Pursuant to motion made in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act and approved on a roll call vote, the Board convened in closed session at 5:08 p.m. Members Jackson, Westholder, Saudargas, Makulec, Mitchell, and Kelley were present. Member Evans was absent. Present also were Superintendent Sheffield, Special Assistant to the Chief Financial Officer Davenport, Chief of Student Support Cyrus, Attorney Lester and Executive Coordinator Halsted.

Consensus of Board to \( \checkmark \) approve \_ disapprove and/or further action as follows:

**Item #1.**

Brief Description: Personnel & Addendum / Administrative Appointments

Summary of Discussion: Mrs. Davenport presented the Personnel and Addendum and the Administrative Appointments. Questions were raised about current status. Mrs. Davenport confirmed that \( \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \) has retired from her employment with the District. In response to Mr. Mitchell, Mrs. Davenport committed to investigate a complaint received from a candidate waiting to find out if she has been officially hired.

Mrs. Davenport and Dr. Sheffield updated the board on an investigation already in process related to an applicant who was not placed as a reading specialist after receiving in-house training. Any teacher with the desire to receive that training was welcome to apply for the training. One-hundred slots were offered and only 63 were taken.

Mrs. Makulec described a situation in which an employee did not apply for other positions because the impression by the principal was that they would be rehired, but then was not placed. Mrs. Westholder stated that there is no obligation for those employees to be rehired. It is the responsibility of the employee to cast their net widely.

Dr. Sheffield informed the board that there are surplus teachers who have not applied for positions. These teachers will be placed where they are most qualified; principals who have vacancies will receive these persons. She described the placement process including those present and the importance of rationales.

The above matters were referred to open session for action.

**Item #2.**

Brief Description: Legal

Summary of Discussion: Atty. Lester stated Atty. Hoadley will provide updates upon her return.
Item #3.

Brief Description: Student Discipline

Summary of Discussion: Ms. Cyrus presented the following hearing officer reports and discipline packets. Members agreed to consider dispositions in open session as listed:

a. CT1 – expelled for the 1st semester of the 2010/2011 school year
b. BL2 – expelled for the 1st semester of the 2010/2011 school year
c. JGB3 – suspended for 10 days out of school as served
d. EL4 – suspended for 10 days out of school as served
e. JT5 – suspended for 10 days out of school as served
f. BM6 – expelled for the 1st semester of the 2010/2011 school year
g. JM7 – suspended for 10 days out of school as served
h. SS8 – expelled for the 1st semester of the 2010/2011 school year
i. DF9 – expelled for the entire 2010/2011 school year
j. TH10 – expelled for the 1st semester of the 2010/2011 school year

Expelled students are to be prohibited from school and all school-sponsored activities and prohibited from being on school grounds without the prior written permission of the principal. Those expelled would be recommended for alternative placement and the 10-day suspensions are affirmed.

The above matters were referred to open session for action.

*The Administration was dismissed for the board to conduct the following business:*

Item #4.

Brief Description: Superintendent Evaluation Process

Summary of Discussion: Mr. Kelley informed the board that Mr. Quinn is scheduled as the facilitator for the evaluation on July 22. The email from Mr. Quinn requesting individual 30 minute telephone meetings with each board member was forwarded to board members by Mr. Kelley.

At 7:40 p.m. the Board, upon motion by ______ seconded by ______, that the board recessed to reconvene in Open Session in Room 207.

(Second Closed Session - Administration Dismissed for this portion)

Pursuant to Motion made in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act and approved on a roll call vote, the Board reconvened in closed session at 9:40 p.m. Members Kelley, Mitchell, Jackson, Westholder, Makulec, Evans and Saudargas were present. Present also was: Attorney Tom Lester.

Consensus of Board to ___ approve ______ disapprove and/or further action as follows:
Item #1: Brief Description: Continuation of previous discussion re: certain allegations made in a letter from

Summary of Discussion: Ms. Westholder made a request to finish up the discussion from earlier to be clear that there is a direction or an agreement of the Board before leaving. The question to be addressed is whether Attorney Hoadley is to be investigating or not, the issues of certain accusations made by

Consensus was reached that the letter will be placed in his permanent personnel file and will serve as documentation of the controversy.

Item #2: Brief Description: Superintendent Evaluation

Summary of Discussion: There was a brief discussion regarding the consultant from the Broad Foundation contacting the Board Members for individual interviews prior to meeting for the Superintendent’s Evaluation. Member Mitchell raised concerns regarding the confidentiality of information shared with the consultant.

Item #3: Brief Description: Background Searches

Summary of Discussion: A brief discussion took place about what type of background searches that were conducted when candidates were interviewed for the Superintendent’s position.

Mr. Kelley stated that it would take a vote of 4 board members to approve an investigation into the allegations raised by and he did not want to pursue such an investigation. There was no consensus to take any action other than follow Attorney Lester’s advice,

A motion to adjourn and go back into open session was made by Mrs. Saudargas at 10:22 p.m. Motion is approved on voice vote.

The entire session was recorded.

Approved: August 24, 2010

jjk
The regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education was called to order by President David Kelley at 5:07 p.m. Present: President David Kelley, Vice President Harmon Mitchell, Secretary Jeanne Westholder, Ms. Lisa Jackson, Mrs. Jude Makulec, Mrs. Alice Saudargas. Absent: Mr. Robert Evans.

Motion by Mrs. Saudargas seconded by Mrs. Westholder that the Board hold a Closed Session in Room 202 to consider the appointment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of employees or legal counsel; the discipline of students; pending or imminent litigation; collective negotiating matters or other matters provided for pursuant to §2 (c) of the Open Meetings Act. Approved unanimously by those present.

The Board was in closed session from 5:08 p.m. until 7:45 p.m.

I. Call to Order – President David Kelley called the regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education to order at 7:55 p.m.

II. Moment of Silence

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Roll Call
Present: President David Kelley, Vice President Harmon Mitchell, Secretary Jeanne Westholder, Ms. Lisa Jackson, Mrs. Jude Makulec, Mrs. Alice Saudargas (arrived 7:35 p.m.)

Absent: Mr. Robert Evans.
On behalf of the entire board, Mr. Kelley thanked the Auburn Media Students for their assistance in operating the camera and sound equipment in order to telecast this board meeting.

Motion by Mr. Kelley seconded by Mrs. Saudargas that the board accept the amended agenda to include Administrative Appointments F, G & H.

Ayes: Mrs. Westholder, Mrs. Saudargas, Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Kelley, Ms. Jackson.

Nays: None.

Absent: Mr. Evans.

Approved 6-0-1.

V. Petitions & Communications – the guidelines were read by Mr. Kelley.

- JoAnn Sheheen, Watchdog for Educational Ethics – Asked for a rationale for the expense of books as summer reading for kindergarten through 7th grade students. This expense takes Title I resources from schools. She suggested that the district work with the public library system. Asked how the books add to skill building in families that do not read or speak English, how books were determined skill-level appropriate, and how data will be reported to evidence the use.

VI. Recognition
A. Students
1. Pennies for Peace Campaign Participants – Emily Shore, student, and Mr. & Mrs. Jim Keeling presented their 2010 Humanitarian Award to the Board President.

B. Employees
1. Employee of the Month – Julie Burger, Professional Development, was honored.

VII. Board Member Comments
- Mrs. Saudargas commended the Sharefest remodeling work at West. She announced the 70th year anniversary celebration of West.
- Mrs. Westholder shared her experience volunteering for Sharefest at West and expressed her thanks to the contributors.
- Mrs. Makulec requested that Mrs. Shaheen submit her request electronically to Dr. Sheffield and copy the board so they receive a copy of her response.
- Mr. Mitchell invited everyone to participate in the Sharefest celebration to see the work completed. He shared his experience attending the East High Class of 1955 reunion.

