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*Date | time* Monday – November 13, 2023 | 5:30 p.m.

*Location* Administration Boardroom

*Meeting called to order with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance by* President Folsom

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## In Attendance

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Board of Education: Kelley Freridge, Barbara Helms, Jake Himmelspach, Jarrod Folsom, Christie Ramsey, Nick Reichenbach

Regrets: Tricia Anderson

Administration: Dr. Steve Matthews, Mike Ramm, Mike Cuneo, Korie Wilson-Crawford, Mindy Duba, Lisa Jacobs, Jodi Nester.

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## Adoption of Agenda

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Motion to approve agenda by Christie Ramsey with support by Kelley Freridge. Motion passed unanimously.

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## Recognition

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A video was played honoring the Middle School Students of the Month.

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## Consent Agenda

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Motion to approve by Jake Himmelspach with support by Christie Ramsey. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Approval of Minutes from the October 9, 2023 meeting
  2. Presentation of bills in the amount of \$13,838,792.64
  3. Winter Extra Duty Assignments
  4. Winter Coaches
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## New Business

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### 1. Administrative Recommendation

Dr. Matthews presented his recommendation of Allison Clements as Executive Director of Business and Operations. This position will be replacing Mike Cuneo who is retiring after 23 years of service to Rockford Public Schools. Allison will transition to Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations over the course of the 2024 calendar year. Motion to approve by Kelley Freridge with approval by Nick Reichenbach. Motion approved unanimously.

### 2. Bond Refinancing Resolution

Executive Director of Business and Operations, Allison Clements gave a presentation to the board of education on the importance of bond refinancing. She explained how the process works and why Rockford Public Schools would want to take advantage of this. Motion to approve by Jake Himmelspach with support by Christie Ramsey. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

## 2. Edgerton Trails Elementary Classroom Technology Bids

Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Mike Cuneo discussed the bids received for technology needs at Edgerton Trails. Motion to approve by Christie Ramsey with support by Kelly Freridge. Motion passed unanimously.

## 3. Edgerton Trails Elementary Fiber Expansion Bids

Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Mike Cuneo talked about the need for fiber expansion for Edgerton Trails Elementary School and made a recommendation on a bid to accept. Motion to approve by Kelley Freridge with support by Christie Ramsey. Motion passed unanimously.

## 4. Edgerton Trails Waste Water Treatment Resolution

Board President, Jarrod Folsom, recused himself from this item due to a possible conflict of interest. Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Mike Cuneo, discussed the process for waste water treatment at Edgerton Trails Elementary School. The resolution being presented is to move forward with the concept. There will be more information and the board will be asked to approve a final project at a later date. Motion to approve by Nick Reichenbach with support by Jake Himmelspach. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

## 5. Fall Policy Update – 1<sup>st</sup> reading

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Korie Wilson-Crawford explained each of the policy additions/edits. This is a first reading and will be brought back to the board of education next month for approval.

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## Reports

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### 1. Student Representative

Student Representative Camille Dahlke reported on student activities that are happening around the district. She recognized the band for their recent accomplishments. The plays and musicals have been very successful. Camille covered all of the recent athletic achievements. The students are participating in winter wishes which helps students with things they need or want.

### 2. Committee Reports

Board of Education Vice President, Kelley Freridge discussed the HR committee meeting and the process that is being followed for the Superintendent Evaluation. The final evaluation will be presented at the December 11, 2023 board meeting. Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Korie Wilson-Crawford explained that there are some new laws regarding bargaining, and the board will have a meeting to discuss these laws.

Board of Education Secretary, Christie Ramsey gave a report on the policy committee meeting. She gave additional information on the weapon free zone policy and the AI policy. The policies can be found in the board packet posted on our website and once approved on the policy section of the Rockford Public Schools website.

Board of Education President Jarrod Folsom talked about the discussion of the Curriculum committee. The committee is receiving good feedback on the early release days. The testing calendar is being adjusted which will result in less testing and earlier testing and results. Social Studies reviews are in process. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Assistant Superintendent, Mike Ramm. There was also a discussion about protecting lesson planning.

### 3. Collaborative Team Reports

Crestwood Elementary Principal, Kyle Avink gave a report on things happening in the Elementary schools. Halloween parties took place and were enjoyed by all. Parents were given options for parent-

teacher conferences. The Parents could choose in-person or virtual. The conferences were well attended. Teachers have had Professional Development opportunities in Math. PLC time has been a great opportunity to work with the teachers. Mr. Avink talked about upcoming Holiday Concerts and a STEAM night for the community. All eleventh-grade students took the PSAT test. Mr. Burkholder talked about attending a Water Polo game and the success of the program.

East Rockford Middle School Principal, Adam Burkholder shared that the middle schools had 46% percent involvement in co-curricular activities for the fall season. He also recognized the success of the band programs and Rebecca Kilgore for her participation in the state conference. She has also been asked to speak at a National Conference in December. Students will also be performing at the National Conference.

#### 4. MASB Annual Conference

Board trustee Nick Reichenbach shared his experiences at the MASB conference. He spoke about some of the topics. Artificial Intelligence (AI) was a topic covered at the conference and will likely continue to be a topic of discussion. There were Title IX updates, bargaining, ORS as well as other legal updates.

Board President Jarrod Folsom talked about how valuable he thought the conference was. Documents from the conference and notes taken have been supplied to all members of the board of education.

There was also discussion about some legislators wanting to see all students fill out the FAFSA form. It is a difficult form and could create a challenge for some teachers and/or students.

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### Recognition of Visitors & Hearing of People Present

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The following individuals addressed the Board of Education.

Jennifer Kempa

Dr. Clara Ziadeh

Charles Curtis

Andrea Jacobson

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### Superintendent Remarks

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Dr. Matthews thanked the community for approving the Parks and Rec millage and their continued support of the district. Dr. Matthews shared that there was an upcoming Developing Healthy Kids event focusing on students and addiction. Please see the Rockford Public Schools website for more information. Dr. Matthews shared how our teachers are committed and caring individuals. He also talked about the many opportunities our district offers for our students.

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### Adjournment

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President Folsom adjourned the meeting at 6:59 p.m.

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Recording Secretary

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Secretary, Board of Education