

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

REGULAR MEETING, August 21, 2024

The Rochester Board of Education met for a regular meeting on August 21, 2024. President Magoulas called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

THOSE PRESENT: Dr. Christie Magoulas
Amy Reynolds
Bob Chiles
Todd Hannah
Don Carley
Chris Jewell
Absent: Aimee Johnson

OTHERS PRESENT: Dan W. Cox, Superintendent
Kris Kahler, Director of Business
Jennifer Shaw, Director of Special Education
Jon Hansen, Director of Communication¹
Adrienne VanFossan - Elementary EC-1 Principal
Carey Seaton, Executive Secretary

Dr. Magoulas began by saying that the agenda needed to be amended. The 6.3 NCL lease agreement was not ready to be approved. Mrs. Reynolds made a motion to approve an amended agenda from Approve NCL lease agreement to Discuss the NCL lease agreement. Mr. Hannah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:

Greg Kutz	Rana Kolba	Lauren Thomas	Sarah Kerley
Bernie Burtch	Stacy Estes	Aaron Taft	Amelia Cheek
Kristin LaMontagne	Katie Nelson	Jen Shull	

Sarah Kerley expressed concern about the Great Place to Work certification. She felt this was not a useful tool for the Rochester School District and wished a happy start to the school year.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

- Approval of [Minutes](#)
- Acceptance of Donations
- Approval of Rochester Education CUSD #3A Technology Responsible Use Policy
- Approval of Rochester CUSD #3A Library Collection Procedures
- Approval of Rochester CUSD #3A School District Calendar 2025-2026
- Review of FOIA Requests
- Approval of Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefits Report - School Year 2024
- Approval of Item 1-2 Amendment of the Intergovernmental Agreement for CACC
- Approval of Rochester Elementary 2-3 HVAC Upgrade
- Disposal of verbatim closed session recordings older than 18 months
- Approval of MOU Between the Village of Rochester and Rochester CUSD #3A For School Resource Officer

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

Carley and carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Approval of Bills:

Dr. Kahler noted that only the bills need to be approved because all other reports were approved at the August 7th board meeting. There were no questions from the board regarding bills. Mrs. Reynolds made a motion to approve the bills. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hannah and carried unanimously. Mrs. Reynolds thanked Dr. Kayler for fulfilling her request to be more descriptive with the bill explanations. Mr. Jewell requested an energy agreement update.

Presentation Rochester CUSD #3A Tentative Budget FY25:

Dr. Magoulouis noted that the finance committee will be reviewing the budget at an upcoming finance committee meeting. Dr. Kahler presented the board with the tentative budget numbers for the fiscal year 2024-2025. He noted that Fund 60 (deficits) is bonded money for construction bills. He continued by saying that there are contingencies built into the budget for new positions. Mr. Cox noted that CPPRT is down 32.6% and he confirmed that with the evidence-based funding, we are Tier 1.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Cox began his presentation discussing the ECRA report with a specific focus on student learning outcomes and student literacy. He went on to say that the overall student growth across the District meets expectations. Notably, all subgroups are progressing as expected, which is a significant achievement. A particular highlight is the higher-than-expected growth at Rochester Elementary EC-1. These positive outcomes are directly attributed to the District's strategic investments and curriculum improvements over the past four years.

He continued to say that the primary goal is to meet students where they are and facilitate their growth from that point forward. He noted that student growth is the most significant indicator of positive learning outcomes, recognizing that not all students learn in the same way or at the same pace. He noted that the district's investment in early childhood education has significantly impacted these positive outcomes.

Update of Building Committee meeting:

Mr. Hannah gave a recap of the committee meeting that included SM Wilson. Mr. Hannah was happy to report everything is on budget. He also praised SM Wilson on the bids being closer than expected. We will be accepting the three alternatives, softball press box, soccer turf and locker room at the football field. The building committee will not be recommending alternates 4 and 5 which were sub base for the football and soccer field turf.

Approval of Construction Bid Packages for RHS Science Wing, Students Services, and Outdoor Athletic Complex:

Mr. Cox thanked SM Wilson for the successful bid process. Mr. Hannah asked them to address the construction schedule. Greg Kuntz, SM Wilson, noted that on the first of October demolition of the MPR and the soccer field turf will begin. After football season, work will begin on the football field. Mr. Chiles asked what the flow of activity would be and will they receive a progress report. Bernie Burtch noted that they use a program called Power Projects that includes a master flow chart that will continually update on the construction progress.

