

Rockdale School District 84

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
715 Meadow Avenue Rockdale, Illinois, Wednesday, February 1, 2022.
Special Meeting in the Media Center at 6:00 p.m.**

Call to Order Regular Meeting:

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Rockdale School District 84 was held on Wednesday, February 1, 2023 beginning at 6:00PM.

Members Present

Angela Stadler
Steve Chamblee

Geralyn Wyke
Jolene Chamblee
Nick Macholz
Gerry Phillips

Members Absent

Ahmed Aich-Sandino

Also Present

Dr. Michael Merritt
Jeff Peterson
Irene Las

Approximately 3 Guests

Board President Angie Stadler called to order the regular open session at 6:00PM.

Roll Call was taken and a quorum was established.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mrs. Stadler asked all present to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Adopt Agenda:

Member S. Chamblee made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented.

Member Macholz seconded the motion.

The motion was carried with all members voting 'aye'.

Board Member Aich Absent

Receive and Welcome Visitors:

Staff: S. Mooney, C. Puckett

Students: None

Parents: None

Guests: Veregy, Inc. - Michele James - Brendan Kinzler

Public Comment: (See Board Policy 2:230)

2.01 Veregy Presentation of Scope and Price of Summer 2023 Facilities Projects

Dr. Merritt introduced Michelle James and Brendan Kinzler of Veregy to the board so they could present the possibilities for the Summer 2023 Facilities Projects and update them on the status of the various bids. The board had the opportunity to ask any questions they may have regarding the process.

Board Discussion Items:

3.01 Facility Committee Recommendation of Summer 2023 Projects

Once all of the information was presented by Veregy the board broke it down into two options for a decision. The choice of the original recommendation from the Facilities Committee after their last meeting on January 26, 2023 with a larger scope of work to be completed in the first phase Which will be the Summer of 2023 and the recommendation made by the Administration which included these four recommendations:

The scope of work that was approved includes the following:

Water Drainage Improvements (north and west side of the building)
Courtyard Skylight/Enclose Space
Galvanized Piping Full Replacement (Asbestos Abatement by District)
Gym Roofing Upgrades

All of these projects have a guaranteed price of \$2,783,804.

We are awaiting firm pricing on the following, which should be made available to us on Feb.15:

Renovation to the spaces surrounding the courtyard - \$140,000 (budget pricing)
Cafeteria and West Side HVAC Fencing - \$7,000 (budget pricing)
IT Wiring - TBD
Water Fountain Piping Replacement - 50,000 (Budget Pricing)
Gym Roofing Structural Improvements - TBD

All in, we could be realizing a total cost of approximately 3.1M for these summer 2023 projects.

Dr. Merritt advised that after reflection and in alignment with the idea of prioritizing the work within the first phase, as well as ensuring we remain fiscally responsible, he believed it would be in the best interest of the district to focus on the four priority areas. This will ensure the work is done within the projected timeline, and allow Chuck to get the building ready for learners and staff to return in mid August.

Action item: Motion to approve the scope and price of facilities projects to be completed in summer 2023 as proposed by the Facilities Committee

Member S. Chamblee made a Motion to approve the scope and price of facilities projects to be completed in summer 2023 as proposed by the Facilities Committee

No Members seconded the motion.

The motion was Dismissed

3.02 Health Life Safety Survey Amendment

Needed for the state to approve the 50,000 matching grant

Dr. Merritt recommended to the Board that they approve the amendment as proposed

3.03 Triple I Joint Conference Review

Member Macholz shared some of the STEM items he learned about at the JAC Conference.

He also learned about items a board member should address when evaluating a Superintendent. President Stadler suggested he share that information with Irene Las who will be preparing the evaluation forms soon for the board.

Member Machols also shared ways to help staff and student English Language Learners

University of Chicago Consortium of Research
Using paraprofessionals to get licensed to teach
Aurora University
Bilingual Preschool
Birth to 3 Grant
Seal of Biliteracy
Equal Opportunity Schools

Dr. Merritt shared information about Pension Problems

IL is the only state with a BBB credit rating
These funds are going to have to come from somewhere
In IL, residents pay about 9.7% of income to state and local taxes
We are in this problem in our state because it is in our constitution that membership in any a retirement system for schools is required

Amanda Ripley

People who are in high conflict situations want to be invited out, treat them as humans, help them build up another identity outside of the conflict

Actions:

Break the Binary
Identify Conflict Entrepreneurs
Investigate the Understory (root cause)
High Conflict Institution.com

Student Voice on a Board

A policy on students on the board
Students created a song that is played through the halls at arrival
Interview process with the Board during closed session

Board Member Ahmed Aich-Sandino was also planning to present what he learned during the JAC Conference but was absent for this board meeting and will do so at the next board meeting.

Closed Session:

Board Vice - President Mr. Steve Chamblee called for a closed session meeting.

Board President Ms. Angela Stadler called the closed meeting to order at 7:50 PM.

Motion to go into closed session at 7:51 PM was made by Mr. Chamblee and seconded by

Mrs. Chamblee to discuss the following:

2.02 The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees. ILCS 120/2(c)(1), amended by P.A. 101-459.

The motion carried with all of the members voting 'aye'.

Mr. Aich was absent for the vote.

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Motion to return from closed session was made at 8:01 PM by Mr. Chamblee and seconded by

Mr. Phillips.

The motion carried with all of the members voting 'aye'.

Mr. Aich was absent for the vote.

Board/Action Items:

Action item: Motion to approve the scope and price of facilities projects to be completed in summer 2023 as recommended by the Administration

Member Macholz made a Motion to approve the scope and price of facilities projects to be completed in summer 2023 as recommended by the Administration

Member Phillips seconded the motion.

The motion was carried with five members voting 'aye'.

One Member voted "naye".

Mr. Aich was absent for the vote.

Comments:

Action item: Motion to approve Health Life Safety Survey amendment as proposed

Member S. Chamblee made a Motion to approve Health Life Safety Survey amendment as proposed

Member Macholz seconded the motion.

The motion was carried with all members voting 'aye'.

Mr. Aich was absent for the vote.

Comments:

Board Comments:

Board Member Aich:

Board Member J. Chamblee:

Board Vice President S. Chamblee:

Board Member Macholz:

Board Member Phillips:

Board Treasurer Wyke:

Board President Stadler:

Dr. Merritt:

Adjournment:

Member S. Chamblee made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Member Phillips seconded the motion.

The motion was carried on a voice vote.

Mr. Aich was absent for the vote.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:01 PM

Angela Stadler
President, Board of Education

Ahmed Aich-Sandino
Secretary, Board of Education

Next Board Meeting:

6:00PM, Wednesday, February 15, 2022, Media Center

