



Date | time Monday – August 9, 2021 | 6:30 p.m.

Location Boardroom

Meeting called to order with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance by President Downs

In Attendance

Board of Education: Bobbi Jo Blanton, Geoff Downs, Kelley Freridge, Jake Himmelspach, Andrea Jacobson, Tim Lewis.

Regrets: Nick Reichenbach.

Administration: Dr. Michael Shabler, Mike Ramm, Mike Cuneo, Korie Wilson-Crawford, Mindy Duba, Lisa Jacobs, Marlene Clark.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion was made by Jake Himmelspach, supported by Bobbi Jo Blanton, approving the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Recognition

Oath of Office – Andrea R. Jacobson

On July 28, 2021, the Board of Education appointed Andrea R. Jacobson to complete Miles Postema’s term, the vacancy resulting from his recent resignation. Board President Geoff Downs administered the ceremonial oath of office to Mrs. Jacobson.

2021-21 Examples in Excellence

The Board of Education recognized the following 2020-21 Examples in Excellence, following an introduction and video presentation by Executive Director of Community Services Lisa Jacobs.

2020-21 EXAMPLES IN EXCELLENCE

Belmont Elementary

Brady Donovan

Cannonsburg Elementary

Owen Kemp

Crestwood Elementary

Cameron Cook

Lakes Elementary

Camille Blasky

Meadow Ridge Elementary

Kaila VanDrie

Parkside Elementary

Caroline Rhodes

Roguewood Elementary

Darien Potter

Valley View Elementary

Hudson Shore

East Rockford Middle School

Cristal Nink

North Rockford Middle School

Kennedy Goad

Rockford Freshman Center

Brady Haskins

Rockford High School

Ellie Sagorski

Armaan Amiri

River Valley Academy

Lydia Tyler

Special Services

Aaron Blum

Rockford Virtual

Madisson Lising (Elementary)

Isabella Rinderknecht (Middle School)

Katrina Kiselevach (High School)

Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Kelley Freridge, supported by Timothy Lewis, approving the following consent agenda items. Motion carried unanimously.

- Minutes of July 12, 2021 and July 22, 2021 study sessions; July 28, 2021 special meeting; and Regular Meeting #1
- Payment of bills in the amount of \$7,160,672.04
- Certified Staff Resignations. Accept resignations of Luke Owens (effective July 31, 2021) and Phillip Wilkerson (July 28, 2021).

Reports

Community Services

Executive Director of Community Services Lisa Jacobs reported to the Board of Education on programs and services offered through the district's Community Services Department, which include the district's preschool and child care services; River Valley Academy alternative high school; Rockford Adult Education; enrichment, recreation and senior citizens activities; facility use; district publications; and events.

2021-22 COVID Response Planning/Procedures

Assistant Superintendents Mike Ramm (Instruction), Korie Wilson-Crawford (Human Resources), Mike Cuneo (Finance), and Executive Director of Community Services Lisa Jacobs reported to the Board of Education on operational and instructional plans for the 2021-22 school year relative to COVID-19 recommendations and requirements.

Dr. Shibler stated that the goal is to keep schools open and operating safely but cautioned that these plans are based on what is known at this time with the understanding the district will adapt based on any future orders or evolution of the pandemic.

In-person instruction will take place unless prohibited by a public health order or when remote instruction is necessary as a mitigation strategy. While face coverings will be recommended for staff and students in the buildings, choice is offered unless a legally-binding public health order goes into effect. Face coverings are federally mandated on school buses. The district will continue with enhanced cleaning of facilities and buses and provide social-emotional support to students. Details will be emailed to parents this week and up-to-date information will be housed on the district website.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Declaration of Commitment

In support of Rockford Public Schools By-Law 0144.2, the Board of Education publicly declared their commitment as board of education trustees.

Certified Staff Recommendations

Upon recommendation of Dr. Shibler, motion was made by Timothy Lewis, supported by Bobbi Jo Blanton, to employ the following certified staff for the 2021-22 school year. Motion carried unanimously. Following approval, the new employees expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to join the Rockford Public Schools team.

Kyle DeBoer	Math	Rockford High School
Melanie Dorn Kraut	Choir	Rockford Freshman Center
Ross Knoop	German	Rockford Freshman Center
Claire Salinas	Music	Belmont Elementary

Recognition of Visitors & Hearing of People Present

The following members of the public addressed the Board of Education:

Ethan Jones, Julia Dudka, Carla Wagner, Jeff DeRegnaucourt, Brenda Wodarski, Debra Miller, Suzy Clements, Tammy Gombar, Duane Gritter, Mary Fountain, Mr. Palmer, Renee Russo, Kevin Green, unidentified speaker, Kelly Gardner.

Adjournment

President Downs adjourned the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. Lewis, Secretary

Rockford Public Schools Board of Education

Minutes approved at August 23, 2021 meeting