

**BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT 3A
ROCHESTER, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

REGULAR MEETING, June 17, 2024

The Rochester Board of Education met for a regular meeting on June 17, 2024. President Magoulias called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

THOSE PRESENT: Dr. Christie Magoulias
Amy Reynolds
Aimee Johnson
Bob Chiles
Todd Hannah

ABSENT: Don Carley
Chris Jewell

OTHERS PRESENT: Dan W. Cox, Superintendent
Kris Kahler, Director of Business
Suzanne Keller, Director of Educational Services
Jennifer Shaw, Director of Special Education
Jon Hansen, Director of Communication1
Sam Gumble, Special Education Coordinator
Carey Seaton, Executive Secretary

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:

Denise Higginbothum	Jeannie McCloskey	Greg Kuntz	Stacy Estes
Becky Cousin	Katie Nelson	Bernie Burtch	Amber Owen
Mallory Henton	Lauren Thomas	Jack Zucco	Amelia Cheek
Savannah Kolba	Jen Shull	Sarah Arterberry	Mil Behl
Raina Kolba	Kevin Klemm	Madison Marrto	Aaron Merchant

Madison Marr spoke with concerns regarding transportation changes to and from childcare facilities.
Stacy Estes spoke with concerns about communicating with administrators and directors.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of all Regular, Closed Session and Finance Committee Minutes of the Board of Education
- B. Review of FOIA Requests
- C. Review of Rochester #3A COVID-19 Layered Mitigation Measures and Instructional Continuity Learning Plan
- D. Approval of District Consolidated Plan
- E. Approval to Designate Hiring Authority to the Superintendent from June 18, 2024 - August 7, 2024
- F. Approval of Renewal of ABM Custodial Services
- G. Approval of Athletic Handbook Update and Revisions
- H. Approve Disposal of Verbatim Closed Session Recordings Older than 18 Months

Mrs. Reynolds made a motion to approve the consensus agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hannah and carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Investment Report

Mr. Cox noted the investment reports were in the board agenda packet for review. There were no comments or questions from the Board.

Approval of Bills/Payroll/Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Reynolds had questions on repairs on equipment in the auditorium. Mr. Cox said that it was from normal wear and tear. That was the only question from the board and Mrs. Johnson made a motion to approve the bills, payroll, and Treasurer's report. Mr. Hannah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Year to Date Fund Summary

There were no questions or comments from the Board regarding the fund summary.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

Director Reports

The Directors' reports were included in the board packet for the Board of Education to review.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Cox highlighted the upcoming strategic planning meetings where a key component will be building around the journey of a rocket learner. The meetings will include all administration and principals. He went on to note that additional input was sought for the strategic blueprint from Thought Exchange and surveys with stakeholders. He discussed the recent Finance committee meeting, amended budget and audit interviews.

OLD BUSINESS

Approval of Rochester CUSD #3A Amended Budget FY24:

The finance committee met and discussed the reasons for the budget amendment. The timing of ESSER III reimbursement, purchase and initial lease bus payment, and the 1.5% bonus for all employees were reasons discussed. Additionally, higher than anticipated out-of-district placement costs resulted in the budget needing to be amended. Mr. Hannah made a motion to approve the Rochester CUSD #3A amended budget FY24. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Johnson and carried unanimously.

Approval of the Board of Education Policy Updates and Revisions

Mr. Cox noted that all policy updates and revisions were available in the Board of Education packet. All policies on second reading with updates and revisions are recommended for approval. Updates presented are a result of changes in school code and law. Mrs. Johnson had a question about what is being done to update policy. Mr. Cox announced that the searchable updated policy is now available online. Mrs. Johnson made a motion to approve the policy updates and revisions. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hannah and carried unanimously.

Discussion of the Accounting firm Sikich as the districts' independent auditors:

Two firms were interviewed to assist in providing input for a recommendation on the District's independent audit services. Both firms were interviewed during the finance committee meeting. Mr. Hannah asked if the firms were both local and Mr. Cox noted that they were.

Construction update on RHS Athletic Complex, Science Wing, and Student Services Construction Project:

BLDD and SM Wilson gave an update of the athletic complex, RHS science wing and the secure entrance construction project. Aaron Merchant with BLDD began the presentation with the final specs on design plans,

alternated press box and new soccer complex. They presented an updated floor plan for the science labs before sending it out to bid. Greg Kuntz with SM Wilson gave a budget update. He reviewed the last update that came in slightly less but this update came in slightly higher. Mr. Hannah asked when the project goes out for bid and what the base bid is? Mr. Kuntz said the bids go out in July and the base bid is 25 million dollars.

