Independent School District #883

Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, October 19, 2026

Pursuant to due call and notice, the Rockford Board of Education met in a Regular School Board Meeting on Monday, October 19, 2026 in the District Board Room. Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Members Johnson, Gordee, Morgan, Hillstrom, Praska, and Sjodin were present. Also present were Superintendent Jeff Ridlehoover, and Administrative Assistant Courtney Neibert.

Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Gordee seconded by Sjodin to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion by Morgan, seconded by Hillstrom to approve the consent items. Motion carried.

- ***Minutes:***
  September 21, 2026 Work Session
  September 21, 2026 Regular Meeting

- **Personnel:**

Status	First Name	Last Name	Position	Date(s)
New Hire	Vanessa	Lee	RMS - Paraprofessional	September
New Hire	Rebecca	Wallin	RCC instructor	September 23, 2026
New Hire	Jennifer	Coons	RMS Paraprofessional Sub	September 23, 2026
New Hire	Justis	McConnell	REAMS Custodian	October 1, 2026
New Hire	Natasha	Pasch	REAMS-SpEd Teacher	October 5, 2026
Rehire	Elizabeth	Borders	RMS- Paraprofessional	September 23, 2026
Rehire	Jamalyn	Weege-Soland	RMS Para sub	September 18, 2026

- ***Approval of Disbursements:***

FUND	DESCRIPTION		September 01-September 30, 2026
1	GENERAL	$	434,080.06
2	FOOD SERVICE		2,204.00
4	COMMUNITY EDUCATION		17,071.05
6	BUILDING CONSTRUCTION		-
7	DEBT SERVICE		-
21	STUDENT ACTIVITIES		899.84
	TOTAL	$	454,254.95

PAYROLL			September 2026
Payroll Wires	9/15/2026		
Net Pay		$	387,237.98
Taxes			149,482.37
Deductions & Benefits			92,928.29
Payroll Wires	9/30/2026		
Net Pay		$	394,004.69
Taxes			151,220.09
Deductions & Benefits			97,743.60
GIS Benefits		$	28,805.60
Medica		$	188,341.87
Medsurety		$	25,414.09

- ***Open Enrollments:***

Resident Students Attending Other Schools

Grade	Non-Resident District	Number	Date Effective	Address Change/New Enrollment
4	Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose	877	8/31/2026	family move, wants to stay enrolled @ BHM
2	Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose	877	8/31/2026	family move, wants to stay enrolled @ BHM
6	Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose	877	8/31/2026	not thriving socially, might do better in a bigger district
K	Osseo	279	9/8/2026	older siblings attend Osseo
10	Edina	273	8/31/2026	online school
1	Orono	278	9/1/2026	academics & overall preference for Orono
12	Delano	879	9/1/2026	family move; wants to stay enrolled @ Delano
K	Worthington	518	9/8/2026	online school
8	Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose	877	9/2/2026	looking for a new beginning
5	Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose	877	8/31/2026	family move, wants to stay enrolled @ BHM
8	Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose	877	9/1/2026	family move, wants to stay enrolled @ BHM
12+	Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose	877	8/31/2026	better transition program after high school
5	Menahga	821	9/8/2026	online school
3	Menahga	821	9/8/2026	online school
1	Red Rock Central	2884	9/8/2026	online school
K	Red Rock Central	2884	9/8/2026	online school

Non-Resident Students Attending Rockford

Grade	Resident District	Number	Date Effective	Address Change/New Enrollment
3	Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose	877	9/10/2026	family move; wants to stay @ Rockford Schools
9	Anoka Hennepin	11	9/8/2026	NEW ENROLLMENT
11	Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose	877	9/9/2026	NEW ENROLLMENT--better schedule options
3	Osseo	279	9/10/2026	NEW ENROLLMENT
6	Osseo	279	9/14/2026	NEW ENROLLMENT
9	Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose	877	9/16/2026	RE-ENROLLMENT (was enrolled @ Rockford through last year & decided to return
7	Osseo	279	9/28/2026	family move; wants to stay @ Rockford Schools
EC	Orono	278	9/14/2026	NEW ENROLLMENT--daycare is in Rockford so transportation is provided to school & SPED services
9	Delano	879	10/19/2026	family move; wants to stay @ Rockford Schools
7	Delano	879	10/19/2026	family move; wants to stay @ Rockford Schools
10	Princeton	477	9/1/2026	family move; wants to stay @ Rockford Schools
12	Princeton	477	9/1/2026	family move; wants to stay @ Rockford Schools
12	St. Michael-Albertville	885	9/1/2026	family move; wants to stay @ Rockford Schools

