

Rochester School Board
Regular School Board Minutes
April 9, 2020

DRAFT

Members Present Remotely:

Mr. Paul Lynch, Chair
Mr. Matthew Pappas
Mrs. Karen Stokes
Mrs. Sarah Harrington
Mr. Matthew Beaulieu
Mr. Robert Watson
Mr. David Camire
Mr. Brian Nicholson
Mrs. Audrey Stevens
Mr. Thomas O'Connor
Mr. Matthew Munn
Mr. Nathaniel Byrne
Mrs. Anne Grassie

Members Absent:

Also Present Remotely:

Mr. Kyle Repucci, Superintendent
Dr. Sandie MacDonald
Mrs. Linda Bartlett
Ms. Cherie Mann
Atty. Jerome Grossman
Guests & Public

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. Pappas moved, second by Mrs. Stokes, the Board approve the minutes of the March 12, 2020 Regular School Board meeting, March 16, 2020 Special School Board meeting and March 19, 2020 Special School Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Repucci, Superintendent of Schools, thanked everyone for their patience, hard work and support during this unnerving time. This is the first time experiencing something like this and we are all working together. The Guidance Department recently put together a parent resource to help families. A parent team recently put together a video; an uplifting act of kindness. Food Service is making 400 meals a day with 50% of their staff. Custodians have stepped up and helped with distributing meals and manning the sites while food service workers are preparing meals. Mr. Repucci gave a reminder that the SAU office is still open and staff are there on a daily basis to assist as needed. Call 332-3678 and let them know what you need. An appointment can be made and scheduled in a space with enough distance to assist with whatever is needed.

Public Comment

Submitted by Kevin Sullivan:

I am a resident of Rochester and currently have two children who are students at Maple Street Magnet School. I understand how challenging of a time this has been for teachers, students, and families and have been very proud of how Rochester schools and teachers have risen to the challenge they have been unexpectedly presented with.

In our experience since distance learning began, my older child in 5th grade is able to conduct much of the work assigned to him from his teacher on his own with a daily meetings with the class. However my six-year-old child is in kindergarten and while the teacher has been fantastic at giving daily assignments and there is an occasional hour/week of video meeting with the teacher, his lesson plan requires the full attention and participation of a parent to sit with him, read, spell, and play word and math games.

This was 'do-able' for the initial three weeks and we could make it work through May 4th but extending this through the end of May will be challenging for our family and make it difficult to maintain our employment. Being able to complete work for our jobs at home while our 5th grader is participating in distance learning is possible but we have quickly come to realize it is not possible to do that while trying to give the needed attention for a kindergartner.

To that end I would like to provide comment requesting that:

- 1) Maple street magnet school calendar ends on the same date as all other Rochester schools if they do not reopen. (May 15)
- 2) The kindergarten school year and May 4th, as the kindergarten annual hour requirements will have already been met.

Thank you for your time and consideration in these unusual times.

Submitted by Sarah Russell:

I realize the meeting is tonight so will keep this brief. I know you have a lot on your plate right now.

Some people want to skip April break and plow through, in hopes we get to summer freedom sooner. (Even though we really don't know how "free" we will be to go out at that point.) Some people want to keep the break in hopes it means we get to go back, at least a little bit, before the school year is over. (Even though that seems increasingly unlikely, as well.)

We can't make everyone happy, of course. The question is more – what choices give us the most advantages and the least harm? With that in mind, which families are struggling the most? It's likely to be the families with essential workers who are juggling childcare and schooling together, or the families with parents trying to work full time jobs from home and help their children with school at the same time. Many of our own teachers fall into that second category! Add the stress of grocery shopping with unpredictable stocking and disinfecting after and other work-arounds in life on things that used to be streamlined. We shouldn't let a few who are antsy and impatient make life more stressful on those who may barely be holding things together.

Whether we skip April break or not, my suggestion is to change to a 4-day week for the rest of the year. I had originally thought Friday, but saw that Spaulding made it Wednesday, which is likely even more beneficial. This gives more time and flexibility for everyone.

On a related but separate topic, I wanted to broach on giving our kids closure from this school year. It is not an exaggeration to say that leaving the school one day and never going back, without knowing you would never go back, qualifies as traumatic. We still don't know what to expect as far as return to "normal" school. I have heard this a few times and just read in an article that had this quote from Dr. Fauci:

"When asked when life could "get back to normal," Fauci said: "It isn't like a light switch on and off, it's a gradual pulling back on certain of the restrictions and getting society a bit back to normal. . . bottom line, it's going to be gradual."

