



**Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes  
October 23, 2023  
Powell 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Academy – Media Center**

<b>Called to Order</b>	6:00 p.m. Called to order by Vice President, Gus Demas. 5 members present. 2 members absent with notice (Banach, Conner).
<b>Pledge of Allegiance</b>	Led by the Board  Dr. Demas mentioned a couple of amendments that were made to the agenda: Under Consent Action on the agenda, the October 9, 2023 Workshop Meeting Minutes were amended and under Regular Meeting Action Items, Facilities Resolution #85 (2-way radio equipment) was added.
<b>Approved</b>	Agenda for October 23, 2023 Regular Meeting. Young moved. Rice supported. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion Carried. Agenda Approved.
<b>Celebrations</b>	Dr. Robinson shared district celebrations.
<b>Presentations</b>	Representatives from the PTOC Joanna Serra & Jennifer Lies introduced themselves and shared the work that the group is doing throughout the district. They explained that one rep from each school meets throughout the year to discuss how to support each other and share plans. They host appreciation luncheons for staff, help with the purchase of kindergarten signs and have instituted some new ideas such as a 5 <sup>th</sup> grade mixer and a mom event. They have created a google drive which schools can use to share resources. They are working at trying to strengthen the bond between schools and they are currently trying to combine greening in schools. They will be hosting a basketball fundraiser in 2024 to raise money for the PTOC.  Mr. Antoine and Dr. Demas thanked them for their good work.  Dr. Robinson mentioned he's been involved with the group since he came to Romeo and he's grateful for their leadership and their efforts in trying to break down any barriers of competitiveness between schools.
<b>Approved</b>	<b>Consent Action Items.</b> Eichhorst moved. Rice supported. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• General Fund Bills (check register)</li><li>• Financial Reports (summary, revenue &amp; expense reports)</li><li>• Wire Transfer report</li><li>• Purchasing Card Expenditures</li><li>• Minutes from Regular Meeting held on September 25, 2023</li><li>• Minutes from Workshop Meeting held on October 9, 2023</li></ul>
<b>Informational Updates/New Business</b>	<b>Communications</b> – A County School Board meeting reminder was shared with the board.

### **Committee Reports –**

*Safety & Security* – Mr. Young gave an update on topics that were covered. Two-way radios were discussed and the new Raptor entry system were demonstrated. He explained the detailed information and detailed reports that the Raptor system produces. An assessment from SEC was conducted on the new Transportation facility and their findings will be addressed. Interior door safety and AVERT training were discussed. Over 700 employees have been trained in AVERT and there will be a continued push in order to get every staff member trained. The district is awaiting information from the state to see what 31AA funding will be given.

Ms. Eichhorst asked if there is a date when the next Ad hoc committee will be held. Dr. Robinson mentioned that it is typically in the spring and fall. Ms. Eichhorst asked if a board member could be invited when the safety team meets.

**State Assessment & NWEA Data Update** – Mr. Murray spoke about the standardized test scores and shared key takeaways at the elementary level. He shared graphs of 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade math, social studies and science M-Step test scores. He addressed future plans and first steps that will be taken. He addressed the CKLA ELA curriculum that was implemented this year and mentioned that they have new social studies curriculum. They will be revisiting the math instruction. Ms. McFarlane shared secondary level key takeaways and shared graphs of 7<sup>th</sup> grade ELA & Math, 8<sup>th</sup> grade PSAT, EBRW & Math, 9<sup>th</sup> grade PSAT, SAT EBRW & Math. She addressed future plans and the steps they will take to continue to help close the gaps. They are looking into new ELA curriculum and will be bringing in 3 vendors to present their resources. Chronic absenteeism data was looked at and they will be exploring the data in greater detail and trying to come up with strategies to address this.

Ms. Rice asked if Amplify has a secondary education curriculum. Ms. McFarlane stated that they have middle school but not high school and that the middle school teachers felt they wanted to connect with what the high school was doing.

Mr. Young asked if they could have a follow-up on absenteeism in the spring after the strategies addressing absenteeism are implemented.