VIII. Consent Items
A. Personnel & Addendum
B. Payroll
C. Accounts Payable Checks – pulled by Mrs. Makulec
D. Purchase Orders – pulled by Mrs. Makulec
E. Contracts $10,000 & Under
F. Airfare
G. Bids & Recommendations
1. Energy Management System Service

H. Recurring Contracts
1. Teaching American History Grant Contracts – pulled by Ms. Jackson
   a. E-Learning Systems International
   b. JD Bowers, Historian-in-Residence
   c. Kathryn Maley, External Evaluator

I. Closed Session Items
1. Administrative Appointments
   a. A – Brent Johnson as 10-month Assistant Principal of Flinn
   b. B – Janet Green as 12-month Assistant Principal of Curriculum for Title I Elementary
   c. C – Beth Conkling as 11-month Supervisor of Positive Behavior Support
   d. D – Timothy Rockhold as 10-month Assistant Principal of Page Park
   e. E – Edith Monroy as 12-month Assistant Principal of Curriculum Technology
   f. F – Kerry Burd as 12-month Supervisor of Psychology
   g. G – Lauren Ortiz-Sanchez as 10-month Assistant Principal of West
   h. H – Patrick Abrahamson as 10-month Assistant Principal at Guilford

2. Student Discipline - Expelled students are prohibited from school and all school-sponsored activities and prohibited from being on school grounds without written permission of the principal. Those expelled are recommended for alternative placement and the 10-day suspensions are affirmed.
   a. CT1 – expelled for the 1st semester of the 2010/2011 school year
   b. BL2 – expelled for the 1st semester of the 2010/2011 school year
   c. JGB3 – suspended for 10 days out of school as served
   d. EL4 – suspended for 10 days out of school as served – pulled by Mrs. Makulec
   e. JT5 – suspended for 10 days out of school as served
   f. BM6 – expelled for the 1st semester of the 2010/2011 school year
g. JM7—suspended for 10 days out of school as served — pulled by Mrs. Makulec
h. SS8—expelled for the 1st semester of the 2010/2011 school year
i. DF9—expelled for the entire 2010/2011 school year — pulled by Ms. Jackson
j. TH10—expelled for the 1st semester of the 2010/2011 school year — pulled by Mrs. Westholder

J. Other Consent
1. Resolution to Approve a Sanitary Sewer Easement and Temporary Construction Easement
2. Freedom of Information Act Log

**Motion** by Mrs. Saudargas **seconded** by Ms. Jackson that the board **approve** Consent Items Not Pulled.

Ayes: Mrs. Saudargas, Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Kelley, Ms. Jackson, Mrs. Westholder.
Nays: None.
Absent: Mr. Evans.

**Approved** 6-0-1.

Mr. Mitchell stated that some contracts up to $25,000 belong on the Consent Agenda as well as those up to $10,000.
Dr. Sheffield stated that the additional items will be added as appropriate.

**Consent Items Pulled**
- Accounts Payable Checks — Mrs. Makulec requested that the detailed itemization of checks be provided in advance of the board meeting in addition to the summary report.

  **Motion** by Mrs. Makulec **seconded** by Ms. Jackson that the board **approve** Accounts Payable Checks.

  Ayes: Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Kelley, Ms. Jackson, Mrs. Westholder, Mrs. Saudargas.
  Nays: None.
  Absent: Mr. Evans.

  **Approved** 6-0-1.

- Purchase Orders — Mrs. Makulec requested that the detailed itemization of purchase orders be provided in advance of the board meeting in addition to the summary report.

  Dr. Sheffield explained that the timing of the Operations Committee being just the evening prior caused the delay.

  **Motion** by Mrs. Makulec **seconded** by Mrs. Saudargas that the board **approve** Purchase Orders.

  Ayes: Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Kelley, Ms. Jackson, Mrs. Westholder, Mrs. Saudargas, Mrs. Makulec.
  Nays: None.
  Absent: Mr. Evans.

  **Approved** 6-0-1.

- Teaching American History Grants — Mrs. Betsy Homewood provided an explanation of the grant expenditures.

  **Motion** by Mrs. Westholder **seconded** by Mr. Kelley that the board **approve** Teaching American History Grants.

  Ayes: Mr. Kelley, Ms. Jackson, Mrs. Westholder, Mrs. Saudargas, Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Mitchell.
  Nays: None.
  Absent: Mr. Evans.

  **Approved** 6-0-1.

- Student Discipline EL4 — suspended for 10 days out of school as served

  **Motion** by Mrs. Saudargas **seconded** by Mrs. Makulec that the board **approve** Student Discipline EL4.

  Ayes: Ms. Jackson, Mrs. Westholder, Mrs. Saudargas, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Kelley.
Nays: Mrs. Makulec.
Absent: Mr. Evans.
**Approved** 5-1-1.

- **Student Discipline JM7** – suspended for 10 days out of school as served
  
  **Motion** by Mrs. Saudargas **seconded** by Mr. Kelley that the board **approve** Student Discipline JM7.
  
  Ayes: Mrs. Westholder, Mrs. Saudargas, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Kelley, Ms. Jackson.
  
  Nays: Mrs. Makulec.
  
  Absent: Mr. Evans.
  
  **Approved** 5-1-1.

- **Student Discipline DF9** – expelled for the entire 2010/2011 school year
  
  **Motion** by Mrs. Saudargas **seconded** by Ms. Jackson that the board **approve** Student Discipline DF9.
  
  Ayes: Mrs. Saudargas, Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Kelley, Mrs. Westholder
  
  Nays: None.
  
  Absent: Mr. Evans.
  
  Abstain: Ms. Jackson
  
  **Approved** 5-0-1-1.

- **Student Discipline TH10** – expelled for the 1st semester of the 2010/2011 school year
  
  **Motion** by Mrs. Saudargas **seconded** by Mrs. Makulec that the board **approve** Student Discipline TH10.
  
  Ayes: Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Kelley, Mrs. Saudargas.
  
  Nays: Mrs. Westholder, Ms. Jackson.
  
  Absent: Mr. Evans.
  
  **Approved** 4-2-1.

IX. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent's Comments: Dr. Sheffield made the following comments: “Good evening. Next week is a busy week for Rockford Public Schools, even though it is the middle of July.

Our summer session ends Thursday, July 22, for approximately 3,000 elementary, middle and high school students. Thursday is also Commencement Day for approximately 50 students who completed their graduation requirements in summer classes at Roosevelt.

As you know, students at the high school level pay tuition to take summer courses. At the elementary level, funding is provided through the Summer Bridges grant. Enrollment in Summer Bridges exceeded 1,800 students in five elementary buildings.

Meanwhile, the Superintendent's Summer Challenge: Promoting Healthy Bodies and Healthy Minds has been a resounding success. In all, nearly 1,200 students participated in the afternoon enrichment activities – many of them at no charge to families through the use of grant funds. Those activities included sports camps, arts camps and ACT prep camps – to name a few – and, of course, FarmTown, which you'll hear more about in a few minutes. Again, the rich variety of learning opportunities resulted from our collaboration with a number of community agencies: the Rockford Park District, Rockford College, Rock Valley College, Benedictine College, the Discovery Center, YMCA and YWCA.

Let me also remind the board that they have had the information regarding the summer books for some time. I've shared with you in various mediums, including the weekly board update, the sources of funding for that program. I would also like to share with the board that our challenge is to serve all children, including those who experience difficulty reading, cannot read, or speak languages other than English. It is our moral obligation, moreover, it is our legal responsibility.
As I've said before, our staff members are also busy learning over the summer. Teachers, administrators and support personnel are sincerely invested in their growth as evidenced by more than 7,000 course registrations to date in our summer Professional Development program. It should be noted that the majority of these workshops were designed and recommended by a task force comprised of teachers, administrators and support personnel.

We'll close out next week Friday, July 23, with the 2nd Annual Rockford Public Schools Golf Scramble for Sports at Elliot Golf Course with dinner at the Radisson. It's not too late to sign up at rps205.com for a fun day on the links to benefit a good cause – our athletic programs. Because of the time of year, that qualifies to be part of my regular sports update. I do have one other item, however. In baseball, Auburn High School went into the Summer League semi-finals as the top-seeded team, with a 10-0 record over five weeks of play. East High School, ranked third among 16 teams, also was headed for the semi-finals. Before moving on to two special presentations, I want to let our audience know to watch for the summer edition of our newsletter, Context, which is scheduled to arrive by US mail at 90,000 households a week from today. The newsletter provides a year-in-review summary of our accomplishments and discusses our plans for the future.

At this time, I'll turn the floor over to Dr. Thomas Schmitt and Mr. Todd Schmidt to update us on Farmtown and present a video. Following their presentation, we'll hear from Roosevelt art teacher, Leslie Arbetman, and her former student, 2010 Roosevelt valedictorian Zachary Beets, about their recent trip to Carnegie Hall in New York City for the Scholastic National Art & Writing Awards. And congratulations to Mrs. Arbetman on the birth of her child.

