

Rochelle Community Consolidated School District 231
March 9, 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 March 9, 2021 at 7:00 pm. Upon roll call: Mrs. Vaughn - present; Mrs. Tess -absent; Mr. Bulta - present via phone; Mr. Zepeda - present; Mrs. Reif - absent; Mr. VanHise - present; Mr Casey - present. Present - 5, Absent - 2.

Superintendent Harper, Assistant Superintendent Doyle, Principal Adolph, Principal Canfield, Principal Cox, Principal Derricks, Principal Young, and Hub Program Director Hayden were also present.

It was motioned by Mrs. Vaughn and seconded by Mr. VanHise to approve the proposed agenda with the last minute revision. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Bulta - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. VanHise - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-5; Nay-0. Motion carried. (Ex. "A")

It was motioned by Mr. Zepeda and seconded by Mrs. Vaughn to approve the February 9, 2021 Board of Education Monthly Meeting Minutes and the Executive Session Meeting minutes.. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Bulta - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. VanHise - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-5; Nay-0. Motion carried. (Ex. "B" and Ex. "C")

Audience Comments: Mrs. Stephanie White expressed concerns with transitioning to the attendance center model regarding:

- Transportation
- Safety of the walkers.
 - Will there be a crosswalk and/or crossing guard?
 - Concerned people will learn students' routine.
- Mental health issues with changing schools every 2-3 years.

Communications: No communications were presented.

Special Reports/Updates: Superintendent Harper provided a powerpoint presentation follow up on parent concerns and public comments regarding the Attendance Center Model recommendation for the 2021-2022 school year.

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")

Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Bulta - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. VanHise - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-5; Nay-0. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. It was motioned by Mrs. Vaughn and seconded by Mr. Zepeda to approve the resignation of Arely Hickey, 1st Grade Bilingual Teacher at Central School. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. VanHise - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-5; Nay-0. Motion carried. (Ex. "F")
2. It was motioned by Mrs. Vaughn and seconded by Mr. VanHise to approve the resolution regarding non-renewal of certified staff contracts for the 2021-2022 school year for:

Lianne Abellar	4th Grade at Lincoln
Kailyn Willis	4th Grade Bilingual at Central

Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. VanHise - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-5; Nay-0. Motion carried. (Ex. "G")

3. It was motioned by Mr. VanHise and seconded by Mr. Zepeda to approve the following Personnel Report as was recommended by Superintendent Harper:

I. CERTIFICATED

Rehire First Year Teachers

Nuala Benisek	6th Grade Special Education at RMS
Veronica Garcia-Martinez	6th Grade ELL at RMS
Kevin Hunt	8th Grade Social Studies at RMS
Jeannie Matura	2nd Grade Bilingual at Lincoln
Jocelyn Ortiz	1st Grade Bilingual at Lincoln

Rehire Second Year Teachers

Jonathon Gehm	7th Grade Social Studies at RMS
Kelly Polz	Counselor at Central and Lincoln
Trace Hippen	8th Grade Physical Education at RMS
Jennifer Gontarek	Art at Tilton and Lincoln

Rehire Third Year Teachers

Lisa Friday	3rd Grade Bilingual at Lincoln
Julia Harding	6th Grade Literature/CS at RMS
Lisa Sutton	Special Education at May

Rehire Third Year Teachers for Tenure Beginning 2021-2022

Karissa Dobson	4th Grade at Central
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Rehire Fourth Year Teachers for Tenure Beginning 2021-2022

Brooke Freeman	7th Grade ESL at RMS
Cathy Larkin	8th Grade ESL at RMS

Shannon McGraw	4th Grade at Tilton
Ruby Nambo	Bilingual 2nd Grade at Central
Christine Underwood	Counselor at RMS
Catherine Weden	3rd Grade at Tilton

Non-Tenured, Part-time Teachers

Cassie Inman	Art at Central
Meredith Weber	Music at Tilton

Retirement

Maria Lopez-Galvan	Effective end of the 2022-2023 school year (Ex. "H")
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Transfers

Katie Smith	4th Grade May School to 7th Grade ELA at RMS (Ex. "I")
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II. SUPPORT STAFF

Family Leave

Marisol Belmonte	6 Weeks	(Ex. "J")
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Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. VanHise - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-5; Nay-0. Motion carried.

4. It was motioned by Mrs. Vaughn and seconded by Mr. Zepeda to approve the TRS Supplementary Savings Plan (SSP) in compliance with State law - 40 ILCS 5/16-204. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. VanHise - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-5; Nay-0. Motion carried. (Ex. "K")
5. It was motioned by Mr. VanHise and seconded by Mr. Zepeda to approve the Lee Ogle Enterprise Zone restructured tiered abatement incentive program as was discussed at our January 2021 board meeting. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. VanHise - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-5; Nay-0. Motion carried. (Ex. "L")

Mayor Bearrows thanked the Board for their support.

6. Superintendent Harper presented an update on the district's education efforts during the Covid19 pandemic.
 - We are going to have a more robust summer school program this year. It will run from June 7th - July 2nd. We usually run with 110 students, but this year we are doubling it, with a max of 250 students.
 - Registration will be done online this year. We will be using our school system, Infinite Campus, using a rolling process not the 1-2 days during the summer. We will

reach out to our parents in both languages. Parents can still register in person at Central School. This will be very beneficial to us, helping to mitigate the spread and also will give us a clear idea of what our parents want for their student.

- New guidance was received today from ISBE. One change is we will need to social distance 3 feet instead of 6 feet. We will have follow up conversations with IDPH and Ogle County Health Department. We hope to have the information before summer comes.
 - Superintendent Harper added that he is aggressively hoping and pursuing to return back full-time next school year for as many students as the State allows.
7. Superintendent Harper notified the board that he was unsure if we would need to have a hearing or not regarding the potential closure of May Elementary School. We just received notification this afternoon that no hearing is required.

Discussion Items: No discussion items at this time

Executive Session: It was moved by Mrs. Vaughn and seconded by Mr. VanHise to enter into the Executive Session at 8:15 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. Builta - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. VanHise - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-5; Nay-0.

It was moved by Mrs. Vaughn and seconded by Mr. VanHise to exit from the Executive Session at 8:53 pm and return to regular session. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. VanHise - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-5; Nay-0.

Action Resulting From Executive Session: It was motioned by Mrs. Vaughn and seconded by Mr. Zepeda to approve the Memorandum of Agreement for Mark Papke to grant the maximum number of sick days. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. VanHise - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-5; Nay-0.

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; Mr. Builta - aye; Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. VanHise - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-5; Nay-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 pm.

David Casey, Board President

Trisha Vaughn, Board Secretary