

**Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting for  
The School District of the City of River Rouge, Wayne County, Michigan  
Held at the River Rouge High School, Auditorium, River Rouge, Michigan  
Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.**

**1-3 – CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION, ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 5:24 p.m. by Valveta Reese, President, with invocation by Mitchell Doig, Secretary.

Members Present: Cooper, Doig, Green, Hightower, Reese, Sabuda, Wheeler  
Members Excused:  
Member Absent:

**4 – STUDENT & STAFF OF THE MONTH RECOGNITION**

Students and staff members of the district were recognized by their individual buildings.

**5 – SOUND MIND SOUND BODY – 12U CHEER TEAM RECOGNITION**

The Board of Education recognized the Sound Mind Sound Body 12U Cheer Team for their accomplishments at nationals in Kissimmee, Florida in December of 2023.

**6 – BOARD APPRECIATION**

In recognition of Board Appreciation Month, the administration and staff of the school district recognized the members of the River Rouge Board of Education.

**7 - CONSENT AGENDA**

**MINUTES REGULAR MEETING – WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2024**

Motion moved by Member Sabuda, seconded by Member Cooper that the Board of Education approved the minutes of Wednesday, January 24, 2024.

Yeas: Members: Doig, Green, Hightower, Reese, Sabuda, Wheeler, Cooper  
Nays: Members: None

Motion carried.

74. **DISTRICT EMPLOYMENT**

Motion moved by Member Sabuda, seconded by Member Reese, that the Board of Education approved the employment of the following individuals:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>SALARY</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>
Michael James	Mathematics Teacher	RRHS	\$67,048.00 w/benefits	Monday, January 29, 2024

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Reginald Woods	MTSS Coordinator/ Student Ambassador	Sabbath	\$67,342.00 w/benefits (grant funded)	Monday, January 15, 2024
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These positions are contingent upon the successful completion of all required paperwork and results of the physical, drug screen, 1230 B responses and criminal records check that are required to be an employee of the school district.

Yeas:           Members:   Green, Hightower, Reese, Sabuda, Wheeler, Cooper, Doig  
Nays:           Members:   None

Motion carried.

**75.    ACADEMIC GAMES TOURNAMENT TRIP**

Motion moved by Member Cooper, seconded by Member Sabuda, that the Board of Education approved the travel of Mrs. Kim O’Neal, four additional chaperones and 40 Academic Games Team Members to the Ann Arbor Marriott at Eagle Crest, Ypsilanti, Michigan, for an overnight tournament beginning Thursday, March 14, 2024 through Saturday, March 16, 2024. Expenses for accommodations, meals and transportation will be grant funded.

Comments by board members.

Yeas:           Members:   Hightower, Reese, Sabuda, Wheeler, Cooper, Doig, Green  
Nays:           Members:   None

Motion carried.

**76.    MCJROTC TRIP**

Motion moved by Member Cooper, seconded by Member Sabuda, that the Board of Education approved the travel of Gunnery Sergeant Jonathan Robinson and Master Sergeant Sharon Bruan, along with 60 cadets to Augusta, Michigan departing Monday, May 20, 2024 through Thursday, May 23, 2024 for the Leadership, Land Navigation, Esprit De Corps for MCJROTC. Staff and cadets will be lodging at Fort Custer in Augusta. Expenses for transportation will be covered through Marine Corp. funding.

Comments by board members.

Yeas:           Members:   Reese, Sabuda, Wheeler, Cooper, Doig, Green, Hightower  
Nays:           Members:   None

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Motion carried.

**77. FOOTBALL COLLEGE VISIT**

Motion moved by Member Cooper, seconded by Member Green, that the Board of Education approved the travel of identified football student athletes and chaperones to the University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio, on Saturday, January 27, 2024 (after the fact). The group departed at 7:00 a.m. and returned to the district at 7:00 p.m. Expenses for transportation were covered through the football account.

Comment by board member.

Yeas:           Members:   Sabuda, Wheeler, Cooper, Doig, Green, Hightower, Reese  
Nays:           Members:   None

Motion carried.

**8 – INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEE**

Mr. Michael James introduced himself to the Board Members and administration.

**9 - COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**10 – STUDENT LIAISON REPORT**

Casia Jefferson reported that the Student Council will be going to the Michigan Youth and Government Forum.

**11 - SUPERINTENDENT AND ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORTS**

I. Mirza

- Thank you to the board
- Budget amendment forthcoming

R. Griffin

- Black History Spirit Week
- Chess Club back
- New smart boards
- New Math Curriculum
- Virtual Reality space identified
- State assessment wrap up

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Dr. L. Revell

- Family Event – Friday
- Grooming for pets

Wyatt Jones III

- NWEA completed
- Bilingual support assistance
- RESA – visited Science Department
- Scholastic Book Fair
- Eureka Math Curriculum
- 

Question by board member

Dr. Harrison

- McDonald’s Scholarship Recipient – Casia Jefferson
- National Signing Day – 11 student athletes
- Michigan Youth & Government Trip
- Senior Pinning
- Dual Enrollment has begun
- Black College Tour
- Virtual Reality Lab
- Spirit Week – 2/13-2/16
- Top 50 banners are in front hallway

N. German

- Mid-Year Assessment wrap up
- Diagnostic Audit
- Wellness Wednesdays
  - Natalie Poole, Facilitated today
- MASA – Varsity Tutor
  - Tutoring for all Michigan students

A. Berry-Brown

- 120 attendance stipends processed for 1<sup>st</sup> semester
- Virtual Reality Labs
  - Addresses instruction through the virtual world
  - Locations identified in buildings

Dr. Derrick Coleman

- Social media consultant
  - 2000 lap top donation to be coming
  - Kroger may have food pantry in the district

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Comment by board member.

**12 – MSBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION**

Motion moved by Member Reese, seconded by Member Cooper, that the Board of Education vote for the Michigan Association of School Boards representative.

Comments by board member.

Yeas:	Members:	Cooper, Doig, Green, Hightower, Reese
Nays:	Members:	Wheeler, Sabuda

Motion carried.

Board members Hightower, Reese & Cooper selected Birgit McQuiston, Lake Orion  
Board members Doig and Green selected Melandie Hines

**13 – BOARD COMMITTEE MEMBERS SCHEDULE**

Member Hightower requested to be added to the Curriculum Committee and the Finance Committee.

At the next meeting of committees, chairpersons are to be selected and reported to the office or President.

**14 - COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD & COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Dr. Coleman reported on the Buildings & Grounds Committee

- Jeff Jacobs, Guidance Center, has requested to extend the lease at Walter White School
- Reported on projects at Ann Visger Preparatory Academy

Comment/question by board members.

Member Green reported on Athletics

- Grades for athletes
- Middle School basketball ending
- Winter sports on-going
- Banquet – TBA
- Senior Night – Maroon Game

Member Doig announced that former board member, Arthur Makarewicz passed. His viewing is Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. He also reported that Mrs. Williams, a River Rouge resident, celebrated her 109<sup>th</sup> birthday.

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**15 - COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE AND ADMINISTRATORS**

None.

**16 - ADJOURNMENT**

Motion moved by Member Sabuda, seconded by Member Cooper, that the meeting be adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Yeas:	Members:	Cooper, Doig, Green, Hightower, Reese, Sabuda, Wheeler
Nays:	Members:	None

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitchell Doig, Secretary  
River Rouge Board of Education  
MD: ap