



# Rockford Public Schools

Quality Community – Quality Schools

*Together Building a Tradition of Excellence*

## ROCKFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION

January 12, 2026 - 5:30 PM

### Agenda

#### CALL TO ORDER

#### MOMENT OF SILENCE/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

#### RECOGNITION

1. School Board Members Recognition
2. Kelly Boston – MiMTSS Recognition Award

#### CONSENT AGENDA

3. Presentation of bills in the amount of \$14,682,468.90
4. Approval of Minutes from December 8, 2025 Closed Session
5. Approval of Minutes from December 8, 2025 Open Session
6. Winter II Coaches – Revised
7. Superintendent Salary Schedule

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. Board Organization
2. Financial Audit Results
3. Bond Refinancing Resolution
4. Special Policy Review – First Reading
5. Certified New Hires

#### REPORTS

1. Student Representative Report
2. Committee & Liaison Reports
3. MASB Training Update
4. MICIP Goals
5. Superintendent Goals Update

#### RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND HEARING OF PEOPLE PRESENT

#### SUPERINTENDENT REMARKS

#### ADJOURNMENT

## MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Name	School	Grade	Month
Ian S	East	6th	January 2026
Claire D	East	6th	January 2026
Zane P	East	7th	January 2026
Reagan H	East	7th	January 2026
Madyson H	East	8th	January 2026
Lenorah K	East	8th	January 2026
Harper K	North	6th	January 2026
Edward S	North	6th	January 2026
Savannah P	North	7th	January 2026
Mason W	North	7th	January 2026
Zoey M	North	8th	January 2026
Lincoln T	North	8th	January 2026



## Memorandum

To: Rockford Public Schools Board of Education

From: Dr. Steve Matthews, Superintendent

Date: January 12, 2026

Subject: January School Board Recognition Month

January is School Board Recognition Month in Michigan, and it provides an important opportunity to publicly acknowledge the service, leadership, and commitment of our Rockford Board of Education. Tonight we pause to recognize board members not simply as volunteers, but as stewards of the public trust who dedicate significant time and thoughtful effort to ensuring the success of our students, staff, and community. Their work often occurs outside of public view, yet its impact is felt daily in every classroom across the district.

The role of our board of education is both complex and consequential. Board members are responsible for setting the vision and strategic direction of the district, adopting policies that guide our work, and ensuring fiscal responsibility for taxpayer dollars. They must balance educational best practices, legal requirements, and community expectations while always keeping student learning and well-being at the center of decision-making. This governance role requires diligence, collaboration, and a long-term perspective focused on the future of our schools.

Equally important is the board's role as a bridge between the Rockford community and the school district. Board members listen to community voices, ask challenging questions, and engage in respectful dialogue, even when issues are difficult or perspectives differ. Their willingness to serve helps ensure that our schools reflect community values while also meeting the evolving needs of today's learners. This commitment strengthens transparency, accountability, and public confidence in our schools.

On behalf of our students, families, staff, and the broader Rockford community, we extend our sincere appreciation to each member of the Rockford Board of Education. Your leadership, integrity, and service make a meaningful difference in the lives of children and shape the future of our community. School Board Recognition Month reminds us that strong schools depend on strong governance, and we are grateful for your dedication to Rockford Public Schools.

Tonight, we would like to thank Jarrod Folsom, Kelley Freridge, Christie Ramsey, Jake Himmelspach, Tricia Anderson, Barbara Helms, and Andrea Jacobson for serving our community. Your service is appreciated by our students, families, and staff.

BOARD REPORT ON DISBURSEMENTS

DATE: 12-01-2025

01-05-2026

**PAYROLL**

GENERAL FUND NET PAYROLL	12, 13, 14	5,227,010.84
FOOD SERVICE	12, 13, 14	140,381.46
ATHLETIC FUND	12, 13, 14	72,175.19
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	12, 13, 14	5,439,567.49

ALL FUNDS:

FEDERAL TAX	\$	555,332.93
SOCIAL SECURITY TAX-MEDICARE TAX	\$	1,106,300.86
STATE TAX	\$	259,119.67
TOTAL	\$	1,920,753.46
	\$	7,360,320.95

BLUE CROSS INSURANCE	\$	45,142.10
NVA/NATIONAL VISION	\$	
BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD (DENTAL) ADMIN FEES	\$	70,886.27
MESSA (VSP/MED/ LIFE)	\$	975,189.34
NATIONAL INSURANCE SVCS(L TERM DISABILITY	\$	14,355.97
RETIREMENT PAYROLL	\$	2,652,479.51
	\$	3,758,053.19

UTILITIES:

DTE ENERGY	\$	30,412.17
CONSUMERS ENERGY	\$	174,625.69
BP ENERGY (FORMERLY EDF ENERGY) BULK FUE	\$	21,374.20
	\$	226,412.06

WEST MI RISK MANAGEMENT	\$	40,981.00
KENT ISD TRANSPORTATION	\$	65,417.39
	\$	106,398.39

TOTAL OF ABOVE	\$	11,451,184.59
BALANCE OF TOTAL GENERAL FUND		452,466.63
SINKING FUND REG CKS		0.00
SINKING FUND ACH CKS		0.00
SINKING FUND CREDIT CARD		0.00
2023 BOND REG CKS		53,709.83
2023 BOND ACH CKS		
2023 BOND CREDIT CARD		27,927.00
2025 BOND ACH CKS		2,490,364.16
GENERAL FUND ACH CKS		
GENERAL FUND CREDIT CARD		206,816.69
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		14,682,468.90



# BOARD OF EDUCATION

## Meeting Minutes – Regular Meeting December 8, 2025

*Date I time* Monday, December 8, 2025 I 5:37 p.m.

*Location* Administration Boardroom

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

### In Attendance

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Board of Education: Kelley Freridge, Jarrod Folsom, Barbara Helms, Jake Himmelspach, Andrea Jacobson, Christie Ramsey.

Administration: Dr. Steve Matthews, Allison Clements, Jodi Nester, Mike Ramm, Dr. Korie Wilson-Crawford.

### Adoption of Agenda

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Motion to approve agenda by Kelley Freridge with support from Jake Himmelspach. Motion passed unanimously.

### Recognition

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The Middle School students of the month for December were recognized.

### Consent Agenda

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Motion to approve by Andrea Jacobson with support from Christie Ramsey. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Presentation of bills in the amount of \$ 16,314,441.38
2. Approval of Minutes from November 10, 2025
3. Approval of Minutes from November 18, 2025
4. Winter II Coaches
5. Boys Basketball Donation of \$1,500
6. Approval of January 12, 2026, Regular Board Meeting date

### New Business

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1. District Transportation Video Monitoring System Bid – There was a short presentation regarding the proposed District Transportation Video Monitoring System. A bid was presented to the board for approval. Motion to approve by Christie Ramsey with support from Jake Himmelspach. Motion carried unanimously.
2. RHS Bleachers and Elevator Bids – There was a presentation regarding the projects that would take place to repair/replace some the gym flooring, bleachers, equipment and an

elevator replacement at Rockford High School. Motion to approve by Kelley Freridge with support from Tricia Anderson. Motion carried unanimously.

3. RHS Boilers Bid – Bids were taken to replace the boilers at Rockford High School. There was a short presentation explaining what needed to be done to make the replacement. Motion to approve by Christie Ramsey with support from Andrea Jacobson. Motion carried unanimously.

## Old Business

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None

## Reports

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1. Student Representative Report – Student Representative to the Board, Leah Rapp gave an update on the many activities taking place at Rockford High School.
2. Committee Reports
  - Jake Himmelsbach talked about items that were discussed in the Finance Committee meeting.
  - Kelley Freridge discussed things covered in the HR committee meeting. Dr. Wilson-Crawford discussed the topics that were covered during the meeting.
3. Literacy Report – Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, Mike Ramm, and Director of Literacy, Sharon Well, gave a presentation on Literacy and The Science of Reading. They also presented data for Rockford Public Schools and the different District levels of support.
4. Collaborative Team Reports
  - Belmont Elementary Principal, Rachel DeKuiper, gave an update on things happening at the Elementary level.
  - Director of Adult/Alternative Education, Jennifer Thompson, gave an update on things happening at the Secondary level.
5. Superintendent Evaluation
  - Board President, Jarrod Folsom, discussed the Superintendent Evaluation and the rating that Dr. Matthews was given. The rating was effective, which is the highest rating possible. He thanked the trustees and Dr. Wilson-Crawford for their help with the process.

## Recognition of Visitors & Hearing of People Present – Public Comment

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Audience Participation. No action taken.

## Superintendent Remarks

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Dr. Matthews thanked the community members who are reaching out regarding volunteering and discussed the MSTEP data. He also talked about the importance of the mental health of our students

and the importance of supporting them and their families. He talked about the process for changing policies and the work that goes into making those changes. He thanked the board for taking their time and effort in his evaluation. RPS will be reaching out to the community for input. He will continue to lead in a positive manner. Dr. Matthews explained the process of evaluating conditions when necessary due to weather.

### Adjournment

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President Folsom adjourned the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

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Recording Secretary

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Secretary, Board of Education



# Rockford Public Schools

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## Human Resources Department

Dr. Korie Wilson-Crawford, Assistant Superintendent

350 N. Main Street • Rockford, MI 49341

Phone: 616.863.6554 • Fax: 616.863.6355

## Memorandum

To: Dr. Steven Matthews, Superintendent  
From: Dr. Korie Wilson-Crawford, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources  
Date: January 12, 2026  
Subject: REVISED 2025-2026 MIDDLE SCHOOL EXTRA-DUTY WINTER II COACHING RECOMMENDATIONS

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SPORT	SCHOOL	POSITION	NAME
BASKETBALL (GIRLS)	ERMS	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade (A) Head Coach	Hannah Verkaik



## Memorandum

To: Board of Education Trustees  
From: Dr. Korie Wilson-Crawford, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources  
Date: January 6, 2026  
Subject: Wage Schedule for Superintendent

Attached to this memo you will find a salary schedule for Dr. Matthews, as his position is not covered under a collective bargaining agreement. As discussed in multiple previous meetings, the need to approve these salary schedules is precipitated by a Michigan Supreme Court opinion regarding calculations for salaries and coordination with the Office of Retirement Services (ORS) and the Michigan Public School Employee's Retirement System (MPSERS).