- ***2024-25 Approval of Tenure:*** The board was presented with the following licensed staff who are eligible for tenure:
    - Kimberly Johnson
    - Joshua Westgaard
    - Monica Pinkerman
    - Rebecca Bender
    - Elsa Swanson
    - Jessica Honza
    - Sarah Naslund
    - Emily Ansely

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- **October 2026 Superintendent's Report:** Dr. Jeff Ridlehoover presented an update on the schools.
- **Assurance of Compliance:** Superintendent Dr. Jeff Ridlehoover presented the Assurance of Compliance for approval.

Motion by Hillstrom seconded by Praska to approve the assurance of compliance as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND GROWTH

- **Northstar Report / Learning and Innovation Report:** Dr. Jeff Ridlehoover, along with Learning and Innovation Specialist Kathy Mattson, presented the Northstar report and a Learning and Innovation department update.

CULTURE OF COLLECTIVE PURPOSE

- **MSBA Policy Updates - First Reading:** The board was presented MSBA policy updates to policies 624, 806, 208, 402, 423, 507.5, 509, 521, 524, 613, 621, and 709 for a first reading.

COMMUNITY, SCHOOL AND FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

- **Resolution of Acknowledgement of Contributions/Donations**

Morgan motioned, seconded by Hillstrom, to approve the following resolution as presented:

WHEREAS Minnesota Statute 123B.02 permits school boards to "receive, for the benefit of the district, bequests, donations, or gifts for any proper purpose and apply the same to the purpose designated. On that behalf, the board may act as trustee of any trust created for the benefit of the district, and for the benefit of pupils thereof."

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the School Board of Rockford Area Schools, Independent School District 883 that the School Board accepts, with appreciation, the contributions detailed below.

Donor	Amount	Fund
Land O'Lakes Foundation (The Blackbaud Giving Fund)	$60.00	REAMS Gift Fund
Minnesota State Fair	$400.00	Band Activities Fund
Rockford River Days	$140.00	HS FFA Fund
Rockford River Days	$70.00	NHS Fund
Rockford River Days	$105.00	Band Activities Fund
Rocket Boosters	$569.68	CC Charter Bus Difference
Rocket Boosters	$854.48	CC Charter Bus Difference
Rocket Boosters - Class of 2026	$2,207.06	Remaining funds donated to RHS
Annonymous	Resurce Building Blocks	General Fund Donation REAMS
Jovie Theismann family-Jeff and Alex Theismann	Books: the pigeon wants a hot dog, the pigeon wants a puppy, the bad seed, stuck, the dot	General Fund Donation REAMS
Anonymous	Sensory Basic-Life-skills Shoe-Tying Practice for Kids Fine-Motor Skill Toys	General Fund Donation REAMS
Tracey family	Scented Stickers	General Fund Donation REAMS

On a roll call vote, the following voted in favor: Gordee, Johnson, Morgan, Hillstrom, Sjodin, and Praska. And the following voted against: None

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

- **Upcoming Meetings:**
    - Finance Committee Meeting: Friday, November 20, 2026 at 8:15 am virtually at Video call link: https://meet.google.com/gdp-kgqj-mfz Or dial: ?(US) +1 516-2686848? PIN: ?560 645 835?#
    - Board of Education Work Session: Monday, November 23, 2026 at 5:30 pm in the District Office Board Room.
    - Regular Meeting of the Board of Education: Monday, November 23, 2026 at 6:30 pm in the District Office Board Room.
- **Board Committee Updates:**
    - Johnson - MAWSECO Meetings, Negotiations Committee Meeting, Facilities Committee Meeting, AMSD Meeting, Board Prep Call, MSBA Chair Chat.
    - Gordee - AMSD Meeting, Board Prep Call.
    - Morgan - Finance Committee Meeting.
    - Hillstrom - Finance Committee Meeting, SEE Meeting.
    - Praska - None.
    - Sjodin - Finance Committee Meeting, Negotiations Committee Meeting.

Hillstrom motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Gordee seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Courtney Neibert
Recorder

Jamie Hillstrom
Clerk