

Rochelle Community Consolidated School District 231
May 12, 2020 Board of Education Meeting Minutes

The Board of Education of Rochelle Community Consolidated School District #231 in Ogle and Lee Counties, Illinois met via virtual meeting participation for the regular session on May 12, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. This virtual meeting was held due to Covid19 Illinois Executive Order No 8. Upon roll call: Mr. Van Hise - absent; Mr. Builta - present; Mrs. Vaughn - present; Mrs. Reif - present; Mr. Zepeda - present; Mrs. Tess - absent; Mr. Casey - absent. Present - 4, Absent - 3.

Superintendent Harper, Assistant Superintendent Doyle and Business Manager Dale were also present.

It was motioned by Mrs. Vaughn and seconded by Mr. Zepeda to approve the proposed agenda. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mrs. Reif - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. Builta - aye. Aye-4; Nay-0. Motion carried. (Ex. "A")

It was motioned by Mrs. Reif and seconded by Mr. Zepeda to approve the April 14, 2020 Board of Education Monthly Meeting minutes. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mrs. Reif - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. Builta - aye. Aye-4; Nay-0. Motion carried. (Ex. "B")

Communications: No communications were presented.

Audience Comments: No audience was present due to the virtual meeting.

Special Reports/Updates:

1. Alternative/Remote Learning Update was presented by Assistant Superintendent Doyle:

- Wrapping Up the School Year
 - Teachers are wrapping up their last full week of academic instruction. Next week they will start closing up their activities. The following week students will return materials.
 - School closure events:
 - Tilton School is doing a parade of cars.
 - May School is doing a reverse parade where parents will bring their students by the school and wave at their teachers.
 - RMS is doing their graduation video.
- Food Distribution
 - This Friday we will be doing an impromptu food pickup at RMS from 11am - 1 pm.
 - Monday will be the last official day of food distribution from 2 - 5 pm.
 - The Illinois Food Bank will take over the food distribution this summer.
- We have had a lot of support from the ROE and OCEC.

Superintendent Harper added we are using mobile hotspots in the school buses. We will update the Board later on how it worked or did not work.

Vice-President Builta asked if they have a plan to capture the best practices, not only for the teachers, but

reaching out to the parents as to what worked this year and what didn't?

Assistant Superintendent Doyle replies:

- A parent survey through the Infinite Campus system and Facebook
- Teachers are getting student feedback.
- The three curriculum coaches had a full day of PLC meetings with different grade levels on what is going well and what could we do differently. Also PLC meetings for prepping for next year, different scenarios.

2. End of Year Updates were combined with the previous information.

Superintendent Harper added we have gone through the process of social distancing, trying to get the student's items back to the parents.

3. Business Manager Dale presented an update.

- A proposal going out for the educational budget is to cut education spending by 32.5%. That refers to about \$1,000 per student in state funding. This would be about a \$1.5M hit to D231 in state funding.
- The Evidence Base Funding (EBF) model has been trying to add to get everyone up to equal and equitable. With the Governor's proposal for the graduated sales tax, if it does not go through, we will probably not see an increase. If that happens all of the money will go to Tier 1 (highest need) and Tier 2 schools. Tier 3 and 4 will not see any new money. Both Rochelle School Districts are Tier 2. We will get what we got last year, but maybe no increase.
- Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax (CPPRT) is expected to fall substantially like it did in 2008. We have not had unemployment like this since 1934.
- Local property taxes are going to see late payments. Most counties are issuing waivers so people do not have to pay by the deadline. We are not expecting to receive our local property taxes in June like we have in the past, causing us to see a large deficit at the end of the fiscal year. Some counties are projecting as high as a 5% reduction in actual people paying their taxes.
- PTAB settlement cases have come through. That could be another \$70K reduction extension.
- Consumer Price Index (CPI) projections are projected to go out to 0 or negative, but everything we are hearing next year's CPI could be .01%.