Again, the opinion holds the following:

- NSI (normal salary index) calculations are unlawful because the ORS does not have the legal authority to create salary schedules for individuals.
- A salary schedule could and should exist for employees whose roles are outside of collective bargaining unit agreements.
- NSI is not defined in state law so the court provided a definition as follows: "a written document established by statute or approved by a reporting unit's governing body that indicates the time and sequence of compensation and conforms to a rule or principle."

Because of this, MASA and professional organizations that deal with school employment are recommending that the district's Board of Education approve salary or wage grids for a variety of positions that could fall within the bullets above. This board action, if approved, will serve to ensure that all wages paid will count toward an employees' final compensation upon retirement.

This specific salary grid has been updated to reflect an overall 4.25% increase in previously agreed-upon wages which is commensurate with the wage increases received by our other bargaining groups.

If you have any questions, please let me know. This will conclude our annual salary agenda items for the 2025-2026 school year.

Proposed 2024-2027 RPS Superintendent Salary Schedule

STEP	2024-2025 Supt. Base Salary	2024-2025 Supt. Annuity, Longevity and Merit Pay	2025-2026 Supt. Base Salary	2025-2026 Supt. Annuity, Longevity and Merit Pay	2026-2027 Supt. Base Salary	2026-2027 Supt. Annuity, Longevity and Merit Pay
1	231,075	\$16,585 (Longevity)	237,360	\$19,250 (Longevity)	237,360	\$19,250 (Longevity)
2	235,399		243,180		243,180	
3	239,723		249,000		249,000	
4	244,047		254,821		254,821	
5	248,371		260,641		260,641	
6	252,696		266,462		266,462	
7	257,020		272,282		272,282	
8	261,344		278,102		278,102	
9	276,405		283,923		283,923	
10	280,088		293,000		293,000	
11	283,771		297,758		297,758	
12	287,454		302,338		302,338	
13	291,137		307,018		307,018	
14	294,820		311,648		311,648	
15	298,503		316,278		316,278	
16	302,186		320,905		320,905	
17	305,869		325,538		325,538	
18	309,552		330,168		330,168	
19	313,235		334,246		334,246	
20	316,918		338,175		338,175	

The steps listed above are not years of service in Rockford. The Board of Education will consider other variables such as level of responsibility, level of education, special projects, previous career experience and performance into account when setting annual step placement for all cabinet-level administrators.

The addition of special stipends, including interim assignments, may be authorized and added by the Board of Education. Any special stipends and assignments shall be in addition to the above salaries. If/when added, these supplemental contracts are explicitly approved to be included in salary calculations though they may not appear on this document.



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## **2026 Board Meeting Dates**

January 12, 2026

February 9, 2026

March 9, 2026

April 20, 2026

May 11, 2026

June 8, 2026

July 13, 2026

August 10, 2026

September 14, 2026

October 12, 2026

November 9, 2026

December 14, 2026



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## Finance Department

Allison Clements, Assistant Superintendent  
Of Business and Operations  
350 N. Main Street • Rockford, MI 49341  
Phone: 616.863.6555 • Fax: 616.866.1911

## Memorandum

To: Dr. Steve Matthews, Superintendent of Schools  
From: Allison Clements, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations  
Date: January 12, 2026  
Subject: 2024-25 Year End Audit

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On an annual basis school districts are required to perform an independent financial audit. This task was completed in the fall of 2025 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. Marc Sawyers from Hungerford CPAs + Advisors will present the audited financial report for adoption at the Board of Education meeting on January 12, 2026.

ATC/jg



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## Finance Department

Allison Clements, Assistant Superintendent  
Of Business and Operations  
350 N. Main Street • Rockford, MI 49341  
Phone: 616.863.6555 • Fax: 616.866.1911

## Memorandum

To: Dr. Steve Matthews, Superintendent of Schools  
From: Allison Clements, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations  
Date: January 12, 2026  
Subject: 2016 Bond Refunding Resolution

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Given the recent favorable interest rate environment, Rockford Public Schools is looking into the possibility of the refunding of a portion of or all the outstanding Callable 2016 School Building and Site and Refunding Bonds. A potential refunding in the spring of 2026 is projected to provide meaningful positive savings for the district if market conditions continue to remain favorable. Since 2002, previous bond refundings have saved the district and taxpayers over \$27 million.

ATC/jg

Attachment

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND DELEGATING THE SALE OF  
ROCKFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
2026 REFUNDING BONDS**

Rockford Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan (the “Issuer”)

A regular meeting of the board of education of the Issuer (the “Board”) was held in the \_\_\_\_\_, within the boundaries of the Issuer, on the 12th day of January, 2026, at \_\_\_\_\_ o’clock in the \_\_\_.m. (the “Meeting”).

The Meeting was called to order by \_\_\_\_\_, President.

Present: Members

Absent: Members

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member \_\_\_\_\_ and supported by Member \_\_\_\_\_:

**WHEREAS:**

1. Part VI of Act 34, Public Acts of Michigan, 2001, as amended, the Revised Municipal Finance Act (the “Act”), permits the Issuer to refund all or part of its bonded indebtedness; and

2. The Issuer has received a proposal from Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated (the “Underwriter”), to refund all or part of that portion of the Issuer’s outstanding 2016 School Building and Site and Refunding Bonds, dated June 7, 2016, in the original amount of \$63,085,000, which are callable on or after May 1, 2026, and are due and payable May 1, 2027 through May 1, 2033, inclusive, May 1, 2035, May 1, 2037, May 1, 2038 through May 1, 2041, inclusive, and May 1, 2044 (the “Prior Bonds”); and

3. The Board determines that it is in the best interest of the Issuer to consider refunding the Prior Bonds; and

4. Prior to the issuance of bonds, the Issuer must either achieve qualified status or secure prior approval of the bonds from the Michigan Department of Treasury pursuant to the Act.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. Bonds of the Issuer designated 2026 Refunding Bonds (General Obligation - Unlimited Tax) (the “Bonds”) be issued in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$53,000,000, as finally determined upon sale thereof, for the purpose of refunding all or a portion of the Prior Bonds. The Bonds shall be dated the date of delivery, or such other date as established at the time of sale; shall be numbered in the direct order of their maturities from 1 upwards; shall be fully registered Bonds as to principal and interest; shall bear interest at a rate or rates to be hereafter determined upon sale, payable on November 1, 2026, or such other date as may be established at the time of sale, and semiannually thereafter on May 1 and November 1 in each year;

and shall mature on May 1 and/or November 1 in each year to be subsequently determined by the Superintendent or the Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations of the Issuer (each an “Authorized Officer”), in the final principal amounts determined upon sale and may be subject to redemption, as determined by an Authorized Officer, in the amounts, at the times, in the manner, and at the prices determined upon sale of the Bonds.

2. The Bonds may consist of serial or term Bonds or any combination thereof which may be issued in one or more series, all of which shall be determined upon sale of the Bonds.

3. The Bonds shall be in denominations of \$5,000 or any whole multiple thereof.

4. The principal of the Bonds and the interest thereon shall be payable in lawful money of the United States of America at or by a bank or trust company to be designated by an Authorized Officer at the time of sale (herein called the “Paying Agent”), which shall act as the paying agent and bond registrar or such successor paying agent-bond registrar as may be approved by the Issuer, on each semiannual interest payment date and the date of each principal maturity.

5. Book Entry. Unless otherwise requested by the Underwriter, the ownership of one fully registered bond for each maturity, in the aggregate principal amount of such maturity, shall be registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee of The Depository Trust Company (“DTC”). So long as the Bonds are in the book entry form only, the Paying Agent shall comply with the terms of the Blanket Issuer Letter of Representations to be entered into between the Issuer and DTC, which provisions shall govern registration, notices and payment, among other things, and which provisions are incorporated herein with the same effect as if fully set forth herein. An Authorized Officer is authorized and directed to enter into the Blanket Issuer Letter of Representations with DTC in such form as determined by an Authorized Officer, in consultation with bond counsel, to be necessary and appropriate. In the event the Issuer determines that the continuation of the system of book entry only transfer through DTC (or a successor securities depository) is not in the best interest of the DTC participants, beneficial owners of the Bonds, or the Issuer, the Issuer will notify the Paying Agent, whereupon the Paying Agent will notify DTC of the availability through DTC of the bond certificates. In such event, the Issuer shall issue and the Paying Agent shall transfer and exchange Bonds as requested by DTC of like principal amount, series and maturity, in authorized denominations to the identifiable beneficial owners in replacement of the beneficial interest of such beneficial owners in the Bonds, as provided herein.

So long as the book-entry-only system remains in effect, in the event of a partial redemption the Paying Agent will give notice to Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC, only, and only Cede & Co. will be deemed to be a holder of the Bonds. DTC is expected to reduce the credit balances of the applicable DTC Participants in respect of the Bonds and in turn the DTC Participants are expected to select those Beneficial Owners whose ownership interests are to be extinguished or reduced by such partial redemptions, each by such method as DTC or such DTC Participants, as the case may be, deems fair and appropriate in its sole discretion.

6. In the event the Bonds are no longer in book entry form only, the following provisions would apply to the Bonds:

The Paying Agent shall keep or cause to be kept, at its principal office, sufficient books for the registration and transfer of the Bonds, which shall at all times during normal business hours be

open to inspection by the Issuer; and, upon presentation and surrender for such purpose, the Paying Agent shall, under such reasonable regulations as it may prescribe, transfer or cause to be transferred on said books, Bonds as herein provided.

Any Bond may be transferred upon the books required to be kept pursuant to this section by the person in whose name it is registered, in person or by a duly authorized agent, upon surrender of the Bond for cancellation, accompanied by delivery of a duly executed written instrument of transfer in a form approved by the Paying Agent. Whenever any Bond or Bonds shall be surrendered for transfer, the Issuer shall furnish or cause to be furnished a sufficient number of manual or facsimile executed Bonds and the Paying Agent shall authenticate and deliver a new Bond or Bonds for like aggregate principal amount. The Paying Agent shall require the payment of any tax or other governmental charge required to be paid with respect to the transfer to be made by the bondholder requesting the transfer.