New Hampshire and Rochester have a fantastic reputation in the education world of being trend-setters and on the cutting edge of new developments. Let's apply that to this category! With so many unknowns, it's easy to sit back and think "we better play it safe and not do anything until the coast is clear and school is back." But school being back in session is likely to be one of the very last things to happen, not one of the first. Let's brainstorm ways to incrementally work our way back (**once we have some tangible ways of knowing we are at that stage, I am not saying we are at that point now**). I will throw out some ideas I had that would help bring emotional closure that could be considered *at a later date*:

- 1.) When appropriate, we could have a very slow period of optional scheduled visits, where teachers come in to their classrooms, and each student is able to come in and get their things and say bye to their teacher. One student/family at a time, keeping the total number of exponent possibility low. Teachers and staff can opt out as well.
- 2.) The week before "regular" school is started up, everyone goes back to their old/school class one more time as a reunion of sort.
- 3.) A summer reunion type open house, where it's all held outside and individuals are allowed inside to briefly get their things.

None of us know what to expect, but let's start thinking outside the box on what we can do. I'm sure there are flaws in my suggestions, it was simply brainstorming possibilities. Our priority should be safety and health, which INCLUDES minimizing emotional trauma for our students and staff. We can keep things optional and it does not have to be one-size-fits-all.

Thank you for your time.

Committee Reports

Building Committee:

No action required.

Instruction Committee:

No action required.

Personnel Committee:

Mr. Beaulieu moved, second by Mr. Pappas, to approve the following resignations:

Mary Briggs Special Education Teacher
Travis Allen Alternative Pathways Mathematics Teacher
Nicholas Cobb..... Social Studies Teacher

The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Mr. Beaulieu moved, second by Mr. Watson, to approve the following nominations:

Jennifer Hersom Principal
Maegan Jerr..... Principal
Samantha Kelley Accountant
Christopher Asbell Assistant Principal

The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Mr. Beaulieu moved, second by Mrs. Harrington, to approve the following 2020-2021 School Year nominations:

First Year Teacher Nominations

Alisabeth Eaton
Makenzie Philibert
Linda Luneau
Kimberly Wheeler
Christine Gregoire
Tracey Huppe
Melissa Ronan
Fredrick Bowden
Corinne Baita
Kathryn Hatch
Keri Restivo
Elizabeth Escabi
Kimberley McGovern
Ellen Rollfs
Melissa Colby
Meghan Elliott
Joyce Berney
Trisha Kent
Samantha Osborne
Kathy Poitras

Monica Ramirez
Echeverria
Michelle Shepard
Taylor Todd
Melissa Wheeler
Sarah Wormstead
Meghan Amato
Cynthia Berry
Brianna Boucher
Jamie Boyatis
Kimberly DeGard
Chelsea Wood
Margaret Deteso
Kayla Harrington
Erica Kraft
Samantha Lancey
Leanne Meiman
Daniel Combatti
Nicole Patridge
Melissa Spiers
Jillian Dubois

Second Year Teacher Nominations

Katherine Newbegin
Jason Daggett
Lindsey Colbath
Anne Carter Judkins
Rachel Rouillard
Evelyn French
Cadence Proctor
Emilee Somers
Molly Giles
Shauni McGowan
Lindsey McLean
Alyssa Pouliot
Nicole Rott
Katherine Brown
Tatum Brown
Victoria Perkins
Jane Bergeron

Debra Bertogli Flanders
Lori Discoe
Alyson Dolan
Susan Dromey Heeter
Rebecca Imbimbo
Kristi Olivares
Christina Sliney
Madeline Adams
Leah Anderson
Lisa Bussiere
Amy Copp
Lauren Jerr
Jeffrey Moses
Alysha Orrok
Ariana Ragonese
Anne-Marie Gorman
Justin Ykema

Third Year Teacher Nominations

Carissa Ryan
Mark Archambeault
Nichole Danforth
Elizabeth Knowlton

Stevie-Marie Rumney
Rachel Allen
Marcey Buchakjian
Jillian Calderara

Kayla Wark
Marissa Corbin
Justin Discoe
Kristin Gagnon
John Mastroianni
Miranda Shorty
Patrick Kelcourse
Lisa Kumph
Caitlin Jorgens
Emily Lauer

Bridget Combes
Melissa Couture
Jennifer Dayhoof
Bobbi Gagne
Matthew Gray
Kara Messinese
Nicole Palmer
Kristen Williams
Heather Beardsworth
Trisha Ferioli

Continued Contract Teacher Nominations

Dennis Emerson
Kathryn Wright
Georgia Blougouras
Joanne Houston
Susan Abbiati
Tammy Melcher
David Colson
Kathy DeGrechie
Michael Bergeron
Marilyn Shepardson
Monica Ferland
Davita Fortier
Pamela Baxter
Kristen Sturtevant

Melissa Hunt

Linda S. Stevens
Katherine Grace
Karen Lindsay
Sheila Colson
Deborah Bostrom
Adam Black
Karen Walter
Linda Davis
Rachel Legard
Susan Printy
Linda Crosby
Marie Bahlert
Nancy Wachowiak
Nancy Davis
Valerie Knowles
Carolann Simpson

Mark Sampson
Gail Corey
Nancy Hay
Alicia Goff
Kelley Simpson
Bronald (John) Vasalle

Paul George
Eric Diamond
Shirley Greer
Mary Jo Snyder
Deborah Bonsteel
Clayton McKenney, II
Michelle Bernier
Andrea Lancey
Cheryl Hanscom
Allison Leach
Abra Andrews
Jennifer Daly
Lawrence Smaracko
Warren (Lex) Buzzell
Jr.

