

Rochester School Board
Regular School Board Minutes
February 16, 2017
School Department Board Room #1

DRAFT

Members Present:

Mr. Paul Lynch, Chair
Mrs. Jennifer Bryant
Mr. Travis Allen
Ms. Nichole Guptel
Mr. Raymond Turner
Mrs. Audrey Stevens
Mr. Thomas O'Connor
Mrs. Amy Malone
Mrs. Karen Stokes
Ms. Julie Brown
Mr. Thomas J. Jean (arr 7:03 pm)

Members Absent:

Mr. Robert Watson
Mr. Matthew Papas

Also Present:

Mr. Michael Hopkins, Superintendent
Mr. Kyle Repucci, Asst. Superintendent
Ms. Linda Casey, Business Administrator
Atty. Jerome Grossman
Ms. Marilyn Martell
Guests & Public
Press

Mr. Lynch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on a roll call with a quorum present. Members participated in the pledge of allegiance.

Last Minutes Mr. Allen moved, second by Ms. Brown, the Board approve the minutes of the January 12, 2017 Regular School Board meeting; January 18, 2017 School Board Retreat; and the January 26, 2017 Special School Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Hopkins, Superintendent of Schools reported that Student Spotlight and Employee Recognition has been moved back one month due to inclement weather.

House Bills Mr. Hopkins provided Board members with a handout that contained key pieces of legislation related to Bills that could significantly impact funding to school districts. Contact your local representatives to encourage their support.

Spaulding High School Student Senate Report

Ms. Emily Benson, Student Senate Co-President extended congratulations to Mackenzie Brady for placing in the Swim Meet Finals and to Lauren Noble for breaking the 600 meter run school record! The Bowling Team has a tournament this weekend and individual tournament next weekend; the Unified Basketball Team is making the playoffs; and the Varsity Basketball Team will be in the top three seeds going into the playoffs. The Boys Ski Team placed 12th overall and the Girls Ski Team competes in States tomorrow.

Tickets will be going on sale for the Masque and Dagger Spring production of Beauty and the Beast. FBLA recently hosted FBLA Week, a nationwide initiative that spreads awareness about FBLA. Finally, congratulations to Coach Colson for winning the Walter Smith Award for Coaching!

Public Comment

Ms. Emily Benson, student at Spaulding HS expressed disappointment in the statements presented in a recently published article that she felt did not accurately reflect what is happening at Spaulding; both students and leaders are passionate about the school and the work they do. Education is what you make of it. The opportunities are there; people just have to take advantage of them.

Mr. Mathew Roy, student at Spaulding HS addressed the Board in regards to the opportunities available to students through CTE courses. There is opportunity to gain valuable work experiences; earn college credits and save families thousands of dollars through several programs available to earn college credits.

Mr. Liam Sullivan, student at Spaulding HS has been impressed and amazed by the opportunities provided that has prepared him well for college through academics and earning college credits at a fraction of the costs. Spaulding is the only school in America to have students to have certified VITA Tax Preparers. Ultimately, your education gives back to you what you give to it, this rings true especially at Spaulding.

Ms. Taylor Gauthier, student at SHS also stated that Spaulding is one of the only schools that offers support for college courses and provides the guidance and readiness needed to succeed. We are preparing both families and students for college with information nights and one-to-one support if wanted. If we take initiative to do, things get done. Many students were disappointed by what was written in the paper – come visit to see how we are being prepared for college and the real world.

Committee Reports

Building Committee:

No action required.

Instruction Committee:

No action required.

Personnel Committee:

Retirement

Mrs. Stevens, moved, second by Mrs. Stokes, the Board accept the following resignations for retirement purposes:

- Donna AckermanSocial Studies Teacher
- George Ackerman Science Teacher
- Tina Amorim Elementary Teacher
- Robin Brown.....Principal
- Karen CarignanSpeech Pathologist
- Donna Gagnon Elementary Teacher
- Mary Glidden..... Elementary Teacher
- Judith GoodnowHealth Occupations Teacher
- Laura Harwood Special Education Teacher
- Deborah Head Secretary
- Rosemary Liberty Secretary
- Debra Marcotte Elementary Teacher
- Karen Muzzey Elementary Teacher
- Janet Nickless Special Education Teacher
- Susan Picard.....Guidance Secretary
- Greg Riley.....Social Studies Teacher

Judith RobbinsElementary Teacher
Dorothy Sylvia..... Special Education Teacher

The motion carried unanimously.