7. If any Bond shall become mutilated, the Issuer, at the expense of the holder of the Bonds, shall furnish or cause to be furnished, and the Paying Agent shall authenticate and deliver, a new Bond of like tenor in exchange and substitution of the mutilated Bond, upon surrender to the Paying Agent of the mutilated Bond. If any Bond issued under this resolution shall be lost, destroyed or stolen, evidence of the loss, destruction or theft and indemnity may be submitted to the Paying Agent, and if satisfactory to the Paying Agent and the Issuer, the Issuer at the expense of the owner, shall furnish or cause to be furnished, and the Paying Agent shall authenticate and deliver a new Bond of like tenor and bearing the statement required by Act 354, Public Acts of Michigan, 1972, as amended, being sections 129.131 to 129.134, inclusive, of the Michigan Compiled Laws, or any applicable law hereafter enacted, in lieu of and in substitution of the Bond so lost, destroyed or stolen. If any such Bond shall have matured or shall be about to mature, instead of issuing a substitute Bond, the Paying Agent may pay the same without surrender thereof.

8. The President and Secretary are authorized to provide the Bonds in conformity with the specifications of this resolution by causing their manual or facsimile signatures to be affixed thereto, and upon the manual execution by the authorized signatory of the Paying Agent, the Treasurer is authorized and directed to cause said Bonds to be delivered to the Underwriter upon receipt of the purchase price and accrued interest, if any.

Blank bonds with the manual or facsimile signatures of the President and Secretary of the Board affixed thereto, shall, at the direction of bond counsel and as necessary, be delivered to the Paying Agent for safekeeping to be used for registration and transfer of ownership.

9. There is hereby created a separate depository account to be kept with a bank located in the State of Michigan and insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, previously approved as an authorized depository of funds of the Issuer, to be designated 2026 REFUNDING BOND DEBT RETIREMENT FUND (hereinafter referred to as the "DEBT RETIREMENT FUND"), all proceeds from taxes levied for the fund to be used for the purpose of paying the principal and interest on the bonds authorized herein as they mature or are redeemed. Upon receipt of the Bond proceeds from the sale of the Bonds, the accrued interest, if any, shall be deposited in the DEBT RETIREMENT FUND. DEBT RETIREMENT FUND monies may be invested as authorized by law.

Commencing with the 2026 tax levy, there shall be levied upon the tax rolls of the Issuer in each year for the purpose of the DEBT RETIREMENT FUND a sum not less than the amount estimated to be sufficient to pay the principal and interest on the Bonds as such principal and interest fall due prior to the next year's tax levy, the probable delinquency in collections and funds on hand being taken into consideration in arriving at the estimate. When funds are borrowed from the School Loan Revolving Fund, such funds may be taken into consideration in arriving at the estimated required tax levy. In determining the amount to be levied in 2026, there shall be taken into account any money in the DEBT RETIREMENT FUND. Taxes required to be levied to meet the principal and interest obligations may be without limitation as to rate or amount, as provided by Article IX, Section 6, and Article IX, Section 16 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963.

10. The proceeds of the Bonds shall be used to pay the costs of issuance of the Bonds and to secure payment of the Prior Bonds set forth in the Bond Purchase Agreement. Upon receipt of the proceeds of sale of the Bonds, the accrued interest, if any, shall be deposited in the DEBT RETIREMENT FUND for the Bonds. From the proceeds of the Bonds there shall next be set aside a sum sufficient to pay the costs of issuance of the Bonds in a fund designated 2026 BOND ISSUANCE FUND (hereinafter referred to as the "BOND ISSUANCE FUND"). Moneys in the BOND ISSUANCE FUND shall be used solely to pay expenses of issuance of the Bonds. Any amounts remaining in the BOND ISSUANCE FUND after payment of issuance expenses shall be transferred to the DEBT RETIREMENT FUND for the Bonds.

11. The balance of the proceeds of the Bonds, together with any moneys transferred at the time of closing of the Bonds from the debt retirement fund for the Prior Bonds, shall be held as cash and/or invested in direct obligations of the United States of America, or obligations, the principal and interest of which are unconditionally guaranteed by the United States of America, or other obligations the principal and interest of which are fully secured by the foregoing (the "Escrow Funds"), and used to pay principal and interest on the Prior Bonds. The Escrow Funds shall be held by an escrow agent (the "Escrow Agent") in trust pursuant to an escrow agreement (the "Escrow Agreement") which shall irrevocably direct the Escrow Agent to take all necessary steps to call any Prior Bonds specified by an Authorized Officer upon sale of the Bonds for redemption, including publication and mailing of redemption notices, on the earliest date specified by an Authorized Officer that the respective series of Prior Bonds may be called for redemption. The investment held in the Escrow Funds shall be such that the principal and interest payments received thereon will be sufficient, without reinvestment, to pay the principal and interest on the Prior Bonds as they become due pursuant to maturity or the call for redemption required by this paragraph. Following establishment of the Escrow Funds, any amounts remaining in the debt retirement fund for the Prior Bonds shall be transferred to the DEBT RETIREMENT FUND for the Bonds.

12. An Authorized Officer, subject to final approval of the Board, is authorized to select an Escrow Agent to serve under the Escrow Agreement.

13. The Bonds shall be in substantially the form attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit A.

14. Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated is named as senior managing underwriter and further, that an Authorized Officer or designee is authorized to negotiate and execute a Bond Purchase Agreement with the Underwriter, subject to the requirements of

paragraph 18 below. Based upon information provided by the Issuer's financial consultant and the Underwriter, a negotiated sale allows flexibility in the timing, sale and structure of the Bonds in response to changing market conditions and flexibility in sizing the defeasance escrow necessary to accomplish the refunding of the Prior Bonds.

15. An Authorized Officer is authorized to approve circulation of a Preliminary Official Statement describing the Bonds.

16. An Authorized Officer, or designee if permitted by law, is authorized to:

- a. File with the Michigan Department of Treasury an application for approval to issue the Bonds, if required, and to pay any applicable fee therefor and, further, within fifteen (15) business days after issuance of the Bonds, file any and all documentation required subsequent to the issuance of the Bonds, together with any statutorily required fee.
- b. Make application for municipal bond insurance if, upon advice of the Issuer's financial consultant, the purchase of municipal bond insurance will be cost effective. The premium for such bond insurance shall be paid by the Issuer from Bond proceeds.
- c. Execute and deliver the Continuing Disclosure Agreement (the "Agreement") in substantially the same form as set forth in Exhibit B attached hereto, or with such changes therein as the individual executing the Agreement on behalf of the Issuer shall approve, his/her execution thereof to constitute conclusive evidence of his/her approval of such changes. When the Agreement is executed and delivered on behalf of the Issuer as herein provided, the Agreement will be binding on the Issuer and the officers, employees and agents of the Issuer, and the officers, employees and agents of the Issuer are authorized, empowered and directed to do all such acts and things and to execute all such documents as may be necessary to carry out and comply with the provisions of the Agreement as executed, and the Agreement shall constitute, and is made, a part of this resolution, and copies of the Agreement shall be placed in the official records of the Issuer, and shall be available for public inspection at the office of the Issuer. Notwithstanding any other provision of this resolution, the sole remedies for failure to comply with the Agreement shall be the ability of any Bondholder or beneficial owner to take such actions as may be necessary and appropriate, including seeking mandamus or specific performance by court order, to cause the Issuer to comply with its obligations under the Agreement.

17. An Authorized Officer is authorized to file with the Michigan Department of Treasury or other authorized state agency the Final Qualification Application for the Bonds approved by this Board and in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit C with such changes as an Authorized Officer shall deem necessary to conform with the final sale of the Bonds pursuant to the parameters set forth herein.

18. An Authorized Officer's authorization to accept and execute a Bond Purchase Agreement with the Underwriter is subject to the following parameters:

- a. the Underwriter discount shall not exceed \$7.50 per \$1,000 (0.75%); and
- b. the true interest cost rate on the Bonds shall not exceed 4.5%; and
- c. the present value savings from the refunding shall not be less than 3% of the par of the Prior Bonds; and
- d. the receipt of express written recommendation of the Issuer's financial consultant identified herein to accept the terms of the Bond Purchase Agreement.

19. An Authorized Officer is further authorized and directed to (i) execute any and all other necessary documents required to complete the approval and sale of the Bonds to the Underwriter in accordance with the terms of the Bond Purchase Agreement; (ii) appoint a paying agent for the Bonds; (iii) select a bond insurer, accept a commitment therefor and authorize payment of a bond insurance premium to insure any or all of the Bonds if recommended in writing by the Issuer's financial consultant; (iv) deem the Preliminary Official Statement for the Bonds final for purposes of SEC Rule 15c2-12(b)(1); and (v) execute and deliver the final Official Statement on behalf of the Issuer.

20. The President or Vice President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Superintendent, the Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations and/or all other officers, agents and representatives of the Issuer and each of them shall execute, issue and deliver any certificates, statements, warranties, representations, or documents necessary to effect the purposes of this resolution, the Bonds or the Bond Purchase Agreement.

21. The officers, agents and employees of the Issuer are authorized to take all other actions necessary and convenient to facilitate the sale and delivery of the Bonds.

22. Thrun Law Firm, P.C. is appointed as bond counsel for the Issuer with reference to the issuance of the Bonds authorized by this resolution. Although Thrun Law Firm, P.C. has informed the Issuer that it represents no other party in connection with the issuance of the Bonds, Thrun Law Firm, P.C. represents the Underwriter on other, unrelated matters. The Board acknowledges the services that Thrun Law Firm, P.C. provides to the Underwriter, consents to the representation of the Underwriter on other, unrelated public finance matters, and waives any conflict of interest that could be asserted with respect to such representation.

23. The financial consulting firm of PFM Financial Advisors LLC, is appointed as financial consultant to the Issuer with reference to the issuance of the Bonds herein authorized.

24. The Board covenants to comply with existing provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), necessary to maintain the exclusion of interest on the Bonds from gross income.

25. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution are hereby rescinded.

Ayes: Members

Nays: Members

Resolution declared adopted.

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Secretary, Board of Education

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Education of Rockford Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan, hereby certifies that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at the Meeting, the original of which is part of the Board's minutes. The undersigned further certifies that notice of the Meeting was given to the public pursuant to the provisions of the Open Meetings Act (Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended).