Mr. Murray spoke regarding NWEA and changes to the algorithm. He explained the 3 major changes that took place with the testing. Elementary data was shared and compared to the previous year. Ms. McFarlane shared the data for secondary students and compared them to the previous year.

Ms. Eichhorst asked if there is a 50% meant to fail rate, why we put so much emphasis on this particular test. Ms. McFarlane mentioned that it was mandated in the past by the state to report the findings of this test to the board. We continue to give it at least 2 times to see if there are kids not gaining the typical growth.

### **Superintendent's Report –**

*Preliminary Enrollment Summary* – Dr. Robinson shared the preliminary information from the fall count day. He shared a graph with a summary of our district-wide enrollment which showed the last 6 years of fall enrollment data. A shared-time analysis was presented which showed that the enrollment trend is still increasing despite discontinuing the shared-time agreement. A 4-year snapshot of enrollment numbers from the buildings that were redistricted was shared. He spoke about budget assumptions and mentioned that we have exceeded our assumption by 45 FTE's.

*School Safety* – There is a resolution on the agenda to implement the Raptor system at the early childhood through elementary levels. Once the system is in place, training will take place.

Dr. Robinson shared a list of school safety focus areas that were addressed and the steps being taken on these.

*RCS District Climate Survey* – They have started conversation regarding follow-up with administration regarding the district climate survey. They will audit the original version, add additional questions and plan to have it completed by early December. They are discussing moving the open-ended questions to student focus group dialogue instead because they feel this will produce more authentic data.

Ms. Eichhorst mentioned that she hopes they use a broader group of students as it sometimes seems that they use the same students over and over; and she expressed some concern with discontinuing the open-ended comments because there are some kids that will not speak in a public town hall forum.

**Public  
Comment**

Elizabeth Miller gave an update on the 297 Prospect St. property. Their group of concerned residents made a presentation to the Romeo Village Council. Their vision for the property is to encourage a green space for wellness, learning and relaxation. The Village council voted to form a sub-committee to explore this matter. Ms. Miller thanked the board and stated the group looks forward to future collaboration regarding the property.

**Approved**

**Resolutions**

- **Employee Services Resolution #81 – Personnel Update**  
Eichhorst moved. Rice supported. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- **Employee Services #82 – AFSCME Maintenance Tentative Agreement**  
Young moved. Antoine supported. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- **Facilities Resolution #83 – Admin. Bldg. Emergency Roofing Project**  
Young moved. Rice supported. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion Carried
- **Technology Resolution #84 – Raptor Purchase**  
Antoine moved. Rice supported. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.
- **Facilities Resolution #85– 2-way Radio Equipment**  
Young moved. Eichhorst supported. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

**Board  
Discussion/  
For the Good  
of the District**

Mr. Young shared some events going on in the community. He stated that the Tillson street residents put on a great display for the community and a portion of the proceeds from the shirts they sell go to benefit our community. He also mentioned that MainTreats collected over 16,000 pieces of candy from the community and that they are hosting a \$1 coffee sleeve sale fundraiser in partnership with Amanda Moore. He mentioned a GoFundMe which has raised over \$100,000 for an Indian Hills student who has been diagnosed with brain cancer and thanked the community for coming together.

Mr. Antoine thanked Dr. Robinson for the workshop meeting on October 9<sup>th</sup> and the ability to visit the buildings and see the community bond dollars at work. He mentioned how great it was to see the new lighting, flooring and opportunities and it made him feel proud. Dr. Demas agreed.

Mr. Young mentioned showcasing some of the construction by posting photos for the community as a reminder that they are the shareholders.

Ms. Rice stated that they have done an amazing job with facilities but wanted to give kudos to Ms. McFarlane and Mr. Murray pertaining to the upward trend and the progress that is being made with curriculum.

Dr. Demas mentioned that the wellness committee met. Their focus areas are nutrition, social and emotional well-being and physical fitness. He thanked Julia for her

leadership and stated he's looking forward to some good action items coming out of that group.

**Public  
Comment**

None.

**Adjournment**

7:16 p.m. Young moved. Rice supported. 5 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

Approved by: Mike Antoine, Secretary \_\_\_\_\_