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**ROCHESTER SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
JUNE 12, 2025**

Members Present: Chair: Shane Downs, Matthew Beaulieu, Nick Bellows, Sandy Keans, Shauni McGowan, Matthew Pappas, Kelli Wiggin, Steven Cusumano, Paul Cormier, Erik White, Dave Camire, Sarah Harrington (arrived 6:47PM)

Members Absent: V. Chair: Karen Stokes

Also Present: Alison Bryant, Shannon Vitas, Guests & Public

Call to Order

Call to Order was made by Shane Downs at 6:00 PM on roll call followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem sung by Violet Nelson, Nick Canelos and Mollie Pederson.

Reading of Records of the Previous Meetings

Steve Cusumano moved, second by Matt Beaulieu to approve the minutes of the previous meetings. May 15, 2025; May 22, 2025; May 29, 2025; June 05, 2025; June 09, 2025

Nay: Sandy Keans

Motion carried by majority.

Student Senate Report

Report of the Superintendent

Justin Roy Principal - Spaulding High School recognized Athletic Director, Sheila Colson for setting a new school record for the most all-time coaching wins at SHS.

Dr. Alison Bryant honored the following 2025 retirees for their years of dedicated service to the Rochester School District:

- Marie Bahlert – 30.5 years
- Brenda Bourgeois – 15 years
- David Colson – 38 years
- Debra Corbett – 33 years
- Valeria Crossley – 2 years
- Virginia Farkas – 20 years
- Susan Heeter – 6 years
- Maj. Dan Heeter – 17 years

DRAFT

- Steven Hyzer – 25 years
- Paul Kuliga – 16 years
- Gary Newton – 16 years
- Suzanne Orr – 10 years
- Laura Scott – 23 years
- Janet Stickney – 5 years
- Tracey Tibbetts – 17 years

Dr. Bryant also provided an update to the board regarding the ongoing search for a new principal at Bud Carlson Academy (BCA) and a new Assistant Superintendent.

Shane Downs thanked David Rychlik, Director of Operations; Justin Roy, Principal of SHS; Bryan Kelliher, Principal of BCA; and all faculty and staff for their hard work in delivering a beautiful graduation ceremony for students at both SHS and BCA.

Finally, Shane Downs and the board expressed their gratitude to Dr. Alison Bryant for her leadership and service to the Rochester School District and extended best wishes as she transitions to her new role as Assistant Superintendent in Exeter, NH.

Public Comment

Tim Wells, refused to state address failing to comply with SB policy BEDJ.

Recess

Steve Cusumano moved, second by Matt Beaulieu to recess the meeting at 6:24 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Steve Cusumano moved, second by Matt Pappas, to resume the meeting at 6:27 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Shari Crowder, Rochester resident, shared comments regarding the employment status of Superintendent Annie Azarloza.

Tom O'Connor, Rochester resident, expressed his appreciation to Principal Roy and staff for their efforts in transitioning the graduation ceremony from an outdoor to indoor venue. He also thanked School Board Members Sandy Keans and Kelli Wiggin for their thoughtful messages to his graduating daughters. Mr. O'Connor also inquired about board transparency and the status and potential return of Superintendent Annie Azarloza.

DRAFT

Meagan Woodman, teacher at Rochester Middle School (RMS), spoke about academic challenges RMS has faced since COVID particularly the reduction in team-based instruction, Unified Arts (UA) programs, and Special Education services.

Kayla Wurk, RMS teacher, expressed confidence in Lyndsey Detroia as the next RMS principal. She also referenced several school board policies and the board's compliance with GCD, GBB, ABB, and JFB during the hiring process for RMS principal.

Brianne St. Pierre, RMS teacher and Rochester resident, discussed the reduction of Unified Arts offerings, the loss of Special Education supports, staff shortages, and resulting teacher burnout. She emphasized the impact of these challenges on both staff and students.

Lea Marshall, RMS teacher, advocated for greater support for RMS and extended an open invitation to board members to spend a day at the school to better understand the daily challenges. She also noted that teachers are often managing large class sizes.

Kelli Kody, Rochester resident, voiced support for the proposed teacher contract and the need for competitive compensation. She also encouraged resolution of the ongoing conflict between the school board and the superintendent.

Elyse Cookson, RMS teacher, emphasized the importance of middle school education.

Elizabeth McMillian, RMS teacher, expressed agreement with the comments shared by fellow RMS staff.

Karen Costello, RMS teacher, agreed with previous statements and stressed the continued need for additional support.

Jacqueline Therrien, RMS teacher, shared that her commitment to the district is rooted in the strong professional relationships and support among her colleagues.