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Secretary, Board of Education

IFK/jmw

## EXHIBIT A

[No.]  
**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**  
**STATE OF MICHIGAN**  
**COUNTY OF KENT**  
**ROCKFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**2026 REFUNDING BOND**  
**(GENERAL OBLIGATION - UNLIMITED TAX)**

<u>Rate</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Date of Original Issue</u>	<u>CUSIP No.</u>
-------------	----------------------	-------------------------------	------------------

REGISTERED OWNER:

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT:

ROCKFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS, COUNTY OF KENT, STATE OF MICHIGAN (the "Issuer"), promises to pay to the Registered Owner specified above, or registered assigns, the Principal Amount specified above in lawful money of the United States of America on the Maturity Date specified above, with interest from the Date of Original Issue until paid at the Rate specified above on the basis of a 360-day year, 30-day month, payable on November 1, 2026, and semiannually thereafter on the first day of May and November of each year (the "Bond" or "Bonds"). Principal on this Bond is payable at the corporate trust office of \_\_\_\_\_, MICHIGAN (the "Paying Agent"), upon presentation and surrender hereof. Interest is payable by check or draft mailed to the Registered Owner at the registered address shown on the registration books of the Issuer kept by the Paying Agent as of the close of business on the 15th day of the month preceding any interest payment date. The Issuer may hereafter designate a successor paying agent/bond registrar by notice mailed to the Registered Owner not less than sixty (60) days prior to any interest payment date.

This Bond is one of a series of bonds of like date and tenor, except as to denomination, rate of interest and date of maturity, aggregating the principal amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_. The Bonds are issued under and in pursuance of the provisions of Act 451, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended; Act 34, Public Acts of Michigan, 2001, as amended; and resolutions duly adopted by the Board of Education of the Issuer on January 12, 2026 and \_\_\_\_\_, 2026, for the purpose of refunding all or a portion of a certain prior bond issue of the Issuer.

The Issuer has pledged its full faith, credit and resources for the payment of the principal and interest on the Bonds. The Bonds of this issue are payable from ad valorem taxes, which may be levied without limitation as to rate or amount as provided by Article IX, Section 6 and Article IX, Section 16 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963.

### MANDATORY REDEMPTION

The Bonds maturing on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, are term Bonds subject to mandatory redemption, in part, by lot, on the redemption dates and in the principal amounts set forth below and at a redemption price equal to the principal amount thereof, without premium, together with accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption. When term Bonds are purchased by the Issuer and

delivered to the Paying Agent for cancellation or are redeemed in a manner other than by mandatory redemption, the principal amount of the term Bonds affected shall be reduced by the principal amount of the Bonds so redeemed or purchased in the order determined by the Issuer.

<u>Bonds due</u>	
<u>Redemption Dates</u>	<u>Principal Amounts</u>
_____, 20____	\$
_____, 20____	
_____, 20____	
_____, 20____ (maturity)	

#### OPTIONAL REDEMPTION

The Bonds or portions of Bonds maturing on or after May 1, 2037, are subject to redemption prior to maturity at the option of the Issuer in multiples of \$5,000 in such order as the Issuer may determine, by lot within any maturity, on any date occurring on or after May 1, 2036, at par and accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption.

Notice of redemption of any Bond shall be given not less than thirty (30) days and not more than sixty (60) days prior to the date fixed for redemption by mail to the Registered Owner at the registered address shown on the registration books kept by the Paying Agent. Bonds shall be called for redemption in multiples of \$5,000, and Bonds of denominations of more than \$5,000 shall be treated as representing the number of Bonds obtained by dividing the denomination of the Bond by \$5,000, and such Bonds may be redeemed in part. The notice of redemption for Bonds redeemed in part shall state that upon surrender of the Bond to be redeemed a new Bond or Bonds in an aggregate principal amount equal to the unredeemed portion of the Bond surrendered shall be issued to the Registered Owner thereof. No further interest payment on the Bonds or portions of Bonds called for redemption shall accrue after the date fixed for redemption, whether presented for redemption, provided funds are on hand with the Paying Agent to redeem the same.

If less than all of the Bonds of any maturity shall be called for redemption prior to maturity, unless otherwise provided, the particular Bonds or portions of Bonds to be redeemed shall be selected by the Paying Agent, in such manner as the Paying Agent in its discretion may deem proper, in the principal amounts designated by the Issuer. Upon presentation and surrender of such Bonds at the corporate trust office of the Paying Agent, such Bonds shall be paid and redeemed.

This Bond is registered as to principal and interest and is transferable as provided in the resolutions authorizing the Bonds only upon the books of the Issuer kept for that purpose by the Paying Agent, by the Registered Owner hereof in person or by an agent of the Registered Owner duly authorized in writing, upon the surrender of this Bond together with a written instrument of transfer satisfactory to the Paying Agent duly executed by the Registered Owner or agent thereof and thereupon a new Bond or Bonds in the same aggregate principal amount and of the same maturity shall be issued to the transferee in exchange therefor as provided in the resolutions authorizing the Bonds, and upon payment of the charges, if any, therein provided. The Bonds are issuable in denominations of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof not exceeding the aggregate principal amount for each maturity.

It is hereby certified and recited that all acts, conditions and things required to be done, to happen, and to be performed, precedent to and in the issuance of this Bond, have been done, have happened and have been performed in due time, form and manner, as required by law.

This Bond shall not be deemed a valid and binding obligation of the Issuer in the absence of authentication by manual execution hereof by the authorized signatory of the Paying Agent.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, Rockford Public Schools, County of Kent, State of Michigan, by its Board of Education, has caused this Bond to be signed in the name of the Issuer by the manual or facsimile signature of its President and countersigned by the manual or facsimile signature of its Secretary as of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026, and to be manually signed by the authorized signatory of the Paying Agent as of the date set forth below.

ROCKFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
COUNTY OF KENT  
STATE OF MICHIGAN

Countersigned

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

By \_\_\_\_\_  
President

**CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICATION**

Dated:

This Bond is one of the Bonds described herein.

(Name of Bank)  
(City, State)  
PAYING AGENT

By  
Authorized Signatory

---

## ASSIGNMENT

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, the undersigned hereby sells, assigns and transfers unto \_\_\_\_\_ the within Bond and does hereby irrevocably constitute and appoint \_\_\_\_\_ attorney to transfer the Bond on the books kept for registration of the within Bond, with full power of substitution in the premises.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTICE: The assignor's signature to this assignment must correspond with the name as it appears upon the face of the within Bond in every particular without alteration or any change whatever.

Signature Guaranteed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature(s) must be guaranteed by an eligible guarantor institution participating in a Securities Transfer Association recognized signature guarantee program.

The Paying Agent will not effect transfer of this Bond unless the information concerning the transferee requested below is provided.

Name and Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(Include information for all joint owners if the Bond is held by joint account.)

PLEASE INSERT SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER OR  
OTHER IDENTIFYING NUMBER OF ASSIGNEE

(if held by joint account, insert number  
for first named transferee)

## EXHIBIT B

### FORM OF CONTINUING DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**ROCKFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
COUNTY OF KENT  
STATE OF MICHIGAN  
2026 REFUNDING BONDS  
(GENERAL OBLIGATION - UNLIMITED TAX)**

This Continuing Disclosure Agreement (the "Agreement") is executed and delivered by Rockford Public Schools, County of Kent, State of Michigan (the "Issuer"), in connection with the issuance of its \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 2026 Refunding Bonds (General Obligation - Unlimited Tax) (the "Bonds"). The Bonds are being issued pursuant to resolutions adopted by the Board of Education of the Issuer on January 12, 2026 and \_\_\_\_\_, 2026 (together, the "Resolution"). The Issuer covenants and agrees as follows:



**SECTION 1.** Purpose of the Disclosure Agreement. This Agreement is being executed and delivered by the Issuer for the benefit of the Bondholders and in order to assist the Participating Underwriter in complying with the Rule. The Issuer acknowledges that this Agreement does not address the scope of any application of Rule 10b-5 promulgated by the SEC pursuant to the 1934 Act to the Annual Reports or notices of the Listed Events provided or required to be provided by the Issuer pursuant to this Agreement.

**SECTION 2.** Definitions. In addition to the definitions set forth in the Resolution, which apply to any capitalized term used in this Agreement unless otherwise defined in this Section, the following capitalized terms shall have the following meanings:

"Annual Report" shall mean any Annual Report provided by the Issuer pursuant to, and as described in, Sections 3 and 4 of this Agreement.

"Bondholder" means the registered owner of a Bond or any person which (a) has the power, directly or indirectly, to vote or consent with respect to, or to dispose of ownership of, any Bonds (including any person holding Bonds through nominees, depositories or other intermediaries), or (b) is treated as the owner of any Bond for federal income tax purposes.

"Dissemination Agent" means any agent designated as such in writing by the Issuer and which has filed with the Issuer a written acceptance of such designation, and such agent's successors and assigns.

"EMMA" shall mean the MSRB's Electronic Municipal Market Access which provides continuing disclosure services for the receipt and public availability of continuing disclosure documents and related information required by Rule 15c2-12 promulgated by the SEC.

“Financial Obligation” shall mean (a) a debt obligation, (b) a derivative instrument entered into in connection with, or pledged as security or a source of payment for, an existing or planned debt obligation, or (c) a guarantee of (a) or (b) provided; however, that a “Financial Obligation” shall not include any municipal security for which a final official statement has been provided to the MSRB consistent with the Rule.

“Listed Events” shall mean any of the events listed in Section 5(a) of this Agreement.

“MSRB” shall mean the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board.

“1934 Act” shall mean the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

“Official Statement” shall mean the final Official Statement for the Bonds dated \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

“Participating Underwriter” shall mean any of the original underwriters of the Bonds required to comply with the Rule in connection with the offering of the Bonds.

“Resolution” shall mean the resolutions duly adopted by the Issuer authorizing the issuance, sale and delivery of the Bonds.

“Rule” shall mean Rule 15c2-12 promulgated by the SEC pursuant to the 1934 Act, as the same may be amended from time to time.

“SEC” shall mean the Securities and Exchange Commission.

“State” shall mean the State of Michigan.

### SECTION 3. Provision of Annual Reports.

(a) Each year, the Issuer shall provide, or shall cause the Dissemination Agent to provide, on or prior to the end of the sixth month after the end of the fiscal year of the Issuer commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 20\_\_\_\_, to EMMA an Annual Report for the preceding fiscal year which is consistent with the requirements of Section 4 of this Agreement. Currently, the Issuer’s fiscal year ends on June 30. In each case, the Annual Report may be submitted as a single document or as separate documents comprising a package, and may include by specific reference other information as provided in Section 4 of this Agreement; provided, however, that if the audited financial statements of the Issuer are not available by the deadline for filing the Annual Report, they shall be provided when and if available, and unaudited financial statements in a format similar to the financial statements contained in the Official Statement shall be included in the Annual Report.

