



Independent School District #883

Regular School Board Meeting

Monday, August 17, 2026

Pursuant to due call and notice, the Rockford Board of Education met in a Regular School Board Meeting on Monday, August 17, 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 was Superintendent Jeff Ridlehoover, CFO Bridget Peterson, Learning & Innovation Specialist Kathy Madson, and Administrative Assistant Courtney Neibert.

Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

CONSENT ITEMS

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

- **Minutes:**

- July 20, 2026 Work Session

- July 20, 2026 Regular Meeting

- **Personnel:**

Status	First Name	Last Name	Position	Date(s)
Resignation	Kory	Bender	RMS SpEd Paraprofessional	August 7, 2026
Resignation	Jamalyn	Weege-Soland	RMS SpEd Paraprofessional	August 8, 2026
Retirement	Colleen	Peterson	REAMS Phy Ed	June 5, 2026
Termination	Jackson	Angell	REAMS Custodian	August 10, 2026
New Hire	Lauren	Rupp	RMS/RHS SLP Teacher	August 4, 2026
New Hire	James	Petry	RHS/REAMS SpEd Paraprofessional	August 19, 2026
New Hire	Nicole	Olesen	Dance Instructor	August 17, 2026
New Hire	Harry	Beyan	Boys Soccer JV Coach	August 17, 2026
New Hire	Brittany	Danner	Volleyball Asst Coach	August 17, 2026
New Hire	Kinsey	Phipps	Volleyball Head Coach	August 17, 2026
New Hire	Alayna	Maher	Cross Country 7/8 Coach	August 17, 2026
Leave			1st Grade	September 2026-June 2027

- **Approval of Disbursements:**

CHECKRUNS

FUND	DESCRIPTION	July 01- July 31, 2026
1	GENERAL	\$ 1,344,797.95
2	FOOD SERVICE	3,679.20
4	COMMUNITY EDUCATION	13,814.02
6	BUILDING CONSTRUCTION	-
7	DEBT SERVICE	575.00
21	STUDENT ACTIVITIES	2,503.40
	TOTAL	\$ 1,365,369.57

PAYROLL	July 2026
Payroll Wires	7/15/2026
Net Pay	\$ 313,737.96
Taxes	119,616.86
Deductions & Benefits	78,035.80
Payroll Wires	7/31/2026
Net Pay	\$ 317,530.11
Taxes	122,104.61
Deductions & Benefits	79,512.28
GIS Benefits	\$ 34,371.87
Medica	\$ 185,452.00
Medsurety	\$ 56,271.91

- **Open Enrollments:**

Resident Students Attending Other Schools

Grade	Non-Resident District	Number	Date Effective	Address Change/New Enrollment
3	Delano	879	9/1/2026	Family Move
K	Osseo	279	9/8/2026	Sibling enrolled in Osseo Schools
K	Delano	879	9/1/2026	Father works in Delano; older siblings attend Delano Schools believe Delano will provide an environment to best support their child
9	Delano	879	9/1/2026	older sibling attends Delano
4	Delano	879	9/1/2026	Older sibling attends Osseo Schools
K	Osseo	279	9/8/2026	Student/Parent Preference
9	Delano	879	9/1/2026	Safety
12	Osseo	279	9/8/2026	Safety
9	Osseo	279	9/8/2026	Safety
K	Delano	879	9/1/2026	Community Continuity

Non-Resident Students Attending Rockford

Grade	Resident District	Number	Date Effective	Address Change/New Enrollment
3	Delano	879	9/1/2026	NEW ENROLLMENT--School structure & magnet designation
4	Delano	879	9/1/2026	NEW ENROLLMENT--School structure & magnet designation
K	Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose	877	9/1/2026	NEW ENROLLMENT--Sibling attends REAMS; better schooling opportunities; parents are Rockford grads
9	Delano	879	9/1/2026	NEW ENROLLMENT--Better fit for educational philosophy
9	Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose	877	9/1/2026	NEW ENROLLMENT--Re-enrolling--better fit for our student
K	Osseo	279	9/1/2026	NEW ENROLLMENT--better fit for our child to repeat kindergarten in a new school
4	Osseo	279	9/1/2026	NEW ENROLLMENT--siblings attend Rockford
11	Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose	877	9/1/2026	NEW ENROLLMENT--close to home; sibling attends Rockford
12	Osseo	279	9/1/2026	NEW ENROLLMENT--IB Magnet School opportunity
3	Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose	877	9/1/2026	NEW ENROLLMENT

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- **August 2026 Superintendent's Report:** Dr. Jeff Ridlehoover presented an update on the schools.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND GROWTH

- **Profile of a Graduate:** Dr. Ridlehoover and L&I specialist Kathy Mattson presented a high-level overview of the plans related to the Rockford Area School Profile of a Graduate.

STEWARDSHIP OF RESOURCES

- **Meal Price Approval:** The Board was presented the SY26-27 meal prices for approval.

Motion by Sjodin seconded by Hillstrom to approve the SY26-27 meal prices as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Principals Contract:** The Board was presented the SY 26-27 and 27-28 principals' contract for approval.

Motion by Sjodin seconded by Morgan to approve the SY 26-27 and 27-28 principals' contract as presented. Member Gordee Abstained. Motion passed unanimously.

CULTURE OF COLLECTIVE PURPOSE

- **Policy Review Updates - First Reading:** The board was presented policy updates for a first reading.
- **RAS School Board Goals 2026-2027:** The board was presented the 2026-2027 RAS School Board Goals for approval.

Motion by Hillstrom seconded by Praska to approve the 26-27 RAS School Board Goals as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNITY, SCHOOL AND FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

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

Hillstrom motioned, seconded by Gordee, 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.

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Fund</i>
Rocket Boosters	\$414.81	Girls Soccer Fund (Soccer Supplies / Equipment)
Land O'Lakes Foundation (The Blackbaud Giving Fund)	\$40.00	REAMS Gift Fund

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

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

- **Upcoming Meetings:**
 - Negotiations Committee Meeting: Wednesday, August 19, 2026 at 5:00 pm in the District Office Board Room.
 - Welcome Back Breakfast: Tuesday, August 25, 2026 at 7:30 am at the RHS Commons.

- Finance Committee Meeting: Friday, September 18, 2026 at 8:15 am virtually at Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/axq-jnqk-hsm> Or dial: ?(US) +1 774-231-8592? PIN: ?178 658 440?#
- Communications Committee Meeting: Monday, September 21, 2026 at 4:30 pm in the District Office Board Room.
- Board of Education Work Session: Monday, September 21, 2026 at 5:30 pm in the District Office Board Room.
- Regular Meeting of the Board of Education: Monday, September 21, 2026 at 6:30 pm in the District Office Board Room.
- **Board Committee Updates:**
 - Johnson - Negotiations Committee, Board Prep, AMSD, MAWSECO Meetings, Special Meeting.
 - Gordee - Board Prep Call, AMSD Meeting, and Special meeting.
 - Morgan - Special Meeting, Finance Committee Meeting.
 - Hillstrom - Finance Committee Meeting, Special Meeting.
 - Praska - Special Meeting, Negotiations Committee Meeting.
 - Sjodin - Finance Committee Meeting, Special Meeting, Negotiations Committee Meeting.
- ***Closed Session–Negotiations Start:***

The closed session was removed as it was determined it was no longer needed.

Courtney Neibert
Recorder

Jamie Hillstrom
Clerk