Sara Toussaint

Katherine Snow
Lori Thompson
Robert Desjardins
Robert Fortier
Susan Westfall
Lynda Baita
Carrie Feyler
Billi Joy
Curtis Lalonde
Richard Poole
Julia Hart
Cynthia Kosko
John Simas
Meghan Walkama
Dawn Connelly
Bonita Varney-
Lachance
Leovi Durand
Katie Taylor
Jacky LeHoullier
Kari Bettencourt
Ann Casey-Leahy
Michele Leahey

Constance Studer
Maureen Callaghan
Jennifer Gilman
Cheryl Richardson
Jennifer Saucier
Danielle Veno
Christine Evans
Gayle Gary
Sean Kenney
Tyler Nutter
Caryn Costello
Robin Hutchins
Stephen Hyzer
Karen Jenkins

Kelly Twombly-
McMullen
Karrie Brady
Donna Egan
Mary Mojica
Jennifer Cabral
Eloisa Darcy
Victoria Garay
Judith Drew
Vickie Carr
Lea Marshall
Kathleen Prewitt
Nancy Rhoades
Thomas Muzzey
Kelly Gray
Ellen Bartley
Lori Denis
Mark Blaisdell

Kara Burton
Ronald Goodwin
John Duplinsky
Kenneth Daynard
Claudia Ferro
Amanda Spellman

Jennifer Anderson
Melissa Arsenault
Caitlen Madore
Melissa Marcotte
Nicole Bandera
Susan Mann
Kristen Truax
Joanne Johnson
Michael O'Brien
Allen Spader
Jennifer Cyr

Karen Dunn
Eric Maserati
Nicole Merrigan
Scott Prieto
Lee Sheedy
Christie LeClair
Christine Ballentine
Sandra Byrne
Dianne Moses
Beth Wiggins
Kevin Boyle
Breinne Famulari
Virginia Farkas
Shara Hughes
Tracy Mitropoulos
Erin Ferland
Danarae Menzie
Jason Eberl
Amy Hanssen
Robert Gee
Jessica Shearn
Susan Kelley
Kimberly Behrens
Sara Cantrell
Donna Spaulding
Christina Stokel
Dina Allen
Shea Harriman
Jeremy Jason
Laura Lewis
Lee Sims
Crista Woolley
Travers Desjardins
Lisa Emrich
Kelly Jepsen
Jessica Wedgeworth
Corinne Brown
Karen McDermott
Britni Watkinson
Alison Neri
Stacey Barlow

Lorne Lucas
Sean Sullivan
Anne Milne
Anne Lennig
Laurie Tremblay
Jennifer Ford
Erin Kelly
Elizabeth Callahan
Amy Boyd
Patricia Croteau
Elizabeth Gouzoules-
Walton
Jennifer Brock
Loren Peet
Elizabeth Lampron
Tracy Smith
Tracey Tibbetts
Susan Zoller
Kristy Croft
Kimberly Terry
Kelly Borish
Samantha Merchant
Richard Moore
Steven Prescott
Jonathan Rourke
Daniel Saucier
Jennifer Rourke
Sally Stailey
Courtney Clairwood
Christina Desjardins
Paul Kuliga
Bianca Begin
Sora Martindale
Donald Betz III
Monique Boudreau
Blaze Raber
Jennifer Doherty
Jessica Heald
Katilynn Oswald
Thomas Alberghini
Martin Rowley
Nerissa Calo
Betty Anne Badgley
Elizabeth Weeks
Pamela Lutz
Brandon Williams
Allison Gilbert
Timothy Farrington
Kimberly Barham
Emily Pelletier
Gretchen Solomon
Rachel Bratter
Brandon Gagnon

Sharon Ridley
Monique Shutt
Donna Turner
Darren Scopel
Meredith Tansey
Mary Else
Amy Garland
Michael Parker
Sarah Quinn
Emily Shippee
Amy Beranger