(b) The Annual Report shall be submitted to EMMA either through a web-based electronic submission interface or through electronic computer-to-computer data connections with EMMA in accordance with the submission process, document format and configuration requirements established by the MSRB. The Annual Report shall also include all related information required by MSRB to accurately identify: (i) the category of information being provided; (ii) the period covered by the Annual Report; (iii) the issues or specific securities to which the Annual Report is related (including CUSIP number, Issuer name, state, issue description/securities name, dated date, maturity date, and/or coupon rate); (iv) the name of any

obligated person other than the Issuer; (v) the name and date of the document; and (vi) contact information for the Dissemination Agent or the Issuer's submitter.

(c) If the Issuer is unable to provide to EMMA an Annual Report by the date required in subsection (a), the Issuer shall send a notice in a timely manner to the MSRB in substantially the form attached as Appendix A.

(d) If the Issuer's fiscal year changes, the Issuer shall send a notice of such change to the MSRB in substantially the form attached as Appendix B. If such change will result in the Issuer's fiscal year ending on a date later than the ending date prior to such change, the Issuer shall provide notice of such change to the MSRB on or prior to the deadline for filing the Annual Report in effect when the Issuer operated under its prior fiscal year. Such notice may be provided to the MSRB along with the Annual Report, provided that it is filed at or prior to the deadline described above.

**SECTION 4. Content of Annual Reports.** The Issuer's Annual Report shall contain or include by reference the following:

(a) audited financial statements of the Issuer prepared pursuant to State laws, administrative rules and guidelines and pursuant to accounting and reporting policies conforming in all material respects to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governmental units as such principles are prescribed, in part, by the Financial Accounting Standards Board and modified by the Government Accounting Standards Board and in effect from time to time; and

(b) additional annual financial information and operating data as set forth in the Official Statement under "CONTINUING DISCLOSURE".

Any or all of the items listed above may be included by specific reference to other documents, including official statements of debt issues of the Issuer or related public entities, which previously have been provided to each of the Repositories or filed with the SEC. If the document included by specific reference is a final official statement, it must be available from the MSRB. The Issuer shall clearly identify each such other document so included by reference.

**SECTION 5. Reporting of Significant Events.**

(a) The Issuer covenants to provide, or cause to be provided, notice in a timely manner not in excess of ten business days of the occurrence of any of the following events with respect to the Bonds in accordance with the Rule:

- (1) principal and interest payment delinquencies;
- (2) non-payment related defaults, if material;
- (3) unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties;
- (4) unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties;
- (5) substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform;
- (6) adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701-TEB) or other material notices or determinations with respect to the tax status of the security, or other material events affecting the tax status of the security;

- (7) modifications to rights of security holders, if material;
- (8) bond calls, if material, and tender offers;
- (9) defeasances;
- (10) release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the securities, if material;
- (11) rating changes;
- (12) bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the Issuer or other obligated person;
- (13) the consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving the Issuer or other obligated person or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Issuer or other obligated person, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms, if material;
- (14) appointment of a successor or additional trustee or the change of name of a trustee, if material;
- (15) incurrence of a Financial Obligation of the Issuer or other obligated person, if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a Financial Obligation of the Issuer or other obligated person, any of which affect security holders, if material;
- (16) default, event of acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar events under the terms of a Financial Obligation of the Issuer or other obligated person, any of which reflect financial difficulties.

(b) Whenever the Issuer obtains knowledge of the occurrence of a Listed Event, the Issuer shall as soon as possible determine if such event would constitute material information for the Bondholders, provided that any event other than those listed under Section 5(a)(2), (6), (7), (8), (10), (13), (14) or (15) above will always be deemed to be material. Events listed under Section 5(a)(6) and (8) above will always be deemed to be material except with respect to that portion of those events which must be determined to be material.

(c) The Issuer shall promptly cause a notice of the occurrence of a Listed Event, determined to be material in accordance with the Rule, to be electronically filed with EMMA, together with a significant event notice cover sheet substantially in the form attached as Appendix C. In connection with providing a notice of the occurrence of a Listed Event described in Section 5(a)(9) above, the Issuer shall include in the notice explicit disclosure as to whether the Bonds have been escrowed to maturity or escrowed to call, as well as appropriate disclosure of the timing of maturity or call.

(d) The Issuer acknowledges that the “rating changes” referred to above in Section 5(a)(11) of this Agreement may include, without limitation, any change in any rating on the Bonds or other indebtedness for which the Issuer is liable, or on any indebtedness for which the State is liable.

(e) The Issuer acknowledges that it is not required to provide a notice of a Listed Event with respect to credit enhancement when the credit enhancement is added after the primary offering of the Bonds, the Issuer does not apply for or participate in obtaining such credit enhancement, and such credit enhancement is not described in the Official Statement.

**SECTION 6. Termination of Reporting Obligation.**

(a) The Issuer's obligations under this Agreement shall terminate upon the legal defeasance of the Resolution or the prior redemption or payment in full of all of the Bonds.

(b) This Agreement, or any provision hereof, shall be null and void in the event that the Issuer (i) receives an opinion of nationally recognized bond counsel, addressed to the Issuer, to the effect that those portions of the Rule, which require such provisions of this Agreement, do not or no longer apply to the Bonds, whether because such portions of the Rule are invalid, have been repealed, amended or modified, or are otherwise deemed to be inapplicable to the Bonds, as shall be specified in such opinion, and (ii) delivers notice to such effect to the MSRB.

**SECTION 7. Dissemination Agent.** The Issuer, from time to time, may appoint or engage a Dissemination Agent to assist it in carrying out its obligations under this Agreement, and may discharge any such Dissemination Agent, with or without appointing a successor Dissemination Agent.

**SECTION 8. Amendment.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, this Agreement may be amended, and any provision of this Agreement may be waived to the effect that:

(a) such amendment or waiver is made in connection with a change in circumstances that arises from a change in legal requirements, a change in law or a change in the identity, nature or status of the Issuer, or the types of business in which the Issuer is engaged;

(b) this Agreement as so amended or taking into account such waiver, would have complied with the requirements of the Rule at the time of the primary offering of the Bonds, after taking into account any amendments or interpretations of the Rule, as well as any change in circumstances, in the opinion of independent legal counsel; and

(c) such amendment or waiver does not materially impair the interests of the Bondholders, in the opinion of independent legal counsel.

If the amendment or waiver results in a change to the annual financial information required to be included in the Annual Report pursuant to Section 4 of this Agreement, the first Annual Report that contains the amended operating data or financial information shall explain, in narrative form, the reasons for the amendment and the impact of such change in the type of operating data or financial information being provided. If the amendment or waiver involves a change in the accounting principles to be followed in preparing financial statements, the Annual Report for the year in which the change is made shall present a comparison between the financial statements or information prepared based on the new accounting principles and those prepared based on the former accounting principles. The comparison should include a qualitative discussion of such differences and the impact of the changes on the presentation of the financial information. To the extent reasonably feasible, the comparison should also be quantitative. A notice of the change in the accounting principles should be sent by the Issuer to the MSRB. Further, if the annual financial information required to be provided in the Annual Report can no longer be generated because the operations to which it related have been materially changed or discontinued, a statement to that effect shall be included in the first Annual Report that does not include such information.

**SECTION 9. Additional Information.** Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to prevent the Issuer from disseminating any other information, using the means of dissemination set forth in this Agreement or any other means of communication, or including any other information in any Annual Report or notice of occurrence of a Listed Event, in addition to that which is required by this Agreement. If the Issuer chooses to include any information in any Annual Report or notice of occurrence of a Listed Event in addition to that which is specifically required by this Agreement, the Issuer shall have no obligation under this Agreement to update such information or include it in any future Annual Report or notice of occurrence of a Listed Event.

**SECTION 10. Default.** In the event of a failure of the Issuer to comply with any provision of this Agreement, any Bondholder may take such actions as may be necessary and appropriate, including seeking mandamus or specific performance by court order, to cause the Issuer to comply with its obligations under this Agreement. A default under this Agreement shall not be deemed an Event of Default under the Resolution or the Bonds, and the sole remedy under this Agreement in the event of any failure of the Issuer to comply with the Agreement shall be an action to compel performance.

**SECTION 11. Duties of Dissemination Agent.** The Dissemination Agent shall have only such duties as are specifically set forth in this Agreement.

**SECTION 12. Beneficiaries.** This Agreement shall inure solely to the benefit of the Issuer, the Dissemination Agent, the Participating Underwriter, and the Bondholders and shall create no rights in any other person or entity.

**SECTION 13. Governing Law.** This Agreement shall be construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State, and any suits and actions arising out of this Agreement shall be instituted in a court of competent jurisdiction in the State. Notwithstanding the foregoing, to the extent this Agreement addresses matters of federal securities laws, including the Rule, this Agreement shall be construed and interpreted in accordance with such federal securities laws and official interpretations thereof.

ROCKFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
COUNTY OF KENT  
STATE OF MICHIGAN

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Its: Superintendent

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

## **APPENDIX A**

### **NOTICE TO THE MSRB OF FAILURE TO FILE ANNUAL REPORT**

Name of Issuer: Rockford Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan

Name of Bond Issue: 2026 Refunding Bonds (General Obligation - Unlimited Tax)

Date of Bonds: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Issuer has not provided an Annual Report with respect to the above-named Bonds as required by Section 3 of its Continuing Disclosure Agreement with respect to the Bonds. The Issuer anticipates that the Annual Report will be filed by \_\_\_\_\_.

ROCKFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
COUNTY OF KENT  
STATE OF MICHIGAN

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Its: Superintendent

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

## **APPENDIX B**

### **NOTICE TO THE MSRB OF CHANGE IN ISSUER'S FISCAL YEAR**

Name of Issuer: Rockford Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan

Name of Bond Issue: 2026 Refunding Bonds (General Obligation - Unlimited Tax)

Date of Bonds: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Issuer's fiscal year has changed. Previously, the Issuer's fiscal year ended on \_\_\_\_\_. It now ends on \_\_\_\_\_.

ROCKFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
COUNTY OF KENT  
STATE OF MICHIGAN

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Its: Superintendent

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

## APPENDIX C

### SIGNIFICANT EVENT NOTICE COVER SHEET

This cover sheet and significant event notice should be provided in an electronic format to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board pursuant to Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12(b)(5)(i)(C) and (D).

