

Minutes

Board of Education of the Rocky River City School District

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution to Adopt Agenda

#155-09

Resolution to Adjourn

#156-09

Minutes

Board of Education of the Rocky River City School District

The Board of Education of the Rocky River City School District, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, met in committee session on October 7, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. in the Curriculum Library at the Board of Education Offices. A digital recording was made of this meeting and is on file in the Office of the Treasurer.

President Jay Milano presiding

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PRESENT – Ms. Goepfert, Mr. Milano, Mrs. Rounds, Dr. Schieda, Mr. Swartz

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT AGENDA

Resolution No. 155-09

Ms. Goepfert moved the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Rocky River City School District that it hereby adopts this Agenda, including any addendum attached hereto, for its Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting, October 7, 2009.

Mrs. Rounds seconded the resolution and the roll was called:

ROLL CALL

AYES – Ms. Goepfert, Mrs. Rounds, Mr. Milano, Dr. Schieda, Mr. Swartz

The resolution was adopted 5 – 0.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The committees of the Board met.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE - Dr. Schieda

Discussion was held on the following items:

Architectural Selection Process

Discussion took place regarding the two possible Architect Firms Rocky River City Schools may be hiring. Discussion covered the second interviews and also onsite inspections of some of the work the Architect Firms have completed.

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FINANCE COMMITTEE - Mr. Swartz

Discussion was held on the following items:

Other

The Finance Committee last met on September 17, 2009. Mr. Markus announced that he did receive some feedback on the District's bond rating review from Moody's since that time. Rocky River City Schools has been rated preliminarily as Aa3, which is a slight downgrade from the Aa2 we were rated. Our low fund balance levels as compared to historical averages and peer Districts is what they focused on in their review and subsequent decision to downgrade the rating. Mr. Markus has been in contact with Mr. Manaloff, District bond counsel from Squire, Sanders & Dempsey, as to what this means for us in terms of future debt issuance and other issues going forward, although it is not expected to have a significant impact since we are still rated in the Aa category.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be on Thursday, October 15th at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Markus will review the current draft of the 5-year forecast that will be distributed to the Board by the end of the week.

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE - Mrs. Rounds

Discussion was held on the following items:

CAC Update

The Curriculum Advisory Committee (CAC) met on October 7, 2009 and it was a great success. In order to fulfill the House Bill I request for a Parent/Community Engagement Team, Ms. Anderson will use her CAC Committee, with the addition of Mrs. Barb Reddy, our school nurse, to fulfill that requirement.

PDK Gallup Poll Discussion

Mrs. Rounds discussed the 41st Phi Delta Kappan Gallup Poll rating the schools. Again, lack of funding, discipline and over-crowding were cited as the biggest problems for public schools. Personal qualities in a teacher and their dedication and enthusiasm were written about in this article also. All day kindergarten was endorsed by the participants in the gallop poll from PDK.

High School Course Selection Summary

Ms. Anderson distributed a course catalog survey of twenty-six state high schools. Discussion will follow at a later date.

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Title I PLUS Supplemental

Ms. Anderson asked the Board for permission to offer a Plus Supplemental "Title I Building Level Coordinator" for Mrs. Tara Grabowski. Mrs. Grabowski will be charged with collecting necessary compliance documentation for both Goldwood and Kensington for the Title I and Title I Stimulus programs.

Old Science Books Discard

Replaced science textbooks from the high school will be discarded, and some sold. Mr. Knauss and Mr. Wagner have shown interest in selling some of the AP texts on eBay. They expressed that AP students often like to write in their texts, and then bring that text to college with them. Monies earned from selling AP science texts on eBay will be shared between the science and business departments.

Other

Mrs. Muccio, our gifted coordinator, will be coordinating "Destination Imagination" at Kensington this year. Any student is welcomed to participate in this after-school, challenge-based activity. Parent volunteers will be instrumental in leading each group. Work on this competition will be outside of school and the competition will be in March, 2010.

POLICY AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - Mr. Milano

Discussion was held on the following items:

Ohio Operating Standards for Ohio Educational Agencies Serving Children with Disabilities

Mr. Milano talked about the "Ohio Operating Standards for Ohio Educational Agencies Serving Children with Disabilities". It will be on the regular October Board Meeting Agenda for approval.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY COMMITTEE - Ms. Goepfert

Discussion was held on the following items:

Other

Ms. Goepfert announced that the October Spirit Run has been cancelled due to lack of sponsors. They were \$800.00 short. Rocky River Boosters may take it back in 2010. Most of the participants were Rocky River employees. Mr. Markus announced that if employees have run or participated in another 5K this year he will provide points for that participation. Some sort of proof will need to be shown.

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Next week is Rocky River Recreation membership appreciation. All members are able to invite a friend for a week of free trial.

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Residents, students, staff, and others invited by the President of the Board or the Superintendent may address the Board at this time.

- Mr. Milano spoke of an anonymous letter received by Board Members at this meeting. He is urging community members who have a complaint or a concern to please discuss it with teachers/principals so that the matter can be resolved. Further, Mr. Milano urged the Board to disregard anonymous letters as there are inherent issues with their reliability.

REVIEW OF AGENDA FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 15, 2009

RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN

Resolution No. 156-09

Mrs. Rounds moved the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Rocky River City School District that it hereby adjourn.

Ms. Goepfert seconded the resolution and the roll was called:

ROLL CALL

AYES – Mrs. Rounds, Ms. Goepfert, Mr. Milano, Dr. Schieda, Mr. Swartz

The resolution was adopted 5 – 0.

President

Treasurer