All of this with the increase of minimum wage and the teachers' salary increase, it is not looking great. We are definitely facing deficits next year. It is still unknown as to where everything is going to play out. Right now we are looking at reduced revenue across the board, locally and state. With the federal money we are allowed to carry it over to spend next year.

Mrs. Tess joined the meeting at 7:06 pm.

4. Superintendent Harper recognized the retiring staff members:

- Kim Salsbury was a paraprofessional at Lincoln working with students with special needs.
- Deb Howard is retiring after working part-time at Stepping Stones.
- Mrs. Patricia Bond has taught 15 years primarily as a Kindergarten teacher at May,
- Linda Cooper worked at both Tilton and May schools as an early elementary teacher for 15 years.

- Krista Fletcher has worked for the district for 28 years with students that have high needs, special needs and language needs at Central.
- Donna Drought has worked for 28 years helping our 8th grade students at RMS.
- Jill Schwartz has been with the district for 32 years as an elementary teacher. She has been at May School for the majority of her years.

Superintendent Harper and Mr. Doyle delivered congratulatory yard signs and a gift last Friday.

Thank you to all the retirees!

Consent Agenda: It was motioned by Mr. Zepeda and seconded by Mrs. Vaughn to approve the following Consent Agenda as presented:

1. It was approved to pay the bills as presented by Superintendent Harper. (Ex. “C”)
2. It was approved to accept this month’s financial reports as presented by Superintendent Harper. (Ex. “D”)
3. The below Personnel Report was approved as recommended by Superintendent Harper.

I. CERTIFICATED

Employment

Nuala Benisek	6th Grade Special Education at RMS (Ex. “E”)
Jeannie Matura	2nd Grade Bilingual at Lincoln (Ex. “F”)
Amanda Poliska	3rd Grade at May School (Ex. “G”)
Kailyn Willis	8th Grade Special Education at RMS (Ex. “H”)

Family Leave Request

Desiree Ronos	Six Weeks (Ex. “I”)
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II. SUPPORT STAFF

Resignation

Jennifer Gonzalez	Paraprofessional at Lincoln - Effective May 1, 2020 (Ex. “J”)
Khrysta Oleson	Paraprofessional at Lincoln (Ex. “K”)

Non-Renewal

Kathleen Williams	Early Childhood Aide at Lincoln
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Transfer

Laura Brizuela	Paraprofessional at May to Lincoln
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III. EXTRACURRICULAR

No changes at this time.

4. The Consolidated Grant Application was approved.

Since last year, the Illinois State Board of Education has required districts to annually approve one general grant (the Consolidated Grant) in an attempt to streamline paperwork for both Districts and the State. This grant is the same as last year's grant with the addition of responses to IDEA Grant prompts. (Ex. "L")

Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mrs. Reif - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mrs. Tess - aye; Mr. Builta - aye. Aye-5; Nay-0. Motion carried.

Action Items:

1. Superintendent Harper presented the first reading of the Board Policy updates provided by the Illinois Association of School Boards, Press Plus. These changes are the result of the School Code Statutory or Legislative changes. No action was taken as these edits must lay on the Board table for the required one month and be placed on the regular June agenda for adoption. (Ex. "M")
2. It was motioned by Mrs. Vaughn and seconded by Mr. Zepeda to approve the District health insurance renewal plan at a 9.8% increase for the 2020-2021 school year. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mrs. Reif - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mrs. Tess - aye; Mr. Builta - aye. Aye-5; Nay-0. Motion carried. (Ex. "N")

Discussion Items: No discussion was held.

Executive Session: No Executive Session was held.

Action Resulting From Executive Session: No action was taken from Executive Session as there was no Executive Session.

There being no further business, Mrs. Vaughn moved adjournment and it was seconded by Mr. Zepeda. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mrs. Reif - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mrs. Tess - aye; Mr. Builta - aye. Aye-5; Nay-0. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.

Steve Builta, Board Vice-President

Trisha Vaughn, Board Secretary