Issuer's and/or other Obligated Person's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Issuer's Six-Digit CUSIP Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

or Nine-Digit CUSIP Number(s) to which this significant event notice relates: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of pages of attached significant event notice: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Significant Events Notice (Check One):

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Principal and interest payment delinquencies
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Non-payment related defaults
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701-TEB) or other material notices or determinations with respect to the tax status of the security, or other material events affecting the tax status of the security
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Modifications to rights of security holders
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Bond calls
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Tender offers
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Defeasances
11. \_\_\_\_\_ Release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the securities
12. \_\_\_\_\_ Rating changes
13. \_\_\_\_\_ Bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the Issuer or other obligated person
14. \_\_\_\_\_ The consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving the Issuer or other obligated person or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Issuer or other obligated person, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms
15. \_\_\_\_\_ Appointment of a successor or additional trustee or the change of name of a trustee
16. \_\_\_\_\_ Incurrence of a financial obligation of the Issuer or other obligated person
17. \_\_\_\_\_ Agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a financial obligation that affect security holders
18. \_\_\_\_\_ Default, event of acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar events under the terms of a financial obligation of the Issuer or other obligated person that reflect financial difficulties
19. \_\_\_\_\_ Other significant event notice (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby represent that I am authorized by the issuer or its agent to distribute this information publicly:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Voice Telephone Number: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

**The MSRB Gateway is [www.msrb.org](http://www.msrb.org) or through the EMMA portal at [emma.msrb.org/submit/Submission\\_Portal.aspx](http://emma.msrb.org/submit/Submission_Portal.aspx). Contact the MSRB at (703) 797-6600 with questions regarding this form or the dissemination of this notice. The cover sheet and notice may also be faxed to the MAC at (313) 963-0943.**

## EXHIBIT C

[Reset Form](#)

Michigan Department of Treasury  
3451 (Rev. 03-24)

Application No. SBL

### Application for Final Qualification of Bonds for Participation in the Michigan School Bond Qualification and Loan Program

Issued under authority of Public Act 92 of 2005, as amended.

Legal Name of School District <b>Rockford Public Schools</b>	District Code Number <b>41210</b>	Telephone Number <b>616-863-6555</b>
Address <b>350 N. Main St.</b>	City <b>Rockford</b>	County <b>Kent</b> ZIP Code <b>493411020</b>
Name of Person Responsible for Preparation of this Application <b>Allison Clements</b>		Title Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations

#### CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, Secretary of the Board of Education, do certify hereby that the following constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Education of this School District, at a

regular or  special meeting held on the **12** day of **January** **2026**,

and that the meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with Act 267 of the Public Acts of 1976 (Open Meetings Act).

Name of Secretary (Print or Type) <b>Christie Ramsey</b>	Signature of Secretary	Date
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#### PARTICIPANTS

Secretary, Board of Education <b>Christie Ramsey</b>	Superintendent of Schools <b>Dr. Steve Matthews</b>
Treasurer, Board of Education <b>Jake Himmelstach</b>	Architectural Firm <b>N/A</b>
Bond Counsel <b>Thrun Law Firm, P.C.</b>	Construction Manager <b>N/A</b>
Financial Advisor <b>PFM Financial Advisors, LLC</b>	Paying Agent
Senior Underwriter <b>Stifel, Nicolaus &amp; Company, Incorporated</b>	

#### SALE TYPE

Competitive Bid  Negotiated Sale

#### RESOLUTION

A meeting was called to order by \_\_\_\_\_, President.

Present: Members \_\_\_\_\_

Absent: Member \_\_\_\_\_

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member \_\_\_\_\_ and supported

by Member \_\_\_\_\_.

## BACKGROUND

1. Act 92 of the Public Acts of Michigan, 2005, as amended, ("Act 92") enacted pursuant to Article IX, Section 16, of the Michigan Constitution of 1963, provides the procedure, terms and conditions for the final qualification of bonds for participation in the School Bond Qualification and Loan Program.
2. This district has taken all necessary actions to comply with all legal and procedural requirements for final qualification of this bond issue.

## ACTION OF THE BOARD

1. The district hereby applies for final qualification of bonds by the State Treasurer for the purpose of:
  - Financing the school construction **and/or**
  - Refinancing existing debt as described in this application.
2. The bonds of the district qualified by the State Treasurer will conform to all the requirements of law pertaining generally to school bonds and specifically to school bonds qualified under Section 16, Article IX of the 1963 Michigan Constitution, Act 92, and Act 112, Public Acts of 1961, as amended.
3. Any moneys obtained through the sale of the qualified bonds of the district as herein proposed will be used only for the purpose of:
  - Financing the projects described in the application for the preliminary qualification of bonds numbered SBL\_\_\_\_\_, including any changes that have been submitted to the State Treasurer and that are consistent with the approved ballot language, **and/or**
  - Refinancing existing qualified debt and for no other purpose unless such change of purpose is permitted by law and has the prior approval of the State Treasurer.
4. The district agrees to annually certify and levy its debt millage tax by filing an Annual Loan Activity Statement in accordance with the requirements of Act 92 and to determine the amounts, if any, to be borrowed from or repaid to the School Loan Revolving Fund ("SLRF"). The district agrees to deposit proceeds of debt millage upon receipt into an account established solely for debt service with the appointed banking institution as defined in Section 9. The district agrees to comply with the provisions of Act 92 governing the periodic recalculation of its millage, the adjustment of its millage levy when necessary, and the repayment of funds to the SLRF, where applicable.
5. The district agrees to enter into a loan agreement and file all necessary applications for qualified loans from the SLRF along with all supporting information for repayment to the SLRF within statutory application dates and in accordance with forms and procedures as prescribed by the State Treasurer. The (insert title of authorized school district official(s)) Superintendent / Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations are/is authorized and directed to execute and deliver the loan agreement and any other documents that may be required by the loan agreement on behalf of the district. The district covenants to comply with the terms of any applicable qualified loan agreement it is now or may be a party to, including the provisions related to its millage levy.
6. The district agrees to take actions and refrain from taking actions as necessary to maintain the tax-exempt status of tax-exempt debt issued by the State of Michigan or the Michigan Finance Authority for the purpose of financing the School Bond Loan Fund or the School Loan Revolving Fund as defined in P.A. 227 of 1985, as amended.
7. The district agrees that if these bonds are issued as tax exempt bonds, it will use the proceeds of these bonds only for the purposes that are allowed for tax exempt bonds and that none of such proceeds will be used for more than the first advance refunding of any original bond issued after 1985, nor more than the second advance refunding of any original bond issued before 1986, and the district further agrees that proceeds of bonds issued as Qualified Zone Academy Bonds, Qualified School Construction Bonds, Build America Bonds or Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds[ will only be used for the purposes that are allowed for such bonds.
8. The district agrees to use any funds borrowed from the SLRF only for the payment of principal and interest on qualified bonds that is immediately payable to bondholders and not to fund escrow or sinking funds.

9. The district agrees to appoint a banking institution that performs paying agent services in general, and to execute a signed agreement that provides, at a minimum, the following procedures:
  - a. If the district has not established an irrevocable escrow account with a qualified escrow agent, the district agrees to submit debt service payments for its qualified bonds in immediately available funds to its banking institution no less than five business days prior to the debt service due date, and agrees not to withdraw, or cause a debit to be drawn against, such funds except to pay debt service.
  - b. The district agrees to use an existing or establish a new interest bearing, money market or investment account with the banking institution that performs paying agent services for the subject bonds, that allows the district to provide written investment instructions for the investment of collected funds on hand preceding the debt service due date.
  - c. The paying agent will implement notification procedures that provide that if sufficient funds for full payment of debt service do not reach the banking institution five business days prior to the debt service payment due date, the paying agent will notify the district of the amount of insufficient funds four business days prior to the debt service payment due date. In the event that the district does not immediately resolve the insufficient funds situation, the paying agent will notify the Michigan Department of Treasury of the delinquency three business days before the payment due date.
  - d. The district agrees to furnish written notification to the paying agent and the Department of Treasury of any bonds that have been refunded.
10. The district agrees to deposit all federal interest credits received with respect to its qualified bonds issued as direct credit type bonds into the debt retirement fund payable for such bonds.
11. The district requests that the State Treasurer increase its computed millage if at any time the full amount of any tax credit related to direct credit type bonds is not received or the amount of debt service on its qualified bonds increases for any reason and the current computed millage is not sufficient to repay all outstanding qualified loans by the final mandatory repayment date.
12. The district agrees that if Treasury determines that the district will not be able to make all or part of the debt service payment, Treasury will process an emergency loan from the SLRF. If the district incurs an emergency loan it shall be a legal debt of the district and the State Treasurer shall bill the school district for the amount paid and the school district shall remit the amount to the state.
13. The board directs the school district administration to report any failure to perform as a result of this application. In the event that the district fails to perform any actions as identified in this application or required by law, the district will submit to the State Treasurer a board approved resolution which indicates the actions taken and procedures implemented to assure future compliance.
14. The district board members have read this application, approved all statements and representations contained herein as true to the best knowledge and belief of said board, and authorized the Secretary of the Board of Education to sign this Final Application and submit same to the State Treasurer for his or her review and approval.

Ayes: Members \_\_\_\_\_

Nays: Members \_\_\_\_\_

**BOND DETAIL**

1. PURPOSE: Specify the purpose of bond issue exactly as stated on the ballot and as it is to be cited in the Order Qualifying Bonds (or attach an official copy).

For the purpose of refunding all or a portion of the School District's outstanding 2016 School Building and Site and Refunding Bonds, dated June 7, 2016, which are due and payable May 1, 2027 through May 1, 2033, May 1, 2035, May 1, 2037, May 1, 2038 through May 1, 2041 and May 1, 2044, and paying the costs of issuing the Bonds.