Dr. Schmitt provided a video presentation featuring Farmtown. He added that the program is not intended to compete with those who make a living through farmer's markets. Sustainable and organic practices are used, but organic certification is not being sought. Mr. Larosa and his students gave an overview of the Farmtown program. The goal is to provide a hands-on learning experience on the many aspects of farming from planting to market, as well as food preparation and healthy eating. Twenty-three students are enrolled, with regular attendance of about 16.

Dr. Sheffield noted that the University of Illinois extension provided the plants and vegetables. They are making arrangements with the city market for a sales opportunity. Mrs. Makulec suggested that the group attend local markets rather than travel to Chicago to see examples.

Mrs. Saudargas expressed her support for the program, and suggested growing a garden at home.

Mrs. Westholder is excited about the program and mentioned that she has seen several community gardens this year.

Mrs. Leslie Arbetman & Mr. Zachary Beets shared a presentation on their trip to Carnegie Hall to receive the Scholastic National Art & Writing Award. Mrs. Westholder complimented Mrs. Arbetman on her instructional skill and Mr. Beets on his artistry.

X. Committee Reports
   A. Education Committee – Mrs. Makulec reported that the committee heard a report as an overview of the Academics Department. Mrs. Stevenson-Olson stated that highlights included focus on implementation of reading materials with professional development, standards-based report cards with parent training, middle-school planning, elementary to middle transition, March-to-March curriculum, Bilingual, Gifted & CAPA program development, and curriculum consistency. Reading materials will be available for teacher review as early as this week for some schools, by no later than two weeks for the balance. The next Education Committee meeting is pending chairman approval.
B. Operations Committee – Mr. Mitchell reported that the committee heard a presentation on the West State Street Linear Park project; Project Eagle, a proposed real estate tax incentive program that will come to the board in August; the technology upgrade update; and reviewed the revised travel regulation. The committee plans to meet the first Monday of each month, except in September.

Mr. Keffer explained that the previous travel regulation required submission of receipts, whereas the proposed regulation will offer a per diem payment such as many large organizations use to streamline the process. Mrs. Makulec expressed concern related to cost of living differences from one destination to another.

Mr. Schmidt described the technology training plan that has begun and will continue for certified and non-certified staff.

XI. Action Items
A. **Intergovernmental Agreement with Rockford Park District – Atty. Lester explained that the agreement required additional legal review to ensure clarification of liabilities, which has caused the need to request that the board suspend the rules for consideration after the programs have already begun.

Mrs. Saudargas objected to the board suspending the rules to consider the agreement. **Motion** by Mr. Kelley that the board **suspend** the rules to consider Intergovernmental Agreement with Rockford Park District

Ayes: Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Kelley, Mrs. Saudargas.
Nays: Ms. Jackson, Mrs. Westholder, Mrs. Makulec.
Absent: Mr. Evans.

**Failed** 3-3-1.

Mrs. Makulec requested the budgeted amount for the Park District services.

XII. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations
A. TCM Workshops for the Teaching American History Grant – Mrs. Homewood provided an explanation of the grant expenditure.

Mrs. Saudargas requested that the district enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Rockford Public Library for the partnerships that exist.

Mrs. Makulec requested a description of items that qualify for the Contracts Under $10,000 report and the Contracts Under $25,000 report.

At 9:30 p.m. the board recessed upon **motion** by Mrs. Westholder, **seconded** by Ms. Jackson, that board **reconvene** in closed session to consider personnel matters.

Ayes: Mr. Kelley, Ms. Jackson, Mrs. Westholder, Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Mitchell.
Nays: Mrs. Saudargas.
Absent: Mr. Evans.

**Approved**: 5-1-1.

The meeting was called back to order by President David Kelley at 9:40 p.m.

Present: President David Kelley, Vice President Harmon Mitchell, Secretary Jeanne Westholder, Ms. Lisa Jackson, Mrs. Jude Makulec, Mrs. Alice Saudargas.

Absent: Mr. Robert Evans.

The board proceeded to **hold** a Closed Session in Room 202 to the appointment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of employees or legal counsel; or other matters provided for pursuant to §2 (c) of the Open Meetings Act.
The Board was in closed session from 9:40 p.m. until 10:22 p.m.

Approved: 8/10/2010

/jh

President: 

Secretary: 

Page 7 of 7
Pursuant to Motion made in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act and approved on a roll call vote, the Board convened in closed session at 3:17 p.m. Members Kelley, Mitchell, Jackson, Westholder, Makulec and Saudargas were present. Member Evans arrived at 4:05. Present also were: Superintendent Sheffield, Attorney Tom Lester, Lori Fanello of ISBA, Director Tim Quinn and Executive Coordinator Halsted.

Consensus of Board to √ approve ____ disapprove and/or further action as follows:

Item #1: Brief Description: Administrative Appointments

Summary of Discussion: Dr. Sheffield provided an explanation of the administrative appointments and teacher recommendations.

Dr. Sheffield explained she has directed HR to fill all certified teaching positions possible with surplus teachers. The principal/assistant principals of a particular school can interview teachers, and make a recommendation to HR for whom they want placed in an open position using a system of ranking the teachers of their choice. The teachers also rank their choices of schools, and ideally, at some point the choices will intersect. However, the final hiring recommendation occurs during the formal placements. Individuals who are involved in the placement process include Lori Hoadley, Shantina Davenport, Deetra Sallis and a union representative. The final hiring decision is not complete until there is a notification from HR that the board has approved of that placement.

A brief discussion was had about the economic benefits of using the surplus teachers that have not been terminated first because the District is obligated to pay the salaries of the surplus teachers who are not placed. Teachers who have not been rehired can continue to reapply, as there is another round of placements that will take place.

Item #2: Brief Description: Board Self-Evaluation

Summary of Discussion: Tim Quinn of the Broad Foundation facilitated the discussion regarding the self-evaluation. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the evaluation process. Mr. Quinn presented a power point which highlighted the following areas:

1. Strengths in Roles of Board Members
2. Areas of Continuing Focus for Improvement

At 5:00 p.m., the Board, upon motion by Mrs. Westholder, seconded by Mrs. Saudargas, voted that the board take a brief recess. Motion approved by voice vote.
At 5:17 p.m. the Board reconvened in closed session.

Item #3: Brief Description: Superintendent's Annual Self-Assessment

Summary of Discussion: The Superintendent shared a presentation of her self-assessment on the goals adopted by the school board last year, and steps that have been taken to meet those goals. The following items were completed over the year and discussed in the presentation:

- The Plan of Entry
- Best Practice review of Teaching and Learning Area
- Best Practice Review of Operations Area
- The District's strategic plan
- Accountability plan for the District that will be tied to District's indicators of success.

Dr. Sheffield then reviewed the strengths she feels she brings as Superintendent, and areas that need continued focus and growth.

Following her presentation, Superintendent Sheffield left the Board Meeting, and the remaining members proceeded as follows:

1. Discussion of the use of the committee system and presentation of items that need to go before the Board.

Summary of Discussion: Mrs. Westholder began a discussion.
2. Recap of Dr. Sheffield's self-evaluation

Summary of Discussion: Mr. Quinn readdressed the Board Members at this time about the information that Dr. Sheffield shared in her self-evaluation, and answered questions from members. An extended discussion was had by the members regarding their opinions of the areas of strength and weaknesses that Dr. Sheffield covered, and areas of improvement the Board would like to see over the next year. The Board Members discussed and agreed that Mr. Quinn would draft a memo to Dr. Sheffield based on her self assessment, and the assessments of the Board Members, that will reflect the areas of agreement and recommendations for the future.

At 8:38 p.m. the Board, upon motion by Mrs. Makulec seconded by Mrs. Jackson reconvened in open session.

The entire session was recorded.

Approved: August 24, 2010

/sjk
The special meeting of the Rockford Board of Education was called to order by President David Kelley at 3:16 p.m.

Present: President David Kelley, Vice President Harmon Mitchell, Secretary Jeanne Westholder, Mr. Robert Evans (arrived 4:05 p.m.), Ms. Lisa Jackson, Mrs. Jude Makulec, Mrs. Alice Saudargas.

Absent: None.

Motion by Mrs. Westholder, seconded by Mrs. Saudargas, that the Board hold a Closed Session to consider the appointment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of employees; to conduct self-evaluation, practices and procedures or professional ethics in the presence of a representative of a statewide association of which the body is a member; or other matters pursuant to §2 (c) of the Open Meetings Act.

Approved unanimously.

The Board was in closed session at 3:17 p.m. until 8:38 p.m.

I. Reconvene in Open Session

Motion by Mrs. Makulec, seconded by Ms. Jackson, that the Board reconvene in Open Session.