Talon McGarrity, RMS teacher, stated her love for the district but voiced concerns about her ability to remain if additional support is not provided.

Nicole Dale Hogan, RMS faculty member, requested more support for RMS and encouraged the school board to advocate against the use of JUUL settlement funds for the SHS sports complex.

Laura Hainey, Rochester resident, expressed support for both the teacher and food service contracts.

DRAFT

Alison Smith, RMS teacher and multi-sport coach, voiced support for the comments made by her colleagues. She also raised concerns about board transparency and compliance with policies GCD and GCBB.

Cori Ann Morre, RMS teacher, expressed support for the statements made by fellow teachers and affirmed her commitment to her co-workers.

Racheal Roulliard, RMS teacher, echoed previous comments, emphasizing the impact of staffing and resource shortages on student preparedness for high school and staff burnout. She invited board members to visit RMS and observe the progress being made despite limited resources.

Standing Committees' Reports

Governance Committee

Matt Pappas moved, second by Kelli Wiggin to approve the following policy:

- JED-Student Absences and Excuses
Motion carried unanimously.

Teaching, Learning, & Student Supports Committee

Matt Pappas moved, second by Steve Cusumano to approve June 24th (early release) as the last day of school for MSMS students and June 25th for the last day for MSMS staff. Motion carried unanimously.

Operations Committee

Matt Beaulieu moved, second by Steve Cususmano to approve Chair Downs to sign the Salmon Falls Emergency Safety Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

Finance Committee

Shane Downs moved, second by Dave Camire to approve the following resignations:

● Silas McIntire	ESOL Teacher
● Lindsey Cobath	PreK Special Education Teacher - REACH
● Caitlin Gately	Science - SHS
● Molly St. Germain	Guidance - WAS
● Karen Jenkins	Special Education - McC
● Kristy Guilbault	Administrative Assistant - WAS

Motion carried unanimously.

Shane Downs moved, second by Dave Camire to approve the following nominations:

- Katherine James Paraeducator - RMS

DRAFT

- Tracey Donaldson McKinney Vento Liaison - SAU
- Lindsey Frazier Academic Evaluator - Special Education
- Lyndsey DeTroia Rochester Middle School - Principal

Nay: Matt Beaulieu, Sarah Harrington

Motion carried by majority.

Finance Addendum

Shane Downs moved, second by Steve Cusumano to approve the following resignations:

- Christian Phillips Custodian - 2nd Shift
- Melissa Dorsey WAS Assistant Principal
- Christine Hebert ERS - Principal
- Nancy Rhodes CSS - Grade 5 Teacher

Motion carried unanimously.

Shane Downs moved, second by Sarah Harrington to approve the following nominations:

- Hunter Peters Paraeducator 27.5 HRS - RMS
- Crystal Archambault Paraeducator 27.5 HRS - RMS
- Shannon Fitch Special Education Teacher - ERS
- Dyllan McCabe Custodian 2nd Shift
- Stacie Givetz Paraeducator 35 HRS - RMS
- Annmarie Prochilo Special Education Coordinator - RMS
- Zachary Hobbs ESY Special Education

Motion carried unanimously.

Shane Downs moved, second by Dave Camire to approve the following spring grant stipends:

- Meredith Tansey MTSS Coach
- Nicole Merrigan MTSS Coach
- Gail Corey CIRT Lead Coach
- Katie Newbegin CIRT Assistant Lead Coach
- Sara Keller Mentor Program Lead Coordinator
- Jackie Stillwagon Mentor Program Assistant Coordinator
- Sydney McAllister Mentor Program Assistant Coordinator
- Adam Black Mentor Program Assistant Coordinator
- Erin Saucier Mentor Program Assistant Coordinator
- Caitlin Madore Future Pathways Coordinator (High)
- Jessica Lovell Future Pathways Coordinator (High)
- Allen Spader Future Pathways Coordinator (Middle)

DRAFT

- Cheryl Hanscom Teacher Pathways Advisory Leads
- Caryn Costello Teacher Pathways Advisory Leads
- Karen McDermott Counselor Pathways Leads
- Sarah Carri Counselor Pathways Leads

Motion carried unanimously.

Full Board Addendum

Shane Downs moved, second by Matt Pappas to approve the resignation of Alison White, Health teacher - RMS. Motion carried unanimously.

Shane Downs moved, second by Kelli Wiggin, to approve the resignation of Jordan Britton, Social Worker -WAS.. Motion carried unanimously.

Shane Downs moved, second by Matt Pappas, to approve the resignation of Kate Brown, Special Ed Teacher-RMS. Motion carried unanimously.