2. ELECTION DATA:
- Date of election: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Attach a copy of the Certified Official Canvass of Election (if not already on file).
3. FINAL MATURITY SCHEDULE:
- Total amount of this issue ..... \$ 36,580
  - Due date annually for principal payments: May 1st
  - Due date semi-annually for interest payments: May 1st/Nov 1st
  - Attach a copy of the bond amortization and millage impact schedules.
4. DEBT AMOUNTS:
- Amount of this bond issue ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - Total amount of bonded debt prior to this issue ..... \$ 204,135,000
  - Total amount of bonds being refunded ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - Total amount of proposed and existing debt (4a + b - c) ..... \$ 204,135,000
5. PROPERTY VALUATION: Taxable valuation as of this date ..... \$ 3,038,835,343
6. CHANGES IN FINANCIAL STRUCTURE: Specify any changes in financial structure since Preliminary Qualification or original Order Qualifying Bonds was approved:

N/A

7. Bond Type(s) (Check all that apply):

- Fixed Rate  
 Variable Rate  
 Tax Exempt  
 Taxable  
 Qualified Zone Academy Bond



## Memorandum

To: Rockford Public Schools Board of Education  
From: Dr. Korie Wilson-Crawford  
Date: December 15, 2025  
Subject: Policy Committee Recommendations

Dear Board Trustees,

The Board of Education Policy Committee had the opportunity to meet and discuss potential changes to policy and governance items at the request of the full board. The following memo is a result of that meeting.

The policy committee will present the attached policy revision recommendations that, if adopted, would amend the public participation policy to eliminate the “5-hour rule” and replace it with a registration window for public comment for 30 minutes immediately preceding the start of the Board meeting. This would require an in-person registration by filling out a public comment card before the start of the Board of Education meeting. By requiring registration immediately before the meeting begins, the Board of Education can ensure that appropriate in-meeting changes to the agenda can be made. Additionally, by having public commenters fill out a card for registration, we would not only mirror what is being done in many other places, but our trustees and district leaders would have access to demographic information to reach out if follow-up or clarification is needed. You will find the recommendation for consideration of this change attached to this memo.

The policy committee will also present the attached policy revision recommendation that brings the setting of meetings in alignment with actual practice by eliminating the words “by a resolution” in PO0164. The setting of annual meetings has historically been done by the Board of Education at its annual organizational meeting, which is scheduled for January 2026 this year.

Further, the committee was asked to discuss several other governance-related items and has come to the following recommendations for consideration by the full board:

- **Meeting start time**- the committee discussed this due to some in the community suggesting that a later start time would encourage public attendance. The current start time established by the organizational meeting for the 2025 calendar year is 5:30 pm. The committee recommends that the Board of Education consider a start time of 6:00 pm for regular monthly meetings. The committee believes that a start time of any later than 6:00 pm could be prohibitive for families with busy schedules to attend.
- **Public Comment in the Order of Business**- the committee discussed where public comment could be located on the agenda. Some in the community have suggested that placing the public comment earlier on the agenda would help Board Trustees hear the voices of those in the community before they take action on items. Public comment can be placed anywhere in the

order of business that the BOE sees fit. The committee recommends that the Board of Education consider regularly moving the Public Comment Portion of the meeting agenda earlier in the sequence of business. We suggest public comment be placed after adoption of the agenda, but before New Business for regular meetings and after the adoption of the agenda for special meetings.

- **Monthly Meeting Date**- the committee discussed which week of the month the regularly scheduled board of education meeting could be placed. Currently, the BOE meets on the second Monday of every month. This is typical for school boards across the state. Some in the community have asked the board of education to consider moving the regular board meeting to a different week of the month. After committee discussion, the policy committee recommends that the regular Board of Education meetings continue to be held on the second Monday of the month. By holding meetings on this cadence, the district maintains alignment with other district events that have been built around the 2nd Monday structure, as well as stays in alignment with other districts across the state. This allows for timely communication with our partner organizations, who typically anticipate the 2nd Monday for communication structures and advice.

Two items, PO0164 and PO0167, will appear for a first reading in January and a second reading in February. These changes, if approved, would be implemented at the March 2026 Board of Education meeting. Though the last items are not policy-related, they are items that the full board could discuss at an upcoming meeting of the Board of Education.

Thank you for your time. If you have any questions, please feel free to direct them to a member of the policy committee. Additionally, you are always welcome to contact me at 616.863.6554 or email [kwilsoncrawford@rockfordschools.org](mailto:kwilsoncrawford@rockfordschools.org) if I can be of further assistance.



## Memorandum

To: Dr. Steven Matthews, Superintendent  
From: Dr. Korie Wilson-Crawford, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources  
Date: January 12, 2026  
Subject: Special Policy Review

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With the Policy Committee's approval, the following Special Policy Review will be brought to the Board for a first reading on January 12, 2026.

Policy Number	Description	Revised	New	Rescinded
Po0164.1	Regular Meetings	X		
Po0167.3	Public Participation at Board Meetings	X		

Thank you for your continued support of the Policy Review Committee.

Book	Board Special Policy Review
Section	0000 Bylaws
Title	Copy of REGULAR MEETINGS
Code	po0164.1
Status	
Adopted	June 22, 2015

**0164.1 - REGULAR MEETINGS**

The Board shall hold a meeting at least once each month on a date and at a time and place determined annually by a ~~resolution of~~ the Board.

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Book	Board Special Policy Review
Section	0000 Bylaws
Title	COPY OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS
Code	po0167.3
Status	
Adopted	June 22, 2015
Last Revised	December 13, 2021

### **0167.3 - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS**

The Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on District matters.

To permit fair and orderly public expression, the Board shall provide a period for public participation at public meetings of the Board and publish rules to govern such participation in Board meetings and in Board committee meetings. The rules shall be administered and enforced by the presiding officer of the meeting.

The presiding officer shall be guided by the following rules:

- A. Public participation shall be permitted as indicated on the order of business.
- B. Anyone with concerns related to the operation of the District or to matters within the authority of the Board may participate during the designated public participation portion(s) of a meeting.
- C. Attendees must register their intention to participate in the public participation portion of the meeting ~~no less than 5 hours from the scheduled start of the meeting~~ by completely filling out a public comment card in person within the 30 minutes directly preceding the meeting's start time. Cards must be turned in to the Executive Administrative Assistant prior to the meeting's start time.
- D. Participants must be recognized by the presiding officer and will be requested to preface their comments by an announcement of their name, address and group affiliation, if and when appropriate.
- E. Individuals may not register others to speak during public participation.
- F. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three (3) minutes duration.
- G. Individuals may not ~~offer to~~ waive their opportunity to address the board and give their unused time to that person.
- H. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic unless all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard.
- I. Participants shall direct all comments to the Board and not to District employees or other participants.
- J. The presiding officer may:
  1. interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's session when they make comments that are repetitive, obscene, and/or comments that constitute a true threat (i.e., statements meant to frighten or intimidate one (1) or more specified persons into believing that they will be seriously harmed by the speaker or someone acting at the speaker's behest);
  2. request any individual to stop speaking and/or leave the meeting when that person behaves in a manner that is disruptive of the orderly conduct of the meeting;

3. request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;
4. call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action.

K. The portion of the meeting during which the participation of the public is invited may be limited in duration, but the timeframe will be extended, if necessary, so that no one's right to address the Board will be denied.

Audio or video recordings are permitted subject to the following conditions:

- A. No obstructions are created between the Board and the audience.
- B. No interviews are conducted in the meeting room while the Board is in session.
- C. No commentary, adjustment of equipment or positioning of operators is made that would distract either the Board or members of the audience while the Board is in session.

The person operating the recorder should contact the Superintendent prior to the Board meeting to review possible placement of the equipment.

Revised 3/25/19

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Legal

M.C.L. 15.263(4)(5)(6), 380.1808



# Rockford Public Schools

Quality Community – Quality Schools  
Together Building a Tradition of Excellence

## Human Resources Department

Dr. Korie Wilson-Crawford, Assistant Superintendent

350 N. Main Street • Rockford, MI 49341

Phone: 616.863.6554 • Fax: 616.863.6355

## Memorandum

To: Board of Education  
From: Dr. Korie Wilson-Crawford, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources  
Date: January 12, 2026  
Subject: Certified Staff Recommendations

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Jonathan Bates	Social Worker	Roguewood Elementary
Christopher Worrell	Resource Room Teacher	High School



## RPS Board of Education Curriculum and Instruction Council

December 18, 2025

**Meeting Location:** Administration Building

**Meeting Time:** 7:30 a.m.

**Attendance:** Mike Ramm, Jarrod Folsom, Barb Helms, Christie Ramsey (7:35am), Maggie Thelen (7:56am), and Crystal Schueller (recorder).

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Jarrod Folsom called the meeting to order at 7:31 a.m.

### Welcome

Mike Ramm welcomed all in attendance and shared the purpose of the Board Curriculum and Instruction Council meetings, which is to engage the RPS Board of Education (BOE) committee members in meaningful dialogue surrounding district, student learning-focused topics and initiatives.

### Program Spotlight: GVSU Teacher Education Class

RAMS XII Strategic Plan 1.B.3 College Credit and Certification Opportunities

#### Topic Objective:

- For its third year, Rockford High School is offering a teacher education class to seniors in partnership with Grand Valley State University. During the presentation, characteristics of the course syllabus and testimony of the student experience will be highlighted.

#### Summary:

This year, 21 students are enrolled in EDF 115, a 3 college credit course taught by RHS teacher, Brian Pickerd, who is certified by GVSU. The class is a rigorous, college-level course consisting of 3 days per week in the classroom studying and researching specific issues in education and 2 days per week of real-life experience in the field. Students who are participants of the RPS Grow Your Own program, take this course, and work for RPS can become eligible for a \$10,000 scholarship for GVSU.

Two students provided testimony of how the hands-on course has allowed them to better understand what it takes to be an educator and solidified that education is the career path they intend to follow. The experience has also allowed students to shadow the many different positions in the school including principals, instructional coaches, and social workers.

## **K-12 Dyslexia Law**

### RAMS XII Strategic Plan 1.A.5 Eliminating Opportunity Gaps

#### Topic Objective:

- Share with the committee details of Michigan's dyslexia law that goes into effect in 2027/28 and how RPS is positioned well to identify and provide intervention for students who screen positive for dyslexia characteristics.

#### Summary:

An overview of the law, timing, and funding for implementation of initiatives was shared. The district's adoption of a scientific, evidence-based approach to teaching reading and our Multi Tiered Systems of Support framework and Response to Intervention practices has positioned RPS well to meet all requirements by 2027. In addition, a Dyslexia Task Force has been formed and is working to build on our existing practices. The next steps are to continue educating staff, expand current practices, and seek guidance from the State and Kent ISD as needed.

## **Artificial Intelligence**

### RAMS XII Strategic Plan 1.A.3 Student Engagement

#### Topic Objective:

- Provide an update regarding the intentional use of AI to improve teaching and learning, the drafting of the district's Artificial Intelligence handbook, and the upcoming January 19th Professional Learning Day Agenda.