II. Present: President David Kelley, Vice President Harmon Mitchell, Secretary Jeanne Westholder, Mr. Robert Evans, Ms. Lisa Jackson, Mrs. Jude Makulec, Mrs. Alice Saudargas.

Absent: None.

III. Petitions & Communications – No speakers present.

Mrs. Makulec suggested changing the Board Policy to require a super-majority to approve the use of available funds such as the phrase “available funds” would be changed to “revenues.”

Mr. Evans suggested that the Administration take steps to tighten the fiscal belt.

IV. Consent Items

A. Minutes – June 22, 2010

B. Personnel & Addendum – pulled by Administration

C. Closed Session Items

a. A – Michelle Anderson as 10-month Assistant Principal of Flinn

b. B – Katherine Corken as 10-month Assistant Principal of Auburn

c. C – Pachia Tenpas-Rice as 12-month Assistant Principal of Auburn

d. D – Brian Harshany as 10-month Assistant Principal of Auburn

e. E – Terry Deischer as 12-month Assistant Principal of Special Education

f. F – Jennifer Rickels as 12-month Assistant Principal of Special Education

g. G – Evan Caine as 10-month Principal of McIntosh

h. H – Martina Smith as 11-month Assistant Principal of Lewis Lemon

i. I – Eric Borchardt as 12-month Assistant Principal of Ellis
Motion by Ms. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Evans, that the board approve Consent Items.
Ayes: Ms. Jackson, Mrs. Westholder, Mrs. Saudargas, Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Evans, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Kelley.
Approved unanimously.

V. Reconvene in Closed Session

VI. Adjournment
Motion by Ms. Jackson, seconded by Mrs. Makulec, that the board adjourn at 8:52 p.m.
Approved on voice vote.

President: 
Secretary: 

Approved: 8/10/2010

/jh
Pursuant to Motion made in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act and approved on a roll call vote, the Board convened in closed session at 5:07 p.m. Members, Jackson, Rollins, Scrivano, Makulec, Mitchell and Powers were present. Also present were: Attorney Tom Lester, and Executive Coordinator Halsted.

Consensus of Board to √ approve ___ disapprove and/or further action as follows:

Item #1: Brief Description: Interviews of Candidates for Interim Superintendent.

Summary of Discussion: The Board Members met with each of the candidates for Interim Superintendent to discuss their qualifications and ask questions regarding the position.

The candidates interviewed were Mrs. Janet Jones, Dr. Robert Willis, Dr. Robert Luckett and Dr. Craig Fiegel.

At the completion of all interviews the Board took a brief recess at 4:33 p.m. The Board reconvened at 4:39 p.m. for a time of discussion regarding the interviews.

The Board Members discussed strengths of each candidate and various concerns about each one.

There was further discussion regarding the two remaining candidates. There was a consensus of the Board Members to extend an offer to Dr. Robert Willis for the Interim Superintendent position. The details of the contract with Dr. Willis would be finalized at a future meeting after successful completion of a background check.

Background checks will be completed on both candidates. It was agreed that any announcement to the media about the Interim Superintendent would be made following the completion of the background checks.

At ______ p.m., the Board, upon motion made by Lisa Jackson, seconded by Jude Makulec, recessed and reconvened in open session.

The entire closed session was recorded.

Approved: ___________
The special meeting of the Rockford Board of Education was called to order by President Harmon Mitchell at 10:10 a.m.

Present: President Harmon Mitchell, Vice President Jude Makulec, Secretary Lisa Jackson, Mrs. Laura Powers, Mr. Kenneth Scrivano, Mr. Tim Rollins.

Absent: None.

Motion by Mr. Rollins, seconded by Mrs. Makulec that the Board hold a Closed Session to consider the appointment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of employees; the discipline of students provided for pursuant to §2 (c) of the Open Meetings Act.

Approved unanimously

The Board was in closed session from 10:11 a.m. until 5:33 p.m.

Petitions & Communications – no speakers present.

Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Jackson seconded by Mr. Rollins to adjourn the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

President:

Secretary:

Approved: 5/24/2011

/jh
CLOSED SESSION MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ROCKFORD
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205
June 17, 2011

Pursuant to Motion made in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act and approved on a roll call vote, the Board convened in closed session at 6:01 p.m. Members, Jackson, Rollins, Scrivano, Makulec, Powers and Moore were present. Member Mitchell was absent. Also present were: Interim Superintendent Dr. Robert Willis, Attorney Tom Lester, and Executive Coordinator to the Superintendent Roberta Edwards.

Consensus of Board to □ approve □ disapprove and/or further action as follows:

Item #1: Brief Description: Ranking of Priorities for Bargaining

Summary of Discussion: Attorney Lester presented to the Board Members the list of suggested categories and areas of contract modification to be discussed for bargaining. Board Members were asked to rank each one by importance in their opinion, in order to give the bargaining team an idea of the priority of each issue.

There was a discussion of some of the specific items presented in this list and some additional things that have been discussed previously by the Board Members that need to be added to the ranking list.

Item #2: Brief Description: Administrator Contracts

Summary of Discussion: Dr. Willis presented the Administrator’s contracts that have been signed by the new Assistant Superintendents and Director of Communications. The contracts were being presented for approval of the Board Members. There was a review of the Organizational Chart and a discussion about the areas the new administrators will oversee, as well as the positions that have been eliminated or changed according to information given on the new chart.

There was an extended discussion on the terms of the contracts being presented regarding the inclusion of the two-year time frame and corresponding pay for each position. Dr. Willis answered the specific questions and concerns of the Board Members about these placements.

At 7:17 p.m., the Board, upon motion made by Tim Rollins, seconded by Ken Scrivano, recessed and reconvened in open session.

The entire closed session was recorded.

Approved: ________
Call to Order - The special meeting of the Rockford Board of Education was called to order by Vice President Jude Makulec at 6:01 p.m.

Roll Call
Present: Vice President Jude Makulec, Secretary Lisa Jackson, Mrs. Laura Powers (arrived after roll call), Mr. Tim Rollins, Mr. Kenneth Scrivano.
Absent: President Harmon Mitchell.

Convene in Closed Session
The board proceeded to hold a Closed Session to consider the appointment, compensation, or dismissal of specific employee of the public body; collective negotiating matters; the purchase, lease or sale of real property; superintendent's contract or other matters pursuant to §2 (c) of the Open Meetings Act.

Approved 5-0-2.

The Board was in closed session from 6:05 p.m. until 7:22 p.m.

Reconvene in Open Session - The board reconvened in open session at 7:22 p.m.

Consent Items, Not Pulled
A. Meeting Minutes of June 14, 2011
Motion by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mr. Scrivano that the board approve the Consent Item not pulled, Meeting Minutes of June 14, 2011.
Approved 5-1-1.

B. Closed Session
1. Multi-Year Performance Based Employment Contract for Assistant Superintendent MV
Motion by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mrs. Powers that the board approve Multi-Year Performance Based Employment Contract for Assistant Superintendent MV.
Ayes: Makulec, Moore, Powers, Rollins, Scrivano.
Nays: Jackson.
Absent: Mitchell.
Approved 5-1-1.

2. Multi-Year Performance Based Employment Contract for Assistant Superintendent EJ
Motion by Mr. Scrivano seconded by Mr. Rollins that the board approve Multi-Year Performance Based Employment Contract for Assistant Superintendent EJ.
Ayes: Moore, Powers, Rollins, Scrivano, Makulec.
Nays: Jackson.
Absent: Mitchell.
Approved 5-1-1.

3. Multi-Year Performance Based Employment Contract for Assistant Superintendent MH
Motion by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mr. Scrivano that the board approve Multi-Year Performance Based Employment Contract for Assistant Superintendent MH.
Ayes: Powers, Rollins, Scrivano, Makulec, Moore.
Nays: Jackson.
Absent: Mitchell.
Approved 5-1-1.

4. Multi-Year Performance Based Employment Contract for Executive Director of Communications ED
Motion by Mr. Scrivano seconded by Mr. Rollins that the board approve Multi-Year Performance Based Employment Contract for Executive Director of Communications ED.

Ayes: Rollins, Scrivano, Makulec, Moore, Powers.
Nays: Jackson.
Absent: Mitchell.

Approved 5-1-1.

Board members expressed their expectations of the approved administrators, described the selection process, and explained the benefits to the district by having performance-based contracts.