Melissa Cunliffe
Bailey Dangora
Melinda Hussey
Courtney Goldstein
Christine Comeau
Stephanie McSharry
Sarah Boyle
Jennifer DeCost
Suzanne Dodier
Jennifer Warren
Lisa Hernandez Parsell
Robert Kelley
Katie Carpenter
Janice Tilton
Tiffany Adam
Rita Ciambra
Valerie Cunha
Karen O'Brien
Jennifer Readell
Jennifer Buinicky
Annah Kelley
Braden Ott
Sheena Robbins
Carrie DiBernardo
Lisa Forsley
Robert Nienhouse
Casie Sorensen
Alexis Stewart
Courtney Trepanier
Lorrie Dodson
Michele Forrestall
Jennifer Loch
Chelsea Weltin
Deborah LaValley
Annmarie Prochilo
Laura Hainey
Amy Weeks-Coffield
Kate Stimmell
Jennifer Tilden
Karla Deinstadt
Mary Evilsizer

Randi Margey
Zoe Jost
Theresa Ahadi
Derrick Cantrell
Danielle Devoid
Susan Goodman
Morgan Rowell
Katharine Keough
Patrick Carr
Laura Hogan
Shelby Lawson
Elizabeth MacMillan
Heather Nunziato

Kimberly Griffin
Stacy Horne
Gail Martin
Taylor Ramsay
Kristin Walsh
Erin Reinhard
Elizabeth Diamond
Rebecca Fowler
Jay Keough
Kaitlin Lindsay
Vilija Pauliukonis
Alison Smith
Nicole Gallagher

Kevin McNair
Shaune Shields
Patricia Clark
Jaime Frost
Andre Van Coesant
Maria Bowen
Ginger Darling
Sheila O'Neill
Jennifer York
Emily Carroll
Thomas Daly

The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Mr. Beaulieu moved, second by Mr. Lynch, to approve the 2020-2021 School Year R.O.T.C. Instructor Nominations of Daniel Heeter and Joseph Kerrigan.

The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Mr. Beaulieu moved, second by Mr. Lynch, to approve the following 2020-2021 School Year Administrator Nominations:

Administrator Nominations

Lynn Allen
Christiane Allison
Suzanne Baczewski
Linda Bartlett
Jason Bushway
Margaret Callahan
Sarah Camus
Kathleen Cotton
Michele Halligan-Foley

Kevin Hebert
Christine Hebert
Adam Houghton
Sarah Howard
Bryan Kelliher
Barbara Kelly
Stacey King
Jenna Kotsonis
Stephen LeClair

Sandra MacDonald
Erin Mahoney
Maureen Oakman
Kyle Repucci
Justin Roy
Chris Turgeon
Kristen White
David Yasenchock
Heidi Zollman

The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Mr. Beaulieu moved, second by Mrs. Stevens, to approve the following Extra-Curricular nominations (Pending NHIA spring season status):

Brandon Dube Lacrosse, Varsity (B)
Tyler Nutter Lacrosse, Varsity (B) Asst.
Benjamin Gregoire Lacrosse, MS (B)
Taylor Todd Lacrosse, MS (G)

The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Special Services Committee:

No action required.

Finance Committee:

Mr. Lynch moved, second by Mr. Nicholson, to approve Streamline Waterproofing & Caulking, LLC for the RMS Exterior Joint Sealant Replacement in the amount of \$101,313.

The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Discipline Committee:

Mr. Lynch moved, second by Mr. Watson, the Board accept the Committee's recommendations as set out in the backup* regarding the cases heard at the March 19, 2020 and March 23, 2020 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:

Mrs. Grassie moved, second by Mr. Beaulieu, the Board approve the second reading and adoption of the following policies:

- GBEA – Staff: Conduct, Ethics, Nepotism
- GBEA-1 – Anti-Fraternization Policy
- GBEB – Family Medical Leave
- KBA-2 – Public's Right to Know

The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Committee Report – Special Committees

5-Year Strategic Plan No action required.

CTE/JBC No action required.

Old Business

The Spring Sports contract was discussed and tabled. It will be put on the May Finance Committee meeting agenda.

The current bus contracts were discussed. Right now the contracts are being honored to ensure that we have drivers for the 2020-2021 school year. The amount is \$20,000 for April, May and June.

New Business

Mr. Repucci reminded the Board that as we are looking at remote learning, compulsory education is not the correct term to use. Make up services such as Physical Therapy services for example, may need to be given again along with current services next school year. This would result in an increased cost for double services. Discussion ensued.

Other

Mr. Repucci shared a presentation and explained that across the state of NH collaboration regarding remote learning is happening.

Mr. Repucci explained that when the Governor extended remote learning until May 4th, districts across the state started to consider amending their school calendars. Only the local School Board has the authority to amend its school calendar. Options for amending the calendar for the remainder of this school year were discussed.

Mr. Beaulieu moved, second by Mrs. Grassie, to amend the 2019-2020 district school calendar by working through Spring Break in April and making the last day of school May 15th for all schools except the Maple Street Magnet School and making their last day of school June 1st.

The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Adjournment

Mr. Beaulieu moved, second by Mr. Pappas, to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle M. Repucci
Board Secretary