

Rochelle Community Consolidated School District 231
April 13, 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 April 13, 2021 at 7:00 pm. Upon roll call: Mr. Zepeda - present; Mr. Van Hise - present; Mrs. Reif - absent; Mr. Builta - present; Mrs. Tess - present; Mrs. Vaughn - present; Mr. Casey - present. Present - 6, Absent - 1.

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

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

It was motioned by Mr. Van Hise and seconded by Mr. Zepeda to approve the March 9, 2021 Board of Education Monthly Meeting Minutes and the Executive Session Meeting minutes. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. Van Hise - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mrs. Tess - aye; Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-6; Nay-0. Motion carried. (Ex. "B & C")

Mrs. Reif arrived at 7:02 pm.

Audience Comments: No comments were presented.

Communications:

- Item 1: Superintendent Harper reminded the Board members that the Statement of Economic Interests form must be filed by May 3rd.
- Item 2: Superintendent Harper recognized and thank board members Mrs. Shirley Reif (18 years) and Mrs. Jean Tess (20 years) for their many years of service and leadership on the school board.

Special Reports/Updates: No special reports were presented.

Consent Agenda: It was motioned by Mrs. Vaughn and seconded by Mrs. Reif 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:

I. CERTIFICATED

Resignation

Jennifer Derricks Principal at Tilton School (Ex. "F")

Employment

Amy Springmire 4th Grade Bilingual Teacher at Central (Ex. "G")

Jennifer Hernandez 4th Grade Bilingual Teacher at Lincoln (Ex. "H")

Yensy Garcia 3rd Grade Bilingual Teacher at Lincoln (Ex. "I")

Transfer

Lisa Friday Transfer from 3rd Grade Teacher at Lincoln to
1st Grade Bilingual Teacher at Central School (Ex. "J")

Deanne Ponto Transfer from 3rd Grade Teacher at May School to
4th Grade Teacher at May School

II. SUPPORT STAFF

None at this time.

III. EXTRACURRICULAR

Resignation

None

Employment

Trace Hippen Morning Supervision at RMS (1/2 Time) (Ex. "K")

Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. Van Hise - aye; Mrs. Reif - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mrs. Tess - aye; Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-7; Nay-0. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. It was motioned by Mrs. Reif and seconded by Mr. Zepeda to approve the land cash rental agreement extension with Mr. James Gensler for the 14 tillable acres at \$230 per acre. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. Van Hise - aye; Mrs. Reif - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mrs. Tess - aye; Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-7; Nay-0. Motion carried. (Ex. "L")
2. It was motioned by Mrs. Vaughn and seconded by Mr. Builta to increase the Kindergarten registration fee from \$58.50 (which includes \$50 for school and \$8.50 for milk) to \$60, which also includes both the school fee and milk. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. Van Hise - aye; Mrs. Reif - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mrs. Tess - aye; Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-7; Nay-0. Motion carried. (Ex. "M")

3. Superintendent Harper stated there is a need to amend the 2020-2021 Budget. The amended budget is on display at the District Office for review and will be on display for the required 30 days. At the June meeting we will present the recommended changes as part of a budget hearing prior to the regular June 8th meeting. (Ex.”N “)
4. It was motioned by Mrs. Vaughn and seconded by Mr. Van Hise to close May School for next school year. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. Van Hise - aye; Mrs. Reif - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mrs. Tess - aye; Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-7; Nay-0. Motion carried.
5. It was motioned by Mr. Builta and seconded by Mr. Zepeda to approve Superintendent Harper’s recommendation to reorganize the district using an attendance center model with:
 - PreKindergarten - Grade 1 will attend Lincoln School
 - Grade 2 - Grade 3 will attend Central School
 - Grade 4 - Grade 5 will attend Tilton School
 - Grade 6 - Grade 8 will continue to attend at RMSUpon roll call all members voted as follows: Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. Van Hise - aye; Mrs. Reif - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mrs. Tess - aye; Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-7; Nay-0. Motion carried.
6. Superintendent Harper presented an update on the district’s education efforts during the Covid19 pandemic.
 - The Illinois Department of Public Health and ISBE have given guidance for next school year. For a student to be a remote learner next year, they must have a doctor identified and documented severe illness that would put them at an elevated risk.
 - At this point there isn’t a vaccination available for our students, 8th grade and younger.
 - We are transitioning to online registration this year. One of the questions for parents/guardians is if they think their student has an elevated risk to prevent them from attending school in person. This will help to pre-plan our numbers.
 - End Of Year schedule:
 - The last day of the school will be May 28 - Teachers Institute.
 - May 27 will be our last remote planning day (#5) at each building. This will assist with the transition of staff.
 - May 26 will be the last day of student attendance.
 - We have had really good interest in our summer school program, longer days, more days and will be serving more students than we ever have.
 - Mr. Builta asked if there is an opportunity to look back on what we learned this year and take some of those best practices back into the classroom. Superintendent Harper

stated “It definitely needs to be. We have been informal in that. It will be a good idea to be part of the End of the Year wrap-up.”

Discussion Items:

- Item 1: Superintendent Harper stated we will hold a Reorganization meeting on Monday, April 26, 2021 at 6:00 pm to swear in the newly elected board members, elect officers, and select members to the various committees.

- Item 2: We have a board vacancy.
We have an application setup with the deadline as Friday, April 30th.
We will publicize the board vacancy with a notice to the media and our website.
Mrs. Bull will have applications and post them to the board packet for review.
Applications and interviews will be done at the May board meeting during the executive session.

- Item 3: Reorganization meeting on April 26, 2021 at RTHS at 6:00 pm with Ashley Jackson.

Executive Session: No Executive Session was held.

There being no further business, Mrs. Reif moved adjournment and it was seconded by Mrs. Tess. Upon roll call all members voted as follows: Mr. Zepeda - aye; Mr. Van Hise - aye; Mrs. Reif - aye; Mr. Builta - aye; Mrs. Tess - aye; Mrs. Vaughn - aye; Mr. Casey - aye. Aye-7; Nay-0. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.

David Casey, Board President

Trisha Vaughn, Board Secretary