VI. Petitions & Communications – No speakers present.

VII. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Jackson seconded by Mr. Rollins to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

President:

Secretary:

Approved: 8/9/2011

/jh
Pursuant to Motion made in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act and approved on a roll call vote, the Board convened in closed session at 6:01 p.m. Members, Mitchell, Jackson, Rollins, Scrivano, Makulec, Moore, and Powers were present. Also present were: Interim Superintendent Dr. Robert Willis, Attorney Tom Lester, and Executive Coordinator Halsted.

Consensus of Board to √ approve ___ disapprove and/or further action as follows:

Item #1: Brief Description: Reduction in Force

Summary of Discussion: Attorney Lester presented information on the proposed Resolution Authorizing Dismiss of Certain Educational Support Personnel regarding the paraprofessionals. Dr. Willis gave more information on the need for the dismissal of 99 paraprofessionals, stating that number is down from the previously anticipated number of 164 positions. The Board Members discussed and approved the Resolution.

Item #2: Brief Description: Collective Bargaining Update

Summary of Discussion: Attorney Lester gave an update on bargaining with the REA. The next bargaining session is August 2nd. Mr. Lester answered questions of the Board Members regarding

There was a discussion and questions raised about the reason for the smaller bargaining groups,

Ms. Makulec also raised a question regarding the conflict of interest that may exist with Board Member Powers, and Ms. Power's decision to abstain from voting on all union contracts. Attorney Lester offered an explanation of a Board Member's right to abstain from any vote where they may feel a personal conflict of interest exists.
Attorney Lester gave an update on the agreement that has been reached with RBMA, and explained the details of the agreement. There was an extended discussion by the Board Members regarding the proposed contract and when it may be approved in the near future.

Item # 3: Brief Description: Purchase and Sale of Real Estate

Summary of Discussion: Attorney Lester reported that the discussions regarding the purchase of the Amcore Building are ongoing with the FDIC. It is expected that a non-binding letter of intent will be drafted between the parties, and the District will have until later in September to execute the contract if that is acceptable to the seller. Attorney Lester cautioned the Board Members regarding the need for complete confidentiality in this matter until the details are finalized.

At 7:10 p.m., the Board, upon motion made by Ken Scrivano, seconded by Jude Makulec, recessed and reconvened in open session.

The entire closed session was recorded.

Approved: [Signature]
I. Call to Order - The special meeting of the Rockford Board of Education was called to order by President Harmon Mitchell at 6:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call
Present: President Harmon Mitchell, Vice President Jude Makulec, Secretary Lisa Jackson, Mrs. Laura Powers, Mr. Tim Rollins, Mr. Kenneth Scrivano.
Absent: None.

III. Convene in Closed Session
Motion by Ms. Jackson, seconded by Mrs. Makulec that the Board hold a Closed Session to consider the appointment, compensation, or dismissal of specific employee of the public body; collective negotiating matters; the purchase, lease or sale of real property; or other matters pursuant to §2 (c) of the Open Meetings Act. Approved unanimously.

The Board was in closed session from 6:04 p.m. until 7:10 p.m.

IV. Reconvene in Open Session – The board reconvened in open session at 7:18 p.m.

V. Consent Items
A. Closed Session
1. Dismissal of Certain Educational Support Personnel – Reduction in Force (Paraprofessionals)
Motion by Ms. Jackson seconded by Mr. Scrivano that the board approve Dismissal of Certain Educational Support Personnel – Reduction in Force (Paraprofessionals). Approved unanimously.

VI. Action Items
A. Alternative Learning Environment – Dr. Jarrett provided a summary of the program's purpose. The board discussed staff training, position requirements, fiscal impact, benefits to students, program procedures, and metrics-based update reporting.
Motion by Mr. Scrivano seconded by Mrs. Powers that the board approve Alternative Learning Environment. Ayes: Scrivano, Makulec, Moore, Mitchell, Powers, Rollins. Nays: Jackson. Approved 6-1.

B. Board Policy 7.320: Students, Co-Curricular Eligibility – Dr. Jarrett provided a summary of the program including transportation, fiscal impact, implementation and metrics-based reporting plans. The board discussed fiscal update procedure, affected grade levels, eligibility requirements, staff requirements, funding source, transportation, parent communication, and language changes as amendments to the policy revision.

VII. Petitions & Communications – Mr. Mitchell read the participation guidelines.
- Teresa Field – spoke in support of library professionals as educators.
- Nancy Elmers – shared the contributions of library paraprofessionals to student development.
VIII. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Jackson seconded by Mr. Scrivano to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

President:

Secretary:

Approved: 8/9/2011

/jh
CLOSED SESSION MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD  
OF EDUCATION OF  
ROCKFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205  

Saturday, October 27, 2012

Pursuant to a Motion made in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act and approved on a roll call vote, the Board convened in closed session at 8:21 a.m., at the Rockford Public Schools Administration building. Members Mitchell, Jackson, Rollins, Scrivano, Makulec, Moore and Powers were present. Also present were: Chief Human Resources Officer Angel Contreras; Meeting Facilitator Dr. Robert Head, President of Rockford College; Attorney Thomas Lester; and Executive Coordinator Laura Fromm.

Consensus of Board to √ approve ___ disapprove and/or further action as follows:

Item #1: Brief Description: Interview of Candidates for Superintendent

Summary of Discussion: Mr. Contreras presented the instrument proposed to be used to apply numerical scores to the interview results with each candidate. After an extended discussion the Board Members agreed to use a process of discussion of each candidate to decide on who will be offered the position, with the scoring being used for internal record keeping purposes. Dr. Head gave an overview of his plan for presenting the questions to each candidate during the interview process and discussed this with the Board Members as well.

The candidates interviewed were Mr. Matthew Vosberg, and Dr. Ehren Jarrett. At the completion of the interviews the Board took a brief recess at 11:45 a.m. The Board reconvened at 12:00 p.m. for a time of discussion regarding the interviews.

The Board Members discussed various strengths and weaknesses of each candidate. No consensus was reached immediately following the discussions. The Board Members agreed to continue the discussion at a Special Board Meeting to take place on October 30, 2012.

At 1:35 p.m., the Board, upon motion made by Ken Scrivano, seconded by Lisa Jackson recessed and reconvened in open session.

The entire closed session was recorded.
Pursuant to a Motion made in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act and approved on a roll call vote, the Board convened in closed session at 5:07 p.m., at the Rockford Public Schools Administration building.

Members Scrivano, Jackson, Makulec, Powers, Rollins, Conner and Harner were present. Also present were: Superintendent Dr. Robert Willis; Assistant Superintendent Dr. Ehren Jarrett; Assistant Superintendent Matt Vosberg; Chief Human Resources Officer Angel Contreras; Attorney Thomas Lester; and Executive Coordinator Laura Fromm.

Also present re: Student Discipline: Executive Director of SSAL Angela Hite-Carter; Assistant Principal Nicole Dawson – RESA Middle School.

Consensus of Board to √ approve ___ disapprove and/or further action as follows:

Item #1: Brief Description: Closed Session meeting minutes

Summary of Discussion: Closed Session minutes from June 11, 2013, were reviewed by the Board Members. There was a consensus to approve the minutes as presented.

Item #2: Brief Description: Student Discipline

Summary of Discussion: Mrs. Hite-Carter presented the following hearing officer reports and discipline packets. Members agreed to consider disposition in open session as listed:

b. DG3 - CPA for the first trimester of the 2013-2014 school year.
c. BH4 - Expelled for the entire 2013–2014 school year.
e. AM6 - Suspended for five days out of school. Any time served on the five day suspension is affirmed.
f. JIM7 - CPA for the first trimester of the 2013-2014 school year.

Expelled students are to be prohibited from school and all school-sponsored activities and prohibited from being on school grounds without the prior written permission of the principal. The suspensions are affirmed and those expelled would be recommended for alternative placement.

Mrs. Hite-Carter left the meeting at this time.
Mr. Contreras joined the meeting at this time.

Item #3: Brief Description: Personnel

Summary of Discussion: Mr. Contreras reviewed an appointment being recommended to fill the Executive Director of Budget and Purchasing position. There was an extended discussion of the candidate’s background and qualifications, as well as the pay scale associated with this position.

Mr. Contreras presented a benefits appeal request to the Board Members for their review. Details regarding the history of the appeal were provided. Mr. Contreras explained that the appeal was previously denied by the District’s insurance carrier and Benefits Department at all levels because the dental treatment provided was not one that is covered under the District’s dental insurance plan. Following an extended discussion of the details of the matter, there was a consensus of the Board Members to uphold the denial of the benefits appeal.

