

Rochester Community Unit School District #3a
December 21, 2022
Regular Meeting Summary

**All summaries of minutes are unofficial and subject to change until final approval by the Board. Approved minutes of the Board of Education will be posted to the District website at www.rochester3a.net within seven days following approval.*

***All votes are unanimous unless otherwise noted.*

Members Present: Aimee Johnson, Chris Jewell, Amy Reynolds, Dennis File, Todd Hannah, and Christie Magoulas.

Members Absent: Kevin Gade

Consent Agenda

The following items were approved on the consent agenda:

- Approval of [Minutes](#)
- Acceptance of Donations -
 - Ron Stevens donated \$1,000 to the Robotics program.
 - Rochester Lions Club and Boo Crew donated \$3,000 dollars to the Drama Department to be used for the purchase and installation of listening device equipment in the Rochester Fine Arts Auditorium.
 - Kevin Cory and Cisco donated \$2000 to the Rochester Athletic Department. The District intends to split the donation between the Girls Basketball and Girls Softball teams.
- Approval to Temporarily Designate Hiring Authority to the Superintendent 12/22/22-01/17/23
- Disposal of Verbatim Closed Session Recordings Older than 18 Months

Discussion Items

The following topics were discussed by the Board of Education:

- **Building Committee** - Representatives from S.M. Wilson & Co. and BLDD Architects were in attendance as an introduction to upcoming construction projects.
- **Finance Committee** - The finance committee met to review the proposed tax levy, bond abatements, and options for general obligation revenue bonds. All of the topics are items for discussion and action on the agenda.
- **General Education Family Advisory Committee** - The committee met on November 30, 2022, to discuss the following: Transportation Update, Teacher Morale Collaborative, Paper Tutorial, Tax Levy, Construction Update, Expanded Family Engagement
- **Discussion Joint Annual Conference** - Board members shared topics of interest and information learned from the annual joint annual conference of school board members, school business officials, and school administrators.
- **School Board Member Recognition** - Two school board members were recognized by the Illinois Association of School Boards for exemplary service: Amy Reynolds as a Distinguished School Board member and Dennis File as an Established School Board member.

- **First Reading of Updates and Revisions to Board of Education Policies** - Newly written and revised Board of Education Policies were placed on first reading for review.
- **District Audit and Annual Financial Report** - The District again has achieved financial recognition status, the highest recognition available. The annual audit contained no significant findings.

Action Items

The Board of Education took action and approved the following action items:

- **Bills, Payroll, Treasurer's Report**
- [Resolution Providing for the Tax Levy 2022](#)
- **Resolution Abating a Portion of Taxes Heretofore Levied to Pay Principal of and Interest on Certain General Obligation School Refunding Bonds Series 2016** - This resolution provides for \$300,000 in property tax relief to taxpayers via the 1% County Schools Facilities Sales Tax
- **Approval of Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Alternate Bonds in an Aggregate Principal Amount Not to Exceed \$25,000,000 for the Purpose of Altering, Repairing, and Equipping School Buildings and Facilities of the District and Improving School Sites** - The resolution begins the process to provide the Board authority to issue alternate revenue bonds not to exceed \$25 million. The purpose of the bonds is to provide revenue to complete facility improvements at Rochester High School (J-Wing and Secure Entrance) and the outdoor multi-use academic, extra-curricular, and co-curricular facilities at Rochester High School. The bonds are issued and paid through the 1% County Schools Facilities Sales Tax and will not raise property taxes.
- **School Improvement Plans**
- **Curriculum Council Recommendations for the Additions Accelerated Placement Chemistry and Human Anatomy & Physiology Courses at Rochester High School**

Action on Items Following Closed Session

The following action items were approved following the closed session of the Board of Education:

- The following individuals were approved for employment:
 - Kayla Webster - District Interventionist 22-23 and Special Education Teacher 23-24
 - Alexis Blue - District Administrative Secretary
 - Ana Friedrich - Special Education Aide
 - Connie Howie - RIS Secretary
 - Brody Hull - District Maintenance Personnel
 - Hayley Nation - Special Education Aide
 - Steve Buecker - RHS JV Boys Basketball Coach
 - Emmanuel Christmon - Freshmen Boys Basketball Coach
 - Andrew McGhghy - RJHS Head Wrestling Coach
 - Jim Kolba - RJHS Asst. Wrestling Coach
 - Peter Bultmann - RJHS Asst. Wrestling Coach

- The following individuals were approved as volunteer staff:
 - Eric Anderson - RJHS Asst. Wrestling Coach
- The following individuals submitted resignations with thanks for service:
 - Robert (Bob) McDermott - Director of Business Services & Treasurer, Effective 7/31/23
 - Michelle Riley - RJH Library Aide/Study Hall Supervisor, Effective 12/21/22
 - Ronda Trader - School Bus Driver, Effective 10/19/22
 - Adam Aldridge - RHS Freshman Boys Basketball Coach, Effective 9/12/22
- The following individuals were approved for leaves of absence:
 - David Knoepfle - School Bus Driver, Effective 12/14/22 - 12/21/22
 - Debbie Kramer - RES 3rd Grade Teacher, Effective 3/13/23 - 5/30/23
 - Sarah Littrell - Director of Library & Media Services, Effective 1/20/23 - 3/1/23

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Wednesday, January 18, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. at the Bruce Hays Administrative Center Conference Room.