
I
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS
OFFICIAL REPORT
TAX RATE MEETING
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 24, 2019
ST. LOUIS, MO

M I N U T E S

The Board of Education of the City of St. Louis convened on the above date to hear the proposed Tax Levy rate for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, and to conduct general business matters. The meeting was open to the public and posted as such. The meeting was held at the Administrative Building, 801 North 11th Street, Room 108, St. Louis, MO 63101. Those in attendance were Mrs. Dorothy Rohde-Collins, Mrs. Natalie Vowell, Dr. Joyce M. Roberts, Ms. Donna Jones, Ms. Susan R. Jones, Mr. Adam Layne, Ms. Tracee Miller, Dr. Kelvin R. Adams, Superintendent, General Counsel, Mr. Jeffrey St. Omer of Mickes O'Toole LLC, and Ms. Ruth Lewis, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Board.

CALL TO ORDER

At 6:30PM, President Rohde-Collins called the meeting to order on the following roll call.

AYE: Ms. Donna Jones, Ms. Susan R. Jones, Mr. Adam Layne, Ms. Tracee Miller, Dr. Joyce M. Roberts, Mrs. Natalie Vowell, Mrs. Dorothy Rohde-Collins

A quorum was present.

FY 2019 TAX RATE MEETING

Mrs. Angela Banks CFO/Treasurer led the Board in the 2019 Tax Levy presentation. The tax rates are set to produce the revenues, which the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019 shows to be required from the property taxes. Tax levies are approved on an annual basis generally to provide funding for the general operations and debt service of the school district. The approved tax rate by the Board must be submitted to the City of St. Louis Tax Assessor and the State Auditor's Office by October 1, 2019 for certification. There were no comments from the public.

At the conclusion of questions and comments, on a motion by President Rohde-Collins, and seconded by Ms. D. Jones, on the following roll call vote, the Board voted to approve a total tax rate of \$4.9949 (*Operating Rate at \$4.3738 and there was no change in Debt Service Rate [\$0.6211]*).

AYE: Ms. Donna Jones, Ms. Susan R. Jones, Mr. Adam Layne, Ms. Tracee Miller, Dr. Joyce M. Roberts, Mrs. Dorothy Rohde-Collins

ABSTAIN: Mrs. Natalie Vowell

NAY: None

The motion passed.

At 6:50PM, Ms. Miller moved, and Ms. S. Jones seconded, on the following roll call vote, to adjourn the Tax Levy meeting and move into general business.

AYE: Ms. Donna Jones, Ms. Susan R. Jones, Mr. Adam Layne, Ms. Tracee Miller,
Dr. Joyce M. Roberts, Mrs. Natalie Vowell, Mrs. Dorothy Rohde-Collins

NAY: None

The motion passed.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- Members entertained a brief follow-up review of the October 10, 2019 Consent Agenda items. Superintendent Adams responded to specific inquiries from members on September 19, 2019 in line with the Board/Superintendent practice for reviewing board meeting agendas.

President Rohde-Collins called for a motion and a seconded to amend the September 24, 2019 meeting agenda to include two (2) additional items for discussion as requested by Dr. Roberts. Dr. Roberts is seeking clarity around the process and development for constructing meeting agendas of the Board, and how many times can a former agenda item return before the Board for additional discussion.

Dr. Roberts moved, and Ms. D. Jones seconded, on the following roll call vote, to amend the September 24, 2019 meeting agenda to include discussion regarding the process and development for constructing meeting agendas of the Board, and how many times can a former agenda item return before the Board for additional discussion. This amendment will be listed under Unfinished Business, item d.

AYE: Ms. Donna Jones, Ms. Susan R. Jones, Mr. Adam Layne, Dr. Joyce M. Roberts,
Mrs. Natalie Vowell, Mrs. Dorothy Rohde-Collins

NAY: Ms. Tracee Miller

The motion passed.

- President Rohde-Collins called for a motion and a seconded to approve the proposal, *Supporting Effective Governance Practices for the St. Louis Public Schools' Governance Team*, as submitted by the Missouri School Boards' Association for the purpose of ongoing governance training for the full Board. Mrs. Vowell moved, and Ms. S. Jones seconded, on the following roll call vote, to approve the proposal, *Supporting Effective Governance Practices for the St. Louis Public Schools' Governance Team*, as submitted by the Missouri School Boards' Association for the purpose of ongoing governance training for the full Board.

AYE: Ms. Donna Jones, Ms. Susan R. Jones, Mrs. Natalie Vowell,
Mrs. Dorothy Rohde-Collins

ABSTAIN: Dr. Joyce M. Roberts

NAY: Mr. Adam Layne

The motion passed.