Questions were raised by the Board Members regarding the resignations of certain administrators that appeared on the Personnel Report. There was a discussion of the administration pay scales of neighboring districts and how our pay structures compare to those districts.

Member Powers raised questions on the resignation of a social worker, Dr. Jarrett and Mr. Contreras will provide further information on the matter to Ms. Powers. Member Jackson raised a question on the ability of an employee who resigns to retract their resignation. Attorney Lester provided information regarding the timelines involved when Board Action is taken to approve a resignation, which finalizes the matter.

Member Makulec asked for information on the number of people retiring, and for clarification of a professional development course that is being provided for a specific group of teachers. Mr. Contreras reported that this professional development opportunity is to assist in designing a course needed for the high school academies.

Mr. Contreras provided further information on salary adjustments that are being made for 10 administrative individuals who were not adjusted previously for their years of service. There was an extended discussion with the Board Members regarding the budgeting for these increases and how salaries will be adjusted in the future.

Item #4: Brief Summary Collective Bargaining

Summary of Discussion: Attorney Lester provided an update on the status of negotiations with the Paraprofessional and Nutrition Services Unions.
Item #5: Brief Description: Personnel (Continued)

Summary of Discussion: Mr. Contreras presented to the Board Members the recommendation for approval of a 3-year contract with:

Additional information was provided and questions answered by Mr. Contreras and Dr. Jarrett. A discussion followed regarding the job description for this position, and the continuity that the three year contract will provide. The goals that are connected to the performance-based contract were discussed, and the Board Members requested details on the dates when the specific goals for this administrator will be added to the contract. Dr. Jarrett reported that it is expected that the goals will be drafted as quickly as possible to coincide with the beginning of the school year, and other related goals to be listed in the contract are to be in place by October, 2013. Dr. Jarrett also reviewed the need to approve this appointment as quickly as possible in order to allow time to begin to prepare for the upcoming 2013-2014 school year.
Item #6: Brief Description: General Counsel Evaluation

Summary of Discussion: President Scrivano reported that he has had 5 of the 7 Board Member’s evaluations of the General Counsel returned to him to date. He will collect the remaining evaluations and review the scores prior to the July 9th meeting. The Board Members requested an opportunity to meet and discuss the evaluation prior to discussing with Attorney Hoadley. President Scrivano stated that the discussion time will take place at the July 9th closed session meeting.

At 6:58 p.m., the Board, upon motion made by Lisa Jackson, seconded by Ken Scrivano recessed and reconvened in open session.

The entire closed session was recorded.
The regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education was called to order by President Kenneth Scrivano at 5:02 p.m.

Present: President Kenneth Scrivano, Vice President Jude Makulec, Secretary Lisa Jackson, Mr. Tim Rollins, Dr. Michael Harner, Mr. Michael Connor, Mrs. Laura Powers

Absent: None

Motion: by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins 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: Unanimously.

The Board was in executive session from 5:07 p.m. until 6:49 p.m.

1. Call to Order – President Kenneth Scrivano called the regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education to order at 7:05 p.m.
2. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
   Present: President Kenneth Scrivano, Vice President Jude Makulec, Secretary Lisa Jackson, Mr. Tim Rollins, Dr. Michael Harner, Mr. Michael Connor, Mrs. Laura Powers
   Mr. Scrivano introduced Auburn High School Media Class students: Stephen Hahlen, and Andrew Kimball, who work with District staff to operate the broadcasting equipment.
4. Recognition – Ms. Mary Kaul presented for recognition:
      Five Rockford Public Schools employees, one volunteer and one program were recognized in May at the 29th Annual Those Who Excel awards. The Classroom Teacher Award went to Marsh Elementary School's Katherine Rasmus, Administrator/Principal Award went to Guilford High School's Janice Hawkins for increasing on-time-to-class performance and reducing disciplinary referrals, Student Support Personnel (certified) Award was awarded to Karin Trost of Rolling Green Elementary School, and The Educational Service Personnel (non-certified) Award went to Lisa Jones, a paraprofessional at Marsh. The School Board member/community volunteer Award went to Dave Morgan for his work at Eisenhower Middle School, and The Team Award went to Surgeons of Steel, a program at Eisenhower Middle School that exposes students to the real world of modern manufacturing.
      Congratulations to all the nominees and winners, and thank you for your work in Rockford Public Schools
   B. Emily Bear – Earl Dotson, Jr. – pulled by administration
   C. 2013 GCA Scholarship Winners – Earl Dotson, Jr.
      Six Rockford Public Schools students were each awarded a $1,000 scholarship through GCA Services Group. To apply, a student must have plans to pursue a degree in business or a business-related field, be enrolled in RPS, earn a 3.0 grade point average, submit two recommendation letters and provide an essay.
      The following 2013 graduates were awarded the scholarship:
      Tramel Rideout, Auburn High School
      Wadea Alkabryan, East High School
      Kayla Lundy, East High School
      Jared Jones, East High School
      Kyle Redmond, Auburn High School
      Jayla Williams-Craig, Guilford High School
      Thank you to GCA Regional Manager Bill Milanos and GCA Regional Vice President Steve Gritzuk for being here to present the students with their awards.
5. Petitions & Communications

- Janet Holmgren spoke in support of Youth Services Network
- Edward Sadowski spoke in favor of a fair contract for paraprofessionals
- Melvin Brown spoke in support of school going forward
- Rev. Dotson spoke of equity as it affects the African-American community
- Joanna Adams spoke in support of a living wage
- Dawn Granath spoke of the cancellation of the paraprofessionals and food service contracts
- Waddea Alleabany spoke in support of the GCA scholarship
- Jane Hayes spoke of paraprofessional parity
- Madeleine Sherod spoke in support of a living wage for paraprofessionals and food service employees
- Kate Rehak spoke in support of paraprofessionals
- Betty Christensen spoke of the paraprofessionals ongoing negotiations
- Christy Gutowski spoke of disappointment and anger regarding termination of the paraprofessional contract
- Bev Cicolello spoke in support of paraprofessionals and a living wage
- Kate Schnell spoke in support of the paraprofessionals and concerns with the Student Code of Conduct

6. Board Member Comments

Mrs. Powers spoke of Sharefest currently at Jefferson High School, and encouraged people to volunteer. She also spoke of not supporting the funds request for Alignment Rockford.

Ms. Jackson spoke of recent administrative appointments and will not support this evening's requests. She shared her concerns of hiring people at high salaries, the lack of promotion within the District, and many employees not earning a living wage.

7. *Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes: 06/11/13
B. Payroll
C. Accounts Payable Checks
D. Purchase Orders
E. Contracts Under $10,000

8. *Bid Recommendations

A. IFB 13-33 Paving Improvements at Various Schools


A. Allied Benefit Systems, Inc. - 7-1-2013 Contract Renewal, Retiree Plan Administrator
B. Renaissance Learning PD Contract
C. Swann Resource Development Contract Renewal
D. McGuire Woods Consulting - Dr. Robert Willis & Dr. Ehren Jarrett
E. Addendum to Speech and Language Pathologist contract with Sunbelt
F. Addendum to Speech/Language contract with ProCare
G. Attendance, Truancy, and Behavior Intervention Services

10. *Other Consent

A. Financial Results - pulled by Mrs. Powers
B. Investment Report
C. Interest Transfer
D. Revision of Annual Board Meeting Calendar
E. Freedom of Information Log

Motion: by Ms. Jackson seconded by Mr. Connor to approve Consent Items not pulled.

Approved: Unanimously.

Motion: by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to approve Consent Items pulled 9A through 9G, Recurring Contracts.

Allied Benefits Systems is the claims administrator the District's retiree plans. This was put out for bid, one response was received, and Williams Manny recommended continuing with Allied Benefits Systems.

Renaissance Learning PD Contract consists of Star Math and Accelerated Math components. The assessments began in September 2012; reassessments took place in January and May of 2013. Although the program was partially implemented for seven months, there was a full year growth in participating students. This program has also assisted Special Education in writing Individual Education Plans (IEPs).

Swann Resource: A total of $18 MM of grants was written and Ms. Swann wrote grants for $12MM. Her expertise has allowed the District to be more visible to the State.
McGuire Woods Consulting: Two great victories this year; Lincoln Promise Zone legislation and the General State Aid (GSA) proration were set at 89% instead of 85%.

Addendum to Speech and Language Pathologist Contract with Sunbell

Addendum to Speech and Language Pathologist Contract with ProCare

Mrs. Cyrus explained vacancies still exist and all options have been exhausted. Both pathologists will work in public schools. There is a nationwide shortage of speech pathologists. Mr. Contreras and Mrs. Cyrus are working closely with the REA regarding this.

