanimously as amended

17. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

Administration is requesting the Board to suspend the rules to consider item 17A. Funds are allocated for this purchase in FY18, and the last day to enter a purchase order for FY18 budget is April 20, 2018.

- A. **Follett Texts for Integrated Literacy – Kari Neri, Executive Director of Curriculum and Heidi Dettman, Executive Director of Academics

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **suspend the rules** to consider item 17A.

Administration was asked to bring this to the Board once they had all the needed items in place. This was part of the curriculum adoption first presented at the Education Committee meeting.

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

Absent from the Vote: Mr. Dixon

Approved: 6-0-1

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** item 17A, Follett Texts for Integrated Literacy.

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

Absent from the Vote: Mr. Dixon

Approved: 6-0-1

- B. ComEd – Agreement for Electrical Service for Constance Lane Elementary School – Kevin Behling, Executive Director of Design & Construction

This is to install electrical service at Constance Lane Elementary School. The fiscal impact is \$24,722.91.

This will return for a vote at the 4/24/18 Board meeting.

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

Adjournment: 9:18 p.m.

Approved: 4/24/18

President: Kenneth J. Scrivano /s/

Secretary: Michael S. Connor /s/

/ljf