- Special Work Session on Community Safety Update(s)

Members discussed ideas for possible next steps. An excerpt of that discussion included extending the school day, drafting legislative and municipal level resolutions as well as resolutions by the Board, (i.e. Prison to School Pipeline, Mass Incarceration, and School Safety for students) and reviewing the District's policies and the Board's Bylaw for possible updates for alignment to current operations. Proposed resolutions are to be submitted to President Rohde-Collins two weeks prior to a board or work session meeting. Likewise, any proposed policy and/or Bylaw changes are to be submit to the General Counsel with a carbon copy to President Rohde-Collins.

The Board Presidents of the Kansas City School District, the Clayton School District and the Parkway School District have extended their support to the District's efforts. Some state representatives have shared their support in terms of next steps. And, the Missouri School Boards' Association continues their steadfast support of the Board. Collaborations with the aforementioned groups are forthcoming.

President Rohde-Collins reported Alderwoman Annie Rice, a member of the Education and Youth Matters Committee of St. Louis City contacted her to see if the Board would be interested in participating in a joint meeting to discuss possible ways where the Committee and the District can work towards a united mission. The full Board agreed to be in attendance at this joint meeting. Members will review and prepare their respective takeaways from the 9/5 work session meeting for the development of a concise agenda as a full body. The meeting collaboration will take place sometime in October 2019.

- Bylaw Changes

Ms. Miller will take the lead in updating Bylaw, B9270 Duties of Officers, Members, Employees and Agents Individual Members. Updates are needed to address the appropriate Board protocol where a specific member(s) receives a request and/or an invitation to speak at, to attend, or to physically take part in an activity/conference/professional development.

Regarding Bylaw, B9358.3 Methods of Operation – Meetings/Meeting Conduct; Public Participation at Meetings, on a motion by Mrs. Vowell and seconded by Ms. Miller, the Board voted by way of acclamation, to table Bylaw, B9358.3 Methods of Operation – Meetings/Meeting Conduct; Public Participation at Meetings until the next meeting. The motion passed with 7 Aye votes.

- Amendment to the September 24, 2019 meeting agenda: 1) process and development for constructing meeting agendas of the Board, and 2) how many times can a former agenda item return before the Board for additional discussion.

The development of any meeting agendas of the Board's is of the full Board. Members are to submit their respective agenda item(s) to the Board President two weeks prior to a scheduled a meeting. If any member feels a prior item necessitates additional discussion, then he/she should submit their concerns in writing to the Board President for follow-up.

- Professional Development and Appointments

Consistent with Internal Board Policy P8220, Members' Opportunities for Growth in Boardsmanship, President Rohde-Collins introduced a draft version of the Professional Development Request form. The form is designed to be used an accountability tool for ongoing governance training and related expenditures of same.

President Rohde-Collins appointed Dr. Joyce M. Robert as the Board's representative on the Council of Great City Schools' Board of Directors. Dr. Roberts' first order of business on behalf of the Board is participating in the Council's 63rd Annual Fall Conference. President Rohde-Collins moved and Ms. S. Jones seconded on the following roll call vote, to approve all related expenses for Dr. Roberts' to attend the Council's 63rd Annual Fall Conference, *Elevating Education* in Louisville, Kentucky, October 23-27, 2019.

AYE: Ms. Donna Jones, Ms. Susan R. Jones, Mr. Adam Layne, Ms. Tracee Miller, Dr. Joyce M. Roberts, Mrs. Natalie Vowell, Mrs. Dorothy Rohde-Collins

NAY: None

The motion passed.

President Rohde-Collins appointed Mrs. Vowell to the Real Estate Committee. Board member, Ms. D. Jones serves on this committee as well.

Ms. Miller will lead the formation of the Ad-Hoc Committee. Any members interested in serving should email Ms. Miller with a copy to Dr. Adams.

- Board member, Ms. Susan R. Jones reported on the Consortium Partnership Network (CPN). Ms. S. Jones is the Board's representative on the CPN. The CPN model focus on schools who have sustained chronic academic performance. Meramec and Ashland Elementary Schools are in the CPN. Team Leaderships (both schools) consist of the Principal, Academic Instructional Coach, four (4) classroom teachers and a counselor or a social worker. The Leadership Team has the core task of designing and implementing strategic instructions for its students. Schools are currently using a new curriculum model called Core Knowledge Language Arts with emphasis on skills and knowledge base that leads to comprehension and the expectation of student achievement. Members should direct any questions/inquiries relative to the CPN to Ms. S. Jones. The next meeting of the CPN is October 2, 2019, 5pm, here at the Administrative Building.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mrs. Vowell and seconded by Ms. Miller, on the following roll call vote, the Board voted to adjourn at 9:20PM.

AYE: Ms. Donna Jones, Ms. Susan R. Jones, Mr. Adam Layne, Ms. Tracee Miller,
Dr. Joyce M. Roberts, Mrs. Natalie Vowell, Mrs. Dorothy Rohde-Collins

NAY: None

The motion passed.

ATTESTED BY:



DR. JOYCE M. ROBERTS
BOARD MEMBER – SECRETARY