Attendance, Truancy, and Behavior Intervention Services

Mr. Woestman reviewed the services provided by Youth Services Network (YSN).

- Identify students at risk of Chronic Truancy
- Conduct needs analyses
- Set goals, provide support to students and families
- Conduct activities to develop children and families
- Facilitate communication between buildings and homes
- Facilitate communication between agencies and homes
- Attend truancy court

Previously, the cost of truancy services was approximately $1.1MM. The contract for YSN is $815,000, and staff can work with students over a twelve month period. The full truancy report is scheduled for review in August by the Education Committee.

Scrivano called for the vote.

**Yeas:** Mr. Rollins, Mr. Scrivano, Mrs. Makulec, Dr. Harner, Mr. Connor, Mrs. Powers

**Nays:** Ms. Jackson

**Approve:** 6-1-0

**Motion:** by Mrs. Powers seconded by Dr. Harner to approve Other Consent Item pulled 10A, Financial Results.

Mrs. Powers asked for clarification regarding Food Service Revenue. This has increased as the reimbursement rate is up and will remain consistent for the next two to three years. Increased costs of professional services are budgeted in the 2013/2014 budget. Pupil transportation is higher due to late receipt of invoices. Supplies are up $3.1MM. These costs include not only general office supplies, but computers. Special Education tuition invoices have increased. The cost is the residential tuitions to various locations. Mrs. Cyrus reported there has been an increase in students coming to the District from the Rockton/Roscoe area as Goldie Floberg is closing their facility. They have purchased group homes in Rockford; in the past two years they have opened seven group homes in Rockford and are relocating their residents. Mrs. Powers requested this information added to the master report schedule.

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

**Approved:** Unanimously.

11. *Closed Session Consent Items*

A. Salary Adjustments – pulled by Ms. Jackson
B. Benefits Appeal
C. Appointment of a 12 Month Executive Director of Budget and Purchasing – pulled by Ms. Jackson
D. HR Organizational Report & Addendum

12. *Closed Session Consent Items – Student Discipline*

A. EXP JB1 – expelled for the entire 2013/2014 school year
B. EXP DG3 – the 10 day suspension is upheld and held in abeyance contingent upon a Conditional Probation Agreement.
C. EXP BH 4 – expelled for the entire 2013/2014 school year.
D. EXP JM 5 – expelled for the entire 2013/2014 school year.
E. EXP AM 6 – the 5 day suspension is upheld.
F. EXP JIM 7 – the 10 day suspension is upheld and held in abeyance contingent upon a Conditional Probation Agreement.

The following students have been granted a Conditional Probation Agreement

G. CPA – CB 1
H. CPA – AG 2
I. CPS – JG 3
J. CPA – SL 4

**Motion:** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to approve Closed Session Consent Items not pulled.

**Approved:** Unanimously.
Motion: by Dr. Harner seconded by Mr. Connor to approve Closed Session Consent Item pulled, 11A Salary Adjustments.

Yea: Mr. Rollins, Mr. Scrivano, Mrs. Makulec, Dr. Harner, Mr. Connor, Mrs. Powers

Nays: Ms. Jackson

Approved: 6-1-0

Motion: by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to approve Closed Session Consent Item pulled, 11C, Appointment of a 12 Month Executive Director of Budget and Purchasing.

Yea: Mr. Rollins, Mr. Scrivano, Mrs. Makulec, Dr. Harner, Mr. Connor, Mrs. Powers

Nays: Ms. Jackson

Approved: 6-1-0

13. Superintendent’s Report
A. Mr. Schmidt gave an update on Sharefest and spoke of the work volunteers had accomplished. The work has been phenomenal, and many students have volunteered. As an example, 30,000 ceiling tiles were removed and replaced by the student volunteers. Mr. Schmidt encouraged everyone to visit Jefferson and volunteer. Over four hundred students from the District and the area have volunteered.

Dr. Willis thanked Board members for the opportunity to serve as Interim Superintendent for the past twenty-five months. “It has been an honor and privilege to serve the District and the community.” Board President Mr. Scrivano presented Dr. Willis with a plaque thanking him for his leadership for the past two years.

14. Committee Reports
A. Education Committee – Mrs. Makulec
The Education Committee met June 17, 2013 and conducted interviews and agreed on the following candidates: returning members Dyanna Chandler and Caroline Gulbrandsen and new members Jaime Escobedo and Maurice West. Mrs. Makulec thanked Rudy Valdez and Anqunette Parham for their service. The next committee meeting is July 8, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.

B. Operations Committee – Mr. Rollins
The committee has not met since the last Board meeting. Community member interviews are scheduled for Thursday, June 27, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. The Operations Committee next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 16, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.

15. Action Items
A. Resolution to Adopt 2013-2014 Budget – Mr. Cedric Lewis, Chief Financial Officer
Motion: by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mrs. Powers to approve the Resolution to Adopt 2013-2014 Budget. The budget shows a $42 MM deficit; however a balanced budget is being adopted and the deficit relates to the Facilities Plan and those expenditures. $40MM is budgeted for the Facilities Update and $2MM is for life safety issues. Discussion points are listed below:

- Support Services – Other $2MM for IT includes recycle program for District laptops, iPads, etc.
- Summer Programs – the increase in the budget is due to programs taking place in separate fiscal years. Mr. Lewis will research and provide the information to Board members.
- Regular K-12 Programs – regular salaries for teachers is captured in this category.
- The budget does not reflect the change in the GSA proration or than 150 teachers retired.
- Increase expenditure for Special Education is due to TRS Behalf.
- All revenue sources are doing very well.
- The budget projection is a break-even to $5MM surplus.

Mr. Lewis presents revenue projections to the Budget and Finance Subcommittee; these are brought to the Operations Committee. These are open meetings and community members are encouraged to attend. Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

Approved: Unanimously.

B. 2013-2014 Board Report Calendar – Mr. Dan Woestman, Dr. Ehren Jarrett
Motion: by Mrs. Powers seconded by Mr. Connor to approve the 2013-2014 Board Report Calendar.

Approved: Unanimously.

C. Strategic Plan Annual Update – Mr. Dan Woestman, Dr. Ehren Jarrett
Motion: by Mr. Connor seconded by Mrs. Makulec to approve the Strategic Plan Annual Update.

The diversity indicators for 2013 will change as follows: October 1 to August 1, 2013 and January 1, 2014 to October 1, 2013. Administration will provide quarterly updates.
Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

**Approved: Unanimously.**

D. Latin American History Textbook Adoption – Mrs. Katie Wishowski-Wetzel

**Motion:** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mrs. Makulec to approve the Latin American History Textbook Adoption.

**Approved: Unanimously.**

Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations

16. **Appointment of a 12 Month High School Principal – Mr. Angel Contreras, CHRO**

The Administration has requested the Board suspend the rules to approve the Appointment of a 12 Month High School Principal.

**Motion:** by Mrs. Makulec seconded by Mr. Connor to suspend the rules to consider the Appointment of a 12 Month High School Principal.

**Yea:s:** Mr. Rollins, Mr. Scrivano, Mrs. Makulec, Dr. Harner, Mr. Connor, Mrs. Powers

**Nay:s:** Ms. Jackson

**Approved: 6-1-0**

**Motion:** by Mr. Connor seconded by Mrs. Makulec to approve the Appointment of a 12 Month High School Principal.

**Yea:s:** Mr. Rollins, Mr. Scrivano, Mrs. Makulec, Dr. Harner, Mr. Connor, Mrs. Powers

**Nay:s:** Ms. Jackson

**Approved: 6-1-0**

B. Alignment Rockford Funding – Mr. David Carson

The proposal is to support an organization focused on a mission of aligning community resources in support of the District’s strategic goals. The funding is to ensure continuing operation of Alignment Rockford and expand its support of the District. The mission of Alignment Rockford is to align community resources in support of Rockford Public School’s own strategies to raise student achievement, improve the health and happiness of our children, and advance the economic and social well-being of our community. The fiscal impact is $70,000, which is in the 2013/2014 budget. This will be presented for vote at the July 9, 2013 meeting.

C. Middle School Instrument Funding – Mrs. LuAnn Widergren

The proposal is to supply instruments to students who do not have them. This will be presented for vote at the July 9, 2013 meeting.