Resignations Mrs. Stevens moved, second by Ms. Brown, the Board accept the following resignations:

Brittany Baxter..... Para-Educator
Joseph Ercolino..... Custodian
Mark Hinde..... CTE/IA Teacher

The motion carried unanimously.

Nomination Mrs. Stevens moved, second by Mrs. Stokes, the Board approve the nomination of Rebecca Comeau, Pre-School Para-Educator. The motion carried unanimously.

Special Services Committee:

No action required.

Finance Committee:

De-Authorization Mr. Lynch moved, second by Mr. Jean, the Board authorize the Superintendent to submit a request for the de-authorization of the balance of specific Bond Projects totaling \$1,247,869.72 to the City Council. The motion carried unanimously.

Discipline Committee:

Ms. Brown moved, second by Mrs. Stevens, the Board accept the Committee's recommendations as set out in the backup* regarding the two cases heard at the January 23, 2017 and February 6, 2017 meetings. The motion carried unanimously.

**(In accordance with the federal FERPA, 20 U.S.C.§1232 (g) the backup materials are not part of the publicly available minutes.)*

Policy Committee:

Second Reading Mr. O'Connor moved, second by Mr. Allen, the Board approve second reading and adoption of the following policies:

- BDDE, Rules of Order
- EFC, Vending Machines
- JHH, Rochester School Department Health and Nutrition Policy
- KNAJ (also JFG), Questioning, Interrogating and Searching Students

The motion carried unanimously.

Policy Deletion Mr. O'Connor moved, second by Mrs. Stokes, to recommend the Board approve deletion of duplicate policy JFG, Questioning, Interrogating and Searching Students. The motion carried unanimously,

First Reading The Committee recommends to the Board for first reading and review policy EFB, Free and Reduced Lunch Policy as amended.

Old Business

None.

New Business

NHSBA Training

Mrs. Malone indicated that the NHSBA offers training to Boards to help with strategic planning; she thought as a follow-up to the 5-Year Plan reviewed at the Board Retreat this type of training may be of value. It was the consensus of the Board to coordinate training session in June. Mrs. Malone will work with Mr. Hopkins in coordinating with NHSBA.

Building Aide

Mr. Lynch spoke about the Senate Hearing in Concord regarding Building Aide that he and Mr. Pappas attended. We need to champion for our own City; be aggressive to reach out to contact representatives for support related to the Bills that will have positive and negative impact on the community.

Comments

Mrs. Stokes clarified that comments reported in an article from the Board Retreat were not meant to be insulting or demeaning. There are great kids that graduate from Spaulding, but there are some students that are struggling in college. If the discussion offended anyone, it was not intended. It is important to ensure all students get the help that they need to be successful in college.

Snow Clean-Up

Mr. Lynch thanked Mr. Bickford and the Facilities Staff for the amazing job with walkways and parking lots throughout the last snow storms – their work has been phenomenal.

Other

None.

Non-Public

Mr. O'Connor moved, second by Mr. Allen, the Board enter non-public session at 7:26 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, I & II (1) to discuss the dismissal, promotion, compensation, disciplining, or investigation of changes of a public employee; negotiations. The roll call vote as follows:

YES: Mrs. Malone, Ms. Guptel, Ms. Brown, Mrs. Stokes, Mrs. Bryant, Mrs. Stevens, Mr. Turner, Mr. Lynch, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Jean, Mr. Allen

NO: None

After a brief recess, the Board entered non-public session at 7:28 p.m.

Public Session

Mr. Allen moved, second by Mrs. Stokes, the Board enter Public Session at 7:36 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Admin. Contract

Mr. Lynch moved, second by Mrs. Stokes, the Board approve the Tentative Agreement with the Administrative Bargaining Unit as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Mr. O'Connor moved, second by Mrs. Stokes, to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael L. Hopkins
Board Secretary