

EAST ROCKAWAY UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
East Rockaway, New York
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
7:30 P.M., September 19, 2012 – East Rockaway Jr. /Sr. High School
Preceded by a Public Forum

MINUTES

Present: Members of the Board of Education: President, Kristin Ochtera; Linda Schmidt; Neil Schloth; Patti Nicoletti; John Giannotti, Jr.; Superintendent, Dr. Roseanne Melucci; Director of Finance and Operations, Marcy Tannenbaum; District Clerk, Denise Lobascio; staff members and members of the community.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Kristin Ochtera and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Neil Schloth.
2. Upon motion by Linda Schmidt, seconded by Neil Schloth, the minutes from the August 7, 2012 regular meeting and the September 4, 2012 regular meeting were unanimously approved.
3. Acknowledged Receipt of Financial Reports – June 2012
4. Correspondence – One
5. Introduction of New Staff
6. Action Agenda

A. Personnel

Upon motion by Patti Nicoletti, seconded by Neil Schloth, the following items #1-9 were unanimously approved:

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, rescind Personnel Item No. 12 on the August 7, 2012, agenda and minutes.
2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept, with regret, the resignation of Kerry Lee Koehler, for the purpose of retirement, from her special education teacher position, effective December 31, 2012.
3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the probationary appointment of Kristi Boyce to the position of teaching assistant, (tenure area: teaching assistant; certification status: initial), effective September 20, 2012, through September 19, 2015, at the prorated Step 1 annual salary set forth in the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for teaching assistants the 2012-2013

school year.

4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Bethany Kinkaid to the position of short-term substitute teacher (speech/language), effective September 24, 2012, through December 14, 2012, at the per diem salary established by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for short-term substitute teachers for the 2012-2013 school year.
5. Approve the appointment of M. Denise Winter to the position of Dignity Act Coordinator.
6. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following permanent substitute teacher appointments, effective October 1, 2012, through June 21, 2013, at the per diem salary established by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the non-contractual salary schedule for the 2012-2013 school year:
 - a. Katherine Klock
 - b. Laura Bruzzo
7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the resignation of James Iaquinto from his seasonal cleaner position, effective September 19, 2012; and approve the part-time appointment of James Iaquinto to the position of cleaner, effective September 20, 2012, at the prorated Step A annual salary for cleaner set forth in the East Rockaway Custodial Unit contract for the 2012-2013 school year.
8. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following part-time appointments for the ALPSS program, effective September 4, 2012, through June 21, 2013, at the hourly salary set forth by the East Rockaway Board of Education for the 2012-2013 school year:
 - a. Hugh Howard.....Technology Teacher
 - b. Jeanne AbramiTeacher Aide
 - c. Michael PereiraSubstitute Monitor
 - d. Melissa JordanTeacher Aide
9. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following temporary assignments, effective September 20, 2012, through June 21, 2013, at the salary approved by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for substitute workers for the 2012-2013 school year:
 - a. Michelle Gunther, substitute teacher
 - b. Janine Milazzo, substitute school nurse
 - c. Laura Clarke, substitute after school program monitor

d. Nicholas Tomasso, substitute teacher

B. Other Items

Upon motion by Linda Schmidt, seconded by John Giannotti, Jr. the following items #1-12 were unanimously approved:

1. Ratify the appointment of Regina Brandow, IHO Identifier 607, to serve as Impartial Hearing Officer for Student ID No. 180006296, Case No. 72415, effective August 10, 2012.
2. Approve the award of the bid for transportation services to Veteran's Transportation Co., Inc., for two students to St. Agnes Cathedral School and authorize the Director of Finance & Operations to execute the resulting contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
3. Rescind the award of the bid to First Student, Inc. for transportation to CCA Net for the 2012-2013 school year and approve the award of the bid to WE Transport, Inc. as the lowest responsible bidder, and authorize the Director of Finance and Operations to execute the resulting contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
4. Approve the award of the contract for exterior door replacement, 2012-2013 Capital Improvement Program, Project No. 28-02-19-03-0-001-032, at East Rockaway Jr./Sr. High School, to the lowest responsible bidder, C & M Door Controls, and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
5. Approve for purpose of disposal as obsolete the textbooks specifically listed on the attached Textbook Removal Form.
6. Approve the terms and conditions of the following contracts for consultant services during the 2012-2013 school year and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education:
 - a. Jacquelyn Nealon, Ed.D., Financial Aid Workshop
 - b. Shari Berman, Choreography
7. Approve the tuition agreement with Levittown UFSD for career and technical programs for three (3) students for the 2012-2013 school year and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract.
8. Approve the admission of two (2) Lynbrook UFSD students and One (1) Freeport UFSD student to attend the East Rockaway Public Schools for the special education

summer 2012 program and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the resulting tuition agreement on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.