D. Sign Language Textbooks – Mrs. Heidi Dettman

The textbook proposal will be used exclusively at East High School, where the sign language program lives. The program is expanding, and ordering additional texts will both fill a need for textbook numbers and offer updated resources for current terminology. The fiscal impact is $4,812.70. This will be presented for vote at the July 9, 2013 meeting.

E. Reed Group – Leave Management Services Agreement – Mr. Angel Contreras

The Reed Group proposal will manage the District’s leave of absences for the entire employee population. This was forwarded unanimously by the Operations Committee. This will be presented for vote at the July 9, 2013 meeting.

F. Athletic Director Report – Mr. Mathew Parker

Mr. Parker discussion points included:

- Middle and high school athletic handbooks are being updated and scheduled for completion when the fall season begins.
- RPS 205 winners at the NIC-10 Banquet are: Amanda Dodd, Jefferson High School Bowling Coach; Dan Appino, Auburn High School Football Coach; Tristan Endsley winner of the Doc Jaeger Memorial Award; and Becca Allen Courageous Athlete of the Year. The Golf Scramble is scheduled for July 26, 2013 and projected to break $20,000 in proceeds. Sean Considine, NFL Football player from Byron, will be the celebrity guest.

G. We Choose Health Grant Acceptance – Mr. Matthew Vosberg, Asst. Supf for Schools & Dr. Travis Wolffe, ED, I&I Winnebago County Health Department wrote an application for a grant to the Illinois Department of Public Health for “We Choose Health.” They received the grant, totaling $296,472, of which Rockford Public Schools was a sub-grantee in the amount of $35,000. The goal of the grant, as it relates to our District, is to improve the health knowledge and fitness level of students through training, activity, and supplemental materials. Heart rate monitors are in the pilot programs at Haskell, Marshall and Montessori.

This will be presented for vote at the July 9, 2013 meeting.
H. Board Policy 2.220 Board of Education; Board Meeting Procedure – Mrs. Lori Hoadley, General Counsel

The modifications refer to verbatim recording of closed sessions. The responsibility in handling and preserving the recordings is changed from the Superintendent to General Counsel. Request for verbatim transcriptions must be approved by 2/3 Board majority. Recordings and/or transcriptions can be reviewed in the Superintendent's office or in the Legal Department.

This will be presented for vote at the July 9, 2013 meeting.

- The District has completed one year of the seven-period day. A request was made for the cost.
- Clarification of the Youth Services Network Contract was requested.

17. Adjournment

Motion: by Ms. Jackson seconded by Mr. Connor to adjourn

Approved: on voice vote.

Board adjourned: 10:03 p.m.

President: ____________________________

Secretary: ____________________________

Approved: /If

Page 6 of 6
Pursuant to a Motion made in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act and approved on a roll call vote, the Board convened in closed session at 4:32 p.m., at the Rockford Public Schools Administration building.

Members Scrivano, Makulec, Rollins, and Harner were present. Member Connor arrived at 4:33 p.m. Members Jackson and Member Powers were absent. Also present were: Superintendent Ehren Jarrett; Deputy Superintendent Matt Vosberg; Attorney Tom Lester; and Executive Coordinator Laura Fromm.

Also present re: Student Discipline: Executive Director of SSAL Angela Hite-Carter; Assistant Principal Michael Saville – Jefferson High School; Assistant Principal Renee Schott – Jefferson High School.

Consensus of Board to √ approve ___ disapprove and/or further action as follows:

Mrs. Hite-Carter joined the meeting at this time.

Item #1: Brief Description: Student Discipline

Summary of Discussion: Mrs. Hite-Carter presented the following discipline packets. Members agreed to consider disposition in open session as listed:

- a. JT1 - expelled for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year.
- b. NJW6 - expelled for the remainder of the first trimester and the entire second trimester of the 2013-2014 school year.
- c. SA16 - expelled for the remainder of the 2013-14 school year.
- d. CT17 - expelled for the remainder of the 2013-14 school year.
- e. CR18 - expelled for the remainder of the 2013-14 school year.
- f. ML19 - expelled for the remainder of the 2013-14 school year.
- g. EA20 - suspended for 5 days out of school. Any time served on the 5 day suspension if affirmed.

Expelled students are to be prohibited from school and all school-sponsored activities and prohibited from being on school grounds without the prior written permission of the principal. The suspensions are affirmed and those expelled would be recommended for alternative placement.
There was an extended discussion by the Board Members and administration regarding the use of Conditional Probation Agreements, and the need for consistency in the application of this type of discipline consequence throughout the District. Dr. Jarrett suggested that administration should review the protocol for making the CPA determinations with the building administrators to assist them in making decisions that align with the Board’s intentions.

Member Makulec expressed her concerns with the CPA option and how the Board is limited in its ability to alter the consequence if the Board should disagrees with the application of the CPA in a specific situation.

Mr. Vosberg stated that the administration feels that the CPA process is a part of the solution that District has been seeking to process student discipline in an effective manner without the need for expulsion of students in many cases. Dr. Jarrett also stated that the CPA process is valuable in that it requires involvement of the guardian of the student, which may give the family an interest in assuring the student abides by the agreement.

Member Rollins discussed some revisions that may be made that would provide clarification to the Board Members regarding the reason for the use of a CPA in each situation. Specifically, Member Rollins requested clarification on the use of CPAs for two students from the same school.

Mr. Vosberg stated that administration will discuss with the principals the additional information that has been requested.

Dr. Jarrett also asked that Board Members forward to him any additional suggestions for changes to the CPA process so the administrators can be made aware of any other revisions or additions to the information they must provide with the CPA packet.

At 5:22 p.m., the Board, upon motion made by Michael Connor, seconded by Tim Rollins, recessed and reconvened in open session.

The entire closed session was recorded.
The regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education was called to order by President Kenneth Scrivano at 4:32 p.m.

Present: President Kenneth Scrivano, Vice President Jude Makulec, Mr. Tim Rollins, Dr. Michael Harner, Mr. Michael Connor (arr. 4:33 p.m.)

Absent: Secretary Lisa Jackson, Mrs. Laura Powers

Motion by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mrs. Makulec that the Board hold an executive session to consider the discipline of students; the purchase, sale or lease of real property; or other matters provided for pursuant to §2 (c) of the Open Meetings Act.

Approved: 4-0-3

The Board was in executive session from 4:33 p.m. until 5:22 p.m.

1. Call to Order – President Kenneth Scrivano called the special meeting of the Rockford Board of Education to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call
   President Kenneth Scrivano, Vice President Jude Makulec, Mr. Tim Rollins, Dr. Michael Harner, Mr. Michael Connor (arr. 5:33 p.m.)
   Absent: Secretary Lisa Jackson, Mrs. Laura Powers

4. Petitions & Communications
   • There were no petitions.

5. Board Member Comments
   • There were no Board comments

6. Closed Session Consent Items – Student Discipline
   A. JT 1 expelled for the remainder of the 2013/2014 school year.
   B. NJW 6 expelled for the remainder of the first trimester and the entire second trimester.
   C. CR 18 expelled for the remainder of the 2013/2014 school year.
   D. SA 16 expelled for the remainder of the 2013/2014 school year.
   E. ML 19 expelled for the remainder of the 2013/2014 school year.
   F. CT 17 expelled for the remainder of the 2013/2014 school year.

7. Closed Session Consent Items – Student Discipline – Suspension Appeals
   A. EA 19 suspension is upheld.

8. Closed Session Consent Items – CPAs
   The follow students have been granted a Conditional Probation Agreement
   A. JPC 2
   B. JH 3
   C. LLH 4
   D. JN 5
   E. MH 7
   F. JW 9
   G. AA 11
   H. DIS 12
   I. JMG 21

Page 1 of 2
Administration pulled the following items:
ET
GT
SW
SA
JF
PW
TB
RM
HET 14
CEJ 15
AAA
AEH
BH
BW
DM
DR
DRY
DS
HLC
IS
JBT
JCW
JD
JS
KEW
KL
KP
LR
MDH
MZZ
NVG
DM
RI
SH
TD 23

Motion by Mrs. Makulec seconded by Dr. Harner to approve Closed Session Consent Items not pulled.
Yeas: Mr. Rollins, Mr. Scrivano, Mrs. Makulec Dr. Harmer, Mr. Connor
Absent: Ms. Jackson, Mrs. Powers
Approved: 5-0-2

Motion by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mr. Connor to adjourn.
Approved: on voice vote.
Adjournment: 5:34 p.m.

President: __________________________

Secretary: __________________________

Approved:

//f