

**Rochelle Community Consolidated School District 231  
January 12, 2021 Board of Education Meeting Minutes**

The Board of Education of Rochelle Community Consolidated School District #231 in Ogle and Lee Counties, Illinois met in regular session in the Lincoln Elementary School Cafeteria on January 12, 2021 at 7:00 pm. Upon roll call: Mrs. Tess - absent; Mrs. Vaughn - present; Mr. Zepeda - present; Mr. VanHise - present; Mr. Builta - present; Mrs. Reif -present; Mr. Casey - present. Present - 6, Absent - 1.

Superintendent Harper and Assistant Superintendent Doyle were also present.

It was motioned by Mr. VanHise and seconded by Mr. Zepeda to approve the proposed agenda with the last minute revision added. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. VanHise - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mrs. Reif - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-6; Nay-0. Motion carried. (Ex. "A")

It was motioned by Mrs. Vaughn and seconded by Mr. Builta to approve the December 8, 2020 Board of Education Monthly Meeting Minutes. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. VanHise - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mrs. Reif - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-6; Nay-0. Motion carried. (Ex. "B")

**Audience Comments:** No comments were presented.

**Communications:** No communications were presented.

**Special Reports/Updates:** Mr. Andy Shaw, from the Lee/Ogle Enterprise Zone, and Mr. Mike Eickoff, from Grant Thornton LLP, presented a proposal to amend the enterprise zone abatement agreement.

Mr. Shaw stated that neighboring counties have more aggressive abatements. The enterprise zone is proposing to have three tiers of abatements for any enterprise zone.

Mr. Eickoff represents "Project Jackpot" that has purchased the Nippon Sharyo buildings. They wish to extend the existing abatement for the next ten years for only the west building. This building still has two years remaining on the current abatement plan. The east building's abatement plan has already ended.

Superintendent Harper stated "Project Jackpot" has acquired the two parcels and they currently have a tax appeal on these two properties with this current company."

Superintendent Harper added "There are two elements here. There is a request for a longer abatement on one of the properties. At the same time there is a request to reduce the current property value by \$1 million dollars. They purchased the building for less than it is assessed."

No action was taken. (Ex. "C")

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

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

**CERTIFICATED**

**Resignation**

Jocelyn DeLoera Special Education Teacher at Lincoln (Ex. “F”)

**Employment**

Phoebe Regnery Hughes Long term sub at RMS

**Transfer**

Kailyn Willis Transfer from RMS Special Ed to 4th Grade Bilingual at Central

**Retirement**

Holli Duthie Effective June 2023 (Ex. “G”)

**SUPPORT STAFF**

**Resignation**

Marlene Zamora Paraprofessional at Central (Ex. “H”)  
Berenice Gaytan Paraprofessional at RMS (Ex. “I”)

**Employment**

Nephertiti Valle Hub Program Teacher at RMS (Ex. “J”)  
Elizabeth Sanchez Turcios Bilingual Paraprofessional at Central

Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. VanHise - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mrs. Reif - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-6; Nay-0. Motion carried.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. After lying on the table for one month it was motioned by Mrs. Vaughn and seconded by Mr. Builta to approve the latest board policy manual updates Issue 106 provided by the Illinois Association of School Boards, Press Plus. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. VanHise - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mrs. Reif - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-6; Nay-0. Motion carried. (Ex. “K”)
2. After reviewing the Executive Session minutes it was motioned by Mrs. Vaughn and seconded by Mr. Builta for the Executive Session minutes to remain closed. Upon roll

call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. VanHise - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mrs. Reif - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-6; Nay-0. Motion carried.

3. Superintendent Harper presented an update on the reopening plan from the adaptive pause.
  - We have clearance from the Ogle County Health Department to re-open for in-person learning on Tuesday, January 19.
  - We will use our fourth Remote Learning Planning Day on Friday, January 15.
  - Monday, January 18 is Martin Luther King Jr Day observance.
  - Our school nurses are in Phase 1A of the vaccination process along with some Ogle County Education Cooperative employees. They will be vaccinated this week.
  - Teachers are in Phase 1B of the vaccination rotation and will be vaccinated later this month sometime.
    - We have surveyed the staff to see who wants to take the vaccine when it is available.

**Discussion Items:** No discussion items at this time

**Executive Session:** It was moved by Mrs. Vaughn and seconded by Mr. Builta to enter into the Executive Session at 7:53 pm for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees, collective bargaining, pending legal action, student discipline, and other exceptions to the Open Meetings Act. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. VanHise - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mrs. Reif - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-6; Nay-0. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Builta and seconded by Mrs. Vaughn to exit from the Executive Session at 9:40 pm and return to regular session. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. VanHise - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mrs. Reif - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-6; Nay-0. Motion carried.

**Action Resulting From Executive Session:** No action resulted from executive session.

There being no further business, Mr. Builta moved adjournment and it was seconded by Mr. Casey. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. VanHise - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mrs. Reif - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-6; Nay-0. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:21 pm.

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David Casey, Board President

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Trisha Vaughn, Board Secretary