Review of Daycare Transportation Services:

Dr. Magoulias thanked the public for the emails requesting that no changes be made to transportation to and from daycare facilities. Mr. Cox announced that no changes will be made to daycare services. Mr. Cox said that the route audit came back indicating we are currently as efficient as we can be. Changing daycare transportation routes would result in negligible time savings. The only recommendation is eliminating the number of stops in high population areas and maybe some internal changes with dismissal for daycare students. The activity buses have helped in lowering the number of double routes. We do pay our coaches to drive the activity buses. Mrs. Johnson wanted to know if we have a consistent amount of students riding the bus. Mr. Cox said we have been pretty consistent. Dr. Kahler noted some parents are car pooling. Less parents are participating in district transportation. Mrs. Johnson wanted to know the total number of stops we are making? Mr. Cox said he will get that information for the Board. Mr. Cox noted that consolidating bus stops is being looked at as an option. Mrs. Reynolds noted we have had several transportation meetings trying to come up with multiple solutions for double routes and delays. No Immediate action was taken, recommended or required by the Board of Education.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of the accounting firm Sikich as the Districts' Independent Audit Services:

Dr. Magoulias reviewed the finance committee recommendation for audit services. The recommendation is to approve Sikich accounting firm as the district's new independent audit provider. Dr. Kahler noted that out of the 20 firms that were sent the RFP, we received only 2 responses. Mr. Cox said that we are now doing RFP every 3 years. Mr. Cox reviewed the reason Pehlman and Dold are no longer able to audit our district. He noted that during the interview process both firms did a great job but Sikich understood the TRS Gemini system while the other firm wasn't sure. He noted that there will be a required exit interview and board presentation with Sikich. Mrs. Reynolds made a motion to approve Sikich as the Districts' Independent Audit Services. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hannah and carried unanimously.

Approval of Thompson Electronics for the Door Access Control System:

Dr. Kahler reviewed the proposal for upgrading the door access. Thompson was able to do one system throughout and it was more affordable. The new control system will be put on the east door at the high school because of the construction. Mr. Hannah asked if this is in conjunction with BLDD and Dr. Kahler noted that it is separate. Mrs. Reynolds made a motion to approve Sikich as the Districts' Independent Audit Services which was seconded by Mrs. Johnson and carried unanimously.

Consideration and Approval of Rochester CUSD #3A Style Guide:

Mr. Hansen introduced the creation of a district style guide and how it will improve our district communications. This first phase of the style guide will serve as a basis for building our style and brand identity. It also enables us to ensure that we are uniformly reaching every family regardless of their circumstances or any potential disabilities. Mr. Hansen reviewed the style guide and explained why branding with consistent colors, fonts and logos provides more accessibility. He worked with BLDD on branding with consistent colors, fonts and logos. The motion to approve was made by Mr. Hannah and seconded by Mrs. Reynolds.

CLOSED SESSION

Mrs. Reynolds made a motion to go into closed session for purposes defined in 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) - The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the

public body or legal counsel for the public body; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10)5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) Collective Negotiating Matters Between the Public Body and Its Employees or Their Representatives, or Deliberations Concerning Salary Schedules for One or More Classes of Employees; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)(21) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act for semi-annual review and The motion was seconded by Mr. Hannah and passed unanimously.

The Board entered into closed session at 7:15 p.m.

The Board came out of closed session at 7:47 p.m.

Mrs. Reynolds made a motion to arise from closed session which was seconded by Mr. Chiles and passed unanimously.

Approve Personnel Report

Mr. Hannah made a motion to approve the personnel report, which was seconded by Mrs. Reynolds then passed unanimously.

EMPLOYMENT:

Licensed Staff:

Bobb, Grace Third Grade Teacher, RES 2-3
Harvill, Ciera Instructional Coach, District
Hammelman, Megan Sixth Grade Teacher, RIS
Smith, Samantha English Teacher, RHS
Sutton, Aimee Assistant Principal, RIS
Wall, Kathryn Fifth Grade Teacher, RIS

Support Staff:

Anderson, Molly Blastoff Kids Academy, Substitute Assistant
Hunsley, David Summer Maintenance, District
Killion, Isabelle Blastoff Kids Academy, Substitute Assistant
Reiss, Karter Summer Maintenance, District

Extra-Curricular Staff:

Rehire Spring Coaching Staff

Volunteer Extracurricular Staff:

Boulanger, Jay Girls Golf, RHS
Graff, Andrea Robotics, RHS
Leonard, Ken Football, RHS
Kim, JD Robotics, RHS

RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS:

Licensed Staff:

Willis, Mary Kate Special Education Teacher, RIS, Effective May 28, 2024

Extra-Curricular Staff:

Kutscher, Chad Girls Soccer Coach, RHS, Effective May 28, 2024

Action to Retain Lawfully Closed Meeting Minutes as Confidential Following Semi-Annual Review

Mr. Cox recommended that the closed meeting minutes remain closed. Mrs. Reynolds made a motion to approve action to retain lawfully closed meeting minutes as confidential following semi-annual review , which was seconded by Mr. Chiles then passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

Mr. Hannah made a motion to adjourn at 7:54 p.m. and that was seconded by Mrs. Reynolds then carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Christie Magoulias, President
Board of Education

Aimee Johnson, Recording Secretary
Board of Education