Shane Downs moved, second by Matt Pappas to approve the resignation of Mary Louise White, Assistant Principal-RMS. Motion carried unanimously.

Shane Downs moved, second by Steve Cusumano, to approve the nomination of Jared Fulgoni, interim superintendent.

Nay: Sandy Keans

Motion carried by majority.

Shane Downs moved, second by Sarah Harrington to approve the nomination of Andrew Capello Social Studies-SHS. Motion carried unanimously.

Shane Downs moved, second by Sarah Harrington to approve the nomination of Kathleen O'Neil, receptionist at SAU. Motion carried unanimously.

Shane Downs moved, second by Kelli Wiggin, to approve the nominations for summer school as listed. Motion carried unanimously.

- Erin Saucier Summer School Director - SHS
- Erin Saucier English - SHS
- Taylor Ramsey Digital Learning Coordinator - SHS
- Taylor Ramsey Science - SHS
- Kim Towne Math - SHS
- Laura Densmore Math - SHS

DRAFT

● Eugene Constandaki	Math - SHS
● Dave McLaughlin	English - SHS
● Stacy Horne	Social Studies - SHS
● Sean Kenny	Computer Tech - CTE
● Elizabeth Keleher	Graphic Design - CTE
● Nathan Locke	Advanced Manufacturing - CTE
● Kayleigh Erwin	Banking/Financial Services - CTE
● Melissa Brown	Jump Start - SHS
● Kim Corey	Jump Start - SHS (English)
● Ryan Beriner	Jump Start - SHS (Work Skills)
● Laura Densmore	Jump Start - SHS (Lead)
● Laura Densmore	Jump Start - SHS (Math)
● Wendy Cmapbell	Paraeducator - SHS
● Al Spader	Summer School Director (RMS)
● Al Spader	Science (RMS)
● Sandi McPadden	Guidance (RMS)
● Jackie Therrien	Geo (RMS)
● Bob Moore	STEM (RMS)
● Talyng McGarrity	Math (RMS)
● Kate Brown	Reading/Special Ed (RMS)
● Diana Pettis	Literacy (RMS)
● Molly Ruperecht	Grade 5 & 6 Teacher (RMS)
● Molly Mojica	Grade 5 & 6 Teacher (RMS)
● Ally Smith	Teacher (RMS)
● Else Cookson	Teacher (RMS)
● Dawn Connelly	Teacher (BCA)
● Kimberly Orr	Teacher (BCA)
● Brook Moody	Summer School Coord (Elem)
● Brook Moody	Teacher (Elem)
● Lindsey Bouffard	Teacher (Elem)
● Holly Spriggs	Teacher (Elem)

Motion carried unanimously.

Shane Downs moved, second by Sarah Harrington, to approve the nominations for ESY as listed.

● Renee Root	ESY Paraeducator
● Cynthia Marquis	ESY Paraeducator
● Janet Stickney	ESY Paraeducator
● Judy Turgeon	ESY Paraeducator

DRAFT

● Hunter Peters	ESY Paraeducator
● Shannon Sargent	ESY Paraeducator
● Brigitte Garber	ESY Paraeducator
● Christie Leclair	ESY Occupational Therapist
● Jen Crone	Summer Special Education Teacher
● Courtney Clairwood	Summer Special Education Teacher
● Kim Orr	Summer Special Education Teacher
● Vilija Pauliukonis	Summer Special Education Teacher
● Kate Kelley	Summer Special Education Teacher
● Kim Terry	Summer Special Education Teacher
● Kristin Wintle Gagnon	Summer Special Education Teacher
● Kim Barham	Summer Special Education Teacher
● Lindsey Colbath	Summer Special Education Teacher
● Zachary Hobbs	Summer Special Education Teacher
● Keerstin Harrington	Summer Special Education Teacher
● Sheila Oneill	Summer SLP
● Emily Osborne	Summer SLP
● Cadence Proctor	Summer PT
● Brooke Cournoyer	Summer PT
● Ann Casey-Leahy	Summer OT

Motion carried unanimously.

Shane Downs moved, second by Dave Camire, to approve the Government Goods bid in the amount of \$80,556.96 for HP Chromebooks. Motion carried unanimously.

Shane Downs moved, second by Steve Cusumano, to approve the KGL Construction bid in the amount of \$33,000.00 for demolition and site restoration at Chamberlain St. School. Motion carried unanimously.

Shane Downs moved, second by Dave Camire to approve the Director of Student Services contract renewal. Motion carried unanimously.

Matt Beaulieu moved, second by Sarah Harrington, to reassign \$2,092,405.00 from the JUUL fund to the SHS sports complex.