#### Summary:

Mike Ramm provided an update regarding the use of Artificial Intelligence by RPS staff and students. The district recognizes the importance of providing students with AI experiences to prepare them for life after K-12 education. In addition, AI can assist teachers in tailoring information to provide individualized learning experiences. RPS is committed to intentionally select and vet all technology before its introduction to the district. While there are many benefits to AI use, administration understands caution needs to be exercised with the technology. A working draft of an Artificial Intelligence Handbook was shared with the committee. The intention of the handbook is to help limit any negative outcomes and provide district expectations for AI use.

Director of Mathematics, Accountability and Innovation, Maggie Thelen, provided information about the January 19th professional development day that will focus on providing our teachers with resources and training on different AI tools. A keynote speaker will provide an overview of AI followed by workshops teachers can attend based on their existing AI knowledge and content-specific uses. The training will provide our teachers with a better understanding of how to use the technology to make content engaging and more targeted to students.

Jarrod Folsom adjourned the meeting at 8:45 a.m.

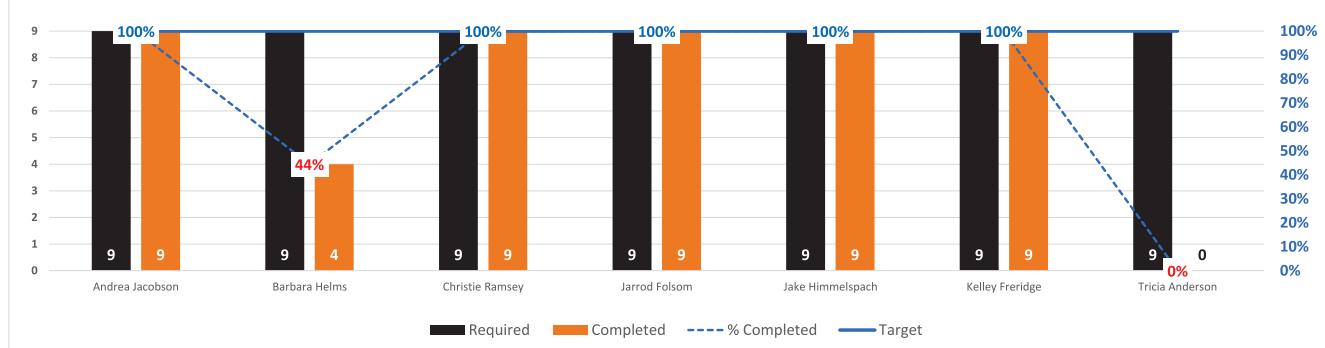
**RPS BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MASB TRAINING - MONTHLY SUMMARY**

MASB data as of: 1/7/2026

**100 Level** CBA 101-109

Trustee	Required	Completed	% Completed	Target
Andrea Jacobson	9	9	100%	100%
Barbara Helms	9	4	44%	100%
Christie Ramsey	9	9	100%	100%
Jarrod Folsom	9	9	100%	100%
Jake Himmelsbach	9	9	100%	100%
Kelley Freridge	9	9	100%	100%
Tricia Anderson	9	0	0%	100%

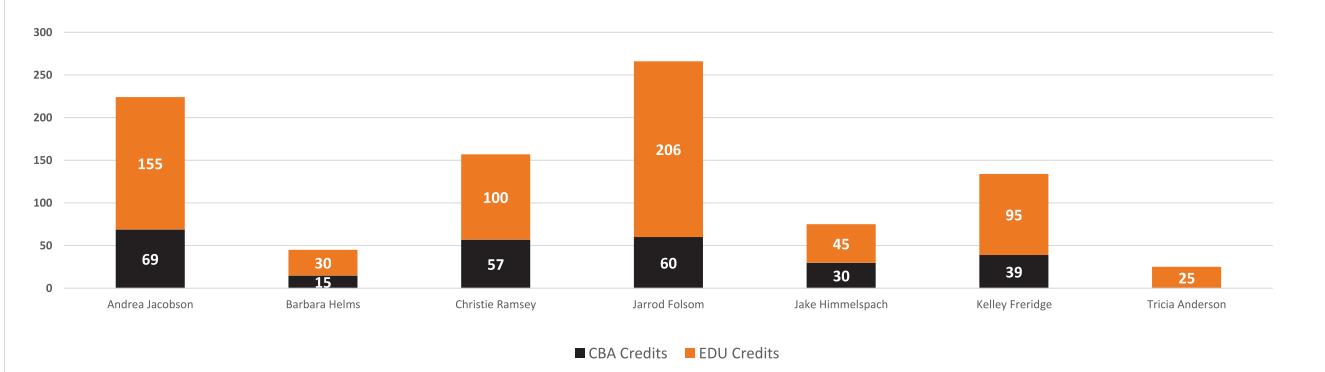
**CBA 100 Level Certification**



**Credits**

Trustee	CBA Credits	EDU Credits	Total Credits
Andrea Jacobson	69	155	224
Barbara Helms	15	30	45
Christie Ramsey	57	100	157
Jarrod Folsom	60	206	266
Jake Himmelsbach	30	45	75
Kelley Freridge	39	95	134
Tricia Anderson	0	25	25

**CBA & EDU Credits**





## Memorandum

To: Rockford Public Schools Board of Education  
From: Dr. Steve Matthews, Superintendent  
Date: December 7, 2026  
Subject: Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Plan

Dear Trustees,

As we look forward to the upcoming calendar year, I am writing to provide you with an overview of the instructional leadership goals that will serve as a focus for my future evaluation and our collective work across the district. These goals are designed to ensure we continue to provide high-quality, equitable learning outcomes for all students in the Rockford Public Schools.

The attached **2025-2026 Instructional Leadership Goal Sheet** outlines five core focus areas for our district:

- **Literacy (Reading) Excellence:** Aiming for 3rd-7th grade M-STEP proficiency to exceed 72% through the use of a Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum (GVC) and research-supported literacy practices.
- **Mathematics Achievement:** Targeting 73% proficiency on M-STEP for grades 3-7 by utilizing Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and data-informed responses.
- **MTSS Behavior & Social-Emotional Wellness:** Increasing the consistent use of PBIS and the Trails Curriculum to promote a positive school climate.
- **Career Exploration & Post-Secondary Preparedness:** Accelerating opportunities for students through job shadowing, local business partnerships, and increased access to college credits and certifications.
- **Tiered Instruction & Organizational Effectiveness:** Supporting Tier 1 instruction while providing intensive, specialized programming to eliminate opportunity gaps for disadvantaged students.

Throughout the year, I will provide the Board with regular updates regarding our progress toward these benchmarks. We remain committed to the "Science of Reading" and data-driven "Response to Intervention" practices that make our programming a gold standard in the region.

I look forward to providing updates about these goals for you in more detail and welcome any questions you may have as we strive to help every student learn, connect, contribute, and succeed.

Sincerely,

Dr. Steve Matthews



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## Memorandum

To: Rockford Public Schools Board of Education

From: Dr. Steve Matthews, Superintendent

Date: January 12, 2026

Subject: Superintendent Goals

The Rockford Public Schools Board of Education uses the Michigan Association of School Boards' Superintendent Evaluation tool. The tool identifies these components in the evaluation:

- Governance and Board Relations
- Community Relations
- Staff Relations
- Business and finance
- Instructional Leadership

In addition, there are two other required elements:

- Student Growth
- Progress Toward District-wide Goals

The “Progress Toward District-wide Goals” component is defined as “progress made by the school district in meeting the goals set forth in the school district’s school improvement plan (MICIP) or district goals.”

In Rockford, we have two goal documents. The first is required by the state – Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Plan (MICIP). Mr. Ramm provided you with an overview of our focus on the 2025-2026 school year MICIP plan. The focus is on improving student outcomes by focusing on the whole child – academic and social.

The second is RAMS XII. This strategic planning document has been part of the Rockford Public Schools for over 30 years. In the time I have been Superintendent there has been an attempt to coordinate the planning and the focus of these two documents to ensure that they align.

MICIP is narrow in scope. RAMS XII is broader and includes operational as well as academic goals. The Superintendent’s goals draw from both documents in an attempt to provide our staff – especially our administrative staff – achievable, meaningful targets each year.

The Superintendent's goals focus effort on high leverage actions that will impact the progress of our students and the impact of our district in the community. We limit the goals because they are layered on top of the daily activities of the school – teaching and learning, student behavior, student lunch, arrival and dismissal, student clubs and athletics, etc. The Superintendent's goals are meant to focus on ensuring that our district moves forward and continues to meaningfully impact our community.

Using MICIP and RAMS XII, these have been identified as the Superintendent's goals for 2026.

- Pillar 1: Academic Excellence
  - Priority 1A: High-quality instruction
    - Strategic action step: 1.A.2: Tiered instruction
      - Continue implementation of Tier One targeted instruction at all elementary and middle school buildings
      - Implement successfully Tier One targeted instruction at the Freshman Center and high school.
      - Evaluate the impact of Tier One targeted instruction.
- Pillar 1: Academic Excellence
  - Priority 1B: Career/College Readiness – Post-secondary preparedness
    - Strategic action step: 1.B.1: Career awareness
      - Identify and implement strategies to engage high school students and their families in understanding career pathways and post-secondary options.
      - Create a meaningful plan for career pathways implementation at the 9-12 level.
      - Create standard career lessons and experiences for middle school students across the district.
      - Evaluate the success of our Junior Achievement Biz Town experience for 5<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- Pillar 2: Wellness and preparedness
  - Priority 2A: Student well-being
    - Strategic action step: 2.A.2: Tiered system of support
      - Implement successfully Multi-tiered System of Support (MTSS) at the elementary and middle school levels.
- Pillar 4: Collaborative Culture
  - Priority 4B: Strong partnerships
    - Strategic action step: 4.B.1: Consistent communication
      - Create and implement a survey strategy to gather community feedback on district initiatives.
      - Hold multiple focus groups to explore in depth community perceptions on district initiatives.
- Pillar 5: Organizational effectiveness
  - Priority 5C: Facility enhancement
    - Strategic action step: 5.C.1: Planning for the future

- Complete in-depth facility assessment to identify facility and grounds needs and possible enhancements.
- With board and community involvement identify what the plan needs to be to ensure that we maintain and improve our facilities and grounds.