Approval of Rochester CUSD #3A Bid Package 2 Contract Awards to Multiple Subcontractors:

Mr. Hannah made a motion to approve the Rochester CUSD #3A Bid Package 2 Contract Awards to Multiple Subcontractors. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jewell and carried unanimously.

Approval of Assignment of Construction Contract Awards for Rochester CUSD #3A Bid Package 2 to

Construction Manager S.M. Wilson: Mr. Hannah made a motion to approve the Assignment of Construction

Contract Awards for Rochester CUSD #3A Bid Package 2 to Construction Manager S.M. Wilson. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Reynolds and carried unanimously.

Approval of GMP Change Order with Construction Manager S.M. Wilson for Rochester CUSD #3A Bid Package

2: Mr. Hannah made a motion of approval of GMP Change Order with Construction Manager S.M. Wilson for Rochester CUSD #3A Bid Package. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Reynolds and carried unanimously.

Discussion of NCL Government Capital Lease Agreement:

Mr. Cox reviewed the alternate funding tool and updated the board on the interest rates. The recommended use for this type of lease is for the scoreboards, lighting, and sound portions of the upcoming construction project. The lease information will now go to the finance committee for discussion.

Discussion of Great Places to Work Certification:

Mr. Cox reviewed the pros and cons of this certification process. Stay interviews through thouhtexchange will begin in September. Mrs. Reynolds likes the idea of it being anonymous. Mr. Carley has been through the process of using Great Places to work with credentialing. He noted that they are well regarded third party. The consensus was feedback is more important than a certification. Mr. Jewell expressed concern regarding its specific use in education. Mrs. Reynolds asked if there were additional tools to compare. No action was taken by the board and the discussion was tabled.

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)(11) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in.

The Board entered into closed session at 7:20 p.m.

The Board came out of closed session at 7:59 p.m.

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

Approve Personnel Report

Mr. Carley made a motion to approve the personnel report, which was seconded by Mr. Jewell and then passed unanimously.

Action on Items Following Closed Session

The following action items were approved following the closed session of the Board of Education:

- The following individuals were approved for employment:

Support Staff:

Vanderhoof, Lawra District Office Secretary (Part-time)

- The following individuals were approved as volunteer staff:

Volunteer Extracurricular Staff:

Eller, Vincent Boys Soccer, RHS
Ferguson, Tate Boys Soccer, RHS

- The following individuals submitted retirements/resignations with thanks for service:

RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS:

Licensed Staff:

Covi, Tammy	Fourth Grade Teacher, RIS, Effective the end of the 2024-2025 school year
Sampson, David	Physical Education Teacher, RIS, Effective the end of the 2027-2028 school year

Support Staff:

Fitzgerald, Curt	School Bus Driver, Transportation, Effective January 6, 2025
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Extra-Curricular Staff:

Spencer, Jarrod	Eighth Grade Boys Basketball Coach, RJHS, Effective August 12, 2024
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LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Toland, Jamie	Principal, RIS, Effective August 23, 2024 through September 3, 2024
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Adoption of Addendum to Administrators' Employment Contracts:

Mr. Jewell made a motion to approve the Adoption of Addendum to Mrs. David Hawkins' employment contract, which was seconded by Mr. Hannah and then passed unanimously. Mr. Hannah made a motion to approve the Adoption of Addendum to Mrs. Adrienne VanFossans' employment contract, which was seconded by Mr. Jewell and then passed unanimously. Mr. Jewell made a motion to approve the Adoption of Addendum to Mr. Randy Krepel's employment contract, which was seconded by Mr. Hannah and then passed unanimously. Mr. Jewell made a motion to approve the Adoption of Addendum to Mrs. Kim Pooles' employment contract, which was seconded by Mr. Carley and then passed unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the Bruce Hays Administrative Center Conference Room.

ADJOURN

Mr. Hannah made a motion to adjourn at 9:57 p.m. and that was seconded by Mrs. Reynolds and then carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Christie Magoulas, President
Board of Education

Aimee Johnson, Recording Secretary
Board of Education