Nay: Nick Bellows, Shauni McGowan, Sandy Keans
Motion carried by majority.

Discussion

Nick Bellows called on the city to find other sources of funding for the repair of the sports complex.

DRAFT

Sandy Keans inquired if the Administration called the AG in regards to JUUL funding.

Matt Pappas remarked that while it is not ideal to use JUUL funds for the sports complex if the school board does not approve reassigning the money, SUR will not be able to start the project on July 15, 2025.

Steve Cusumano also agreed it is not an ideal situation to use JUUL money; however, it will save taxpayers \$ 250,000 per year.

Sarah Harrington remarked that the city will be contributing \$ 1,000,000 of their JUUL settlement to help offset the cost. She also encouraged the board to be more vocal at city council budget meetings in the future.

Matt Beaulieu moved, second by Sarah Harrington, to accept the administration's budget recommendation in the amount of \$591,618.00.

Nay: Sandy Keans

Motion carried by majority.

JBC Committee

No actionable items

Rochester Recreation Committee

[Rochester Rec and Arena](#)

Public Comment

Carrissa Ryan, ERS teacher and Rochester resident, remarked on hiring the interim superintendent and the transparency of the school board.

Susan Rice, Rochester resident, remarked on using the JUUL settlement for the sports complex, reiterated to the board the importance of going to city council budget meetings and the potential of having a public/private partnership to help fund the SHS sports complex.

Other

Nick Bellows extended his thanks to all staff and faculty for their hard work and effort throughout the year.

DRAFT

Matt Pappas addressed the need to appoint an interim superintendent, noting that it is required by NH law and that the current acting superintendent will be departing the district in a few weeks.

Sandy Keans remarked on having a police detail on duty.

Non-Public Session

Shane Downs moved, second by Steve Cususmano to enter into non public session at 7:43 PM under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) Dismissal, promotion, compensation, investigation or disciplining of public employee and RSA 91-A:3, II(c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body.

Roll Call Vote:

YES: Shane Downs, Matthew Beaulieu, Nick Bellows, Sandy Keans, Shauni McGowan, Matthew Pappas, Kelli Wiggin, Steven Cusumano, Paul Cormier, Erik White, Dave Camire, Sarah Harrington

NAY:

Motion carried unanimously.

Public Session

Shane Downs moved, second by Steve Cususmano, to enter public session at 9:46 PM.

Roll Call Vote:

YES: Shane Downs, Matthew Beaulieu, Nick Bellows, Sandy Keans, Shauni McGowan, Matthew Pappas, Kelli Wiggin, Steven Cusumano, Paul Cormier, Erik White, Dave Camire, Sarah Harrington

NAY:

Motion carried unanimously.

Matt Beaulieu moved, second by Sarah Harrington to seal the minutes of the non-public session.

NAY: Shauni McGowan

Motion carried by majority.

Matt Pappas moved, second by Erik White to approve the RFT contract.

Recused: Nick Bellows

Motion carried by majority.

Dave Camire moved, second by Kelli Wiggin to approve the Food Service contract. Motion carried unanimously.

DRAFT

Matt Beaulieu moved, second by Erik White to approve the Related Service Providers contract. Motion carried unanimously.

Nick Bellows moved, second by Kelli Wiggin, to amend the adopted 25-26 school calendar to decrease the number of student days from 180 to 178 and add two teacher workshop days.

NAY: Sarah Harrington

Motion carried by majority.

Non Public Session

Shane Downs moved, second by Matt Pappas to enter into non public session a 9:50 PM under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) Dismissal, promotion, compensation, investigation or disciplining of public employee and RSA 91-A:3, II(c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body.

Roll Call Vote:

YES: Shane Downs, Matthew Beaulieu, Nick Bellows, Sandy Keans, Shauni McGowan, Matthew Pappas, Kelli Wiggin, Steven Cusumano, Paul Cormier, Erik White, Dave Camire, Sarah Harrington

NAY:

Motion carried unanimously.

Public Session

Shane Downs moved, second by Steve Cususmano, to enter public session at 10:27 PM.

Roll Call Vote:

YES: Shane Downs, Matthew Beaulieu, Nick Bellows, Sandy Keans, Shauni McGowan, Matthew Pappas, Kelli Wiggin, Steven Cusumano, Paul Cormier, Erik White, Dave Camire, Sarah Harrington

NAY:

Motion carried unanimously.

Steve Cusumano moved, second by Kelli Wiggin, to seal the minutes of the non-public session.

Adjournment

Steve Cusumano moved, second by Kelli Wiggin, to adjourn the full school board meeting at 10:29 PM. Motion carried unanimously.