



Date | time Monday – January 15, 2024 | 5:30 p.m.

Location Administration Boardroom

Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance by President Folsom

In Attendance

Board of Education: Kelley Freridge, Barb Helms, Jake Himmelspach, Jarrod Folsom, Christie Ramsey, Nick Reichenbach, Tricia Anderson (arrived late and was not present to vote on the approval of the Agenda, Consent Agenda or Board Organization)

Administration: Dr. Steve Matthews, Mike Ramm, Allison Clements, Dr. Korie Wilson-Crawford, Jodi Nester

Adoption of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda by Jake Himmelspach with support by Christie Ramsey. Motion passed unanimously.

Recognition

No recognition for January. Students of the Month for January will be recognized at the February meeting.

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve by Christie Ramsey, with support by Nick Reichenbach. Motion passed unanimously.

- Approval of minutes from December 11, 2023 meeting
- Payment of bills in the amount of \$13,626,159.38.
- Certified Staff Resignation

New Business

Board Member Organization

- Nomination for President.
Kelley Freridge nominated Jarrod Folsom. No other nominees. Passed unanimously.
- Nomination for Vice President.
Christie Ramsey nominated Kelley Freridge. No other nominees. Passed Unanimously.
- Nomination for Treasurer
Kelley Freridge nominated Jake Himmelspach. No other nominees. Passed Unanimously.
- Nomination for Secretary
Jarrod Folsom nominated Christie Ramsey. No other nominees. Passed unanimously.

School Board Recognition

Dr Matthews spoke about the Districts appreciation for our School Board Members. Each member received a gift in appreciation for serving our community. They are all deeply appreciated.

Financial Audit

Allison Clements, Executive Director of building and operations introduced Mark from Hungerford who presented a summary of the Rockford Public Schools financial audit. Mark explained how the audit process worked and praised Rockford Public Schools for being thorough in our processes. Our auditor awarded us with an opinion of unmodified which is the highest score available. Details were presented on the categories used to arrive at the opinion of the auditions. There was discussion surrounding the excess balance in our Food Services budget and the limitations placed on spending in this area. Allison thanked Mark and his team for their hard work and the business office for their hard work as well. Motion to accept the audit findings by Jake Himmelspach with support by Nick Reichenbach. Motion passed unanimously.

Special Policy Updates

Special policy updates are being presented to the board for a first reading. Dr. Korie Wilson-Crawford explained the required legal updates. These updates are regarding evaluations and PERA. There are ten policy changes. These policies will be brought to the board at the February meeting for a second reading and approval.

Certified Staff Recommendation

Dr. Korie Wilson-Crawford discussed the need to add a teacher to the River Valley Academy staff due to a lateral staffing change that has taken place. Leeann Randall has been selected to be added to the River Valley Academy staff. Motion to approve by Kelley Freridge with support by Christie Ramsey. Motion passed unanimously.

Administrator Recommendation

Dr. Korie Wilson-Crawford recommended the hiring of Jessica Walburg to fill the position of Director of Finance. This position is being filled due to the promotion of Allison Clements. Motion to approve by Tricia Anderson with support by Nick Reichenbach. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Attendance Boundaries

Allison Clements updated the Board of Education on the process. Approval will be asked for at the February meeting

Reports

Student Representative Report

Camille Dahlke updated the board on the many current events that have been taking place across the district. Tickets are on sale for Mamma Mia. The musical will take place in March.

Collaborative Team Reports

Lakes Elementary Principal, Mindy McGinn discussed things happening at the Elementary level. Mrs. McGinn also talked about the work the elementary principals are doing to ensure consistency regarding weather related activities. She also thanked the board members for their service to the district.

North Rockford Middle School Principal, Lissa Weidenfeller shared things happening at the secondary level with the board of education including parent teacher conferences. The high school will be holding a session to help with FAFSA completion. The board members were thanked for their service to the students of Rockford Public Schools.

Recognition of Visitors & Hearing of People Present

The following community members addressed the Board of Education.

Cassandra Villareal	Dr. Clara Ziada	Charles Curtis	Brenda Wodarski
Craig Ladyman	Emily Whalen	Spencer Hayes	Amanda Currie
Duane Gritter	Sonia Andrews		

Adjournment

Superintendents Comments – Dr. Matthews discussed the challenges of winter weather and the district decisions that go along with it. He is appreciative of the respectful conversations brought to the board. Rockford is a great place to be. He spoke of the trip he is taking to help build a school in Guatemala.

President Jarrod Folsom adjourned the meeting at 7:06 PM

Recording Secretary

Secretary, Board of Education