9. Approve the tuition agreement with Rockville Centre UFSD for special education services for one (1) student, Student ID No. 180005900, for the 2012-2013 school year and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the resulting tuition agreement on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
10. Approve the contract with Centris Group, the software service provider for IEP Direct® and RTIm Direct® for the 2012-2013 school year for the services indicated and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
11. Approve the club advisor assignments for the 2012-2013 school year as more fully set forth on the schedule of club/advisor assignments, and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the charters.
12. Accept a donation to Rhame Avenue School in the sum of Four Hundred Eight Dollars and 19 Cents (\$408.19) from Target and increase budget code 2110-450-03-0000 by said amount.

Upon motion by Patti Nicoletti, seconded by Neil Schloth, the following items #13 – 14 were unanimously approved:

13. Approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that whereas the Board of Education believes it to be in the best interest of the District and the school community to participate in the MSG Varsity Network Outreach program and to enter into an agreement with MSG Varsity for the production and broadcasting of high school activities and achievements on the MSG Varsity Network, it hereby approves and authorizes the School Registration and Participation Agreement Form between the District and MSG Varsity Network LLC, dated as of July 1, 2012, for the participation period July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013, in connection therewith; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Board hereby authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute said Agreement on behalf of the District.

14. Approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED that approval is hereby granted to enter into agreement with Storage Quarters to store the District's records for the 2012-2013 school year and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the resulting service contract on behalf

of the East Rockaway Board of Education.

Upon motion by Linda Schmidt, seconded by John Giannotti, Jr. the following items lettered D&E were unanimously approved:

D. Approval of CSE Recommendations

E. Approval of CPSE Recommendations

7. Policy Matters

A. Upon motion by Neil Schloth, seconded by John Giannotti, Jr. the following policies were unanimously adopted:

1. 0100, Equal Opportunity and Nondiscrimination
2. 0110, E1, E2, Sexual Harassment and Exhibits
3. 9140.1, 9140.1 R, Staff Complaints and Grievances and Regulation
4. 5300, Code of Conduct

B. For Review

1. 2110, School Board Powers and Duties
2. 2220, Board Officers
3. 5280, Interscholastic Athletics
4. 5420, Student Health Services
5. 6685, Medicaid Compliance

8. Superintendent's Report

Please see the Superintendent's webpage for information pertaining to graduation, AP and Regents results, 3-8 assessments, student readiness, and tips for parents.

Here's what's happening in our schools.

At Centre and Rhame Grades K-5 will begin with a new Math program called "Go Math". In grades K-6, we are in the process of administering the Measures of Academic Progress for math and ELA. In addition to the Measures of Academic Progress, students in grades K-3 are being assessed with Reading 3D, running records and DIBELS.

At Rhame students in grades K-6 will celebrate Constitution Day on September 19th. Students read, We The Kids by David Catrow, to help them relate the Preamble to their own lives. The students are currently preparing classroom rules and a Bill of Rights.

Here's what our students at Rhame are reading this month:

Gr. 2 - Cam Jansen and the Mystery of the Gold Coins and Ready Freddy and the Camping Catastrophe.

Gr. 3 - Flat Stanley, Sideways Stories From Wayside School, Mrs.Spritzer's Garden

Gr. 5 -Pictures of Hollis Woods.

Gr. 6 - I Surrender; and Remote Man

At the high school, all departments have been either delivering or finalizing plans to administer their required pre-assessments as per the new teacher performance evaluation regulations. Teachers are also laying the expectations for their courses, reviewing summer assignments and gaining insight into their students. In addition, teachers are working on aligning their curricula and assessments with the Common Core Standards.

A meeting for parents and students regarding the Advanced Placement program was held at the high school on September 10th. Parents were given an overview of the program, specific administrative information, and shared their thoughts and questions with teachers and administration. Later in the year there will be a presentation to the Board on the AP Program.

Also from the HS, a meeting for 7th grade parents was held on September 5th. Ms. Reilly led a presentation on making the transition to the junior/senior high, and offered tips for success.

On September 20th, the high school will hold a ceremony at 3:00 in the cafeteria to recognize the newly-created "Super Masters." This group of 40 students is being recognized for scoring a 95 or higher on one or more Regents exam. The high school would like to honor this achievement and begin a dialogue that includes the students about raising overall student achievement to help grow the group.

Saturday was the annual Homecoming Game. The Pep Rally was on Friday, September 14th at 7:00pm.

At Rhame Avenue the walking club will begin for grades 3-6 on Monday, September 24th. Also, before school sports, which will occur during Mr. Hickey's extra help period, will began on Wednesday, September 19th for 5th graders. This replaces the After School Sports club. Both the walking club and the before school sports are opportunities for Rhame students to participate in physical activity.

The general meeting for Seussical, the Musical, will be held on Tuesday, October 9th.

Rhame Avenue is connecting Fine Arts with writing. Grades 1-6 have been busy filling out their Art Room Job Applications. They are getting real life experience with having to apply for the job they want, write about their experience and skills, and getting references.

SEDL words this month at Centre Avenue include: motivation and pride

At Rhame Avenue the third graders are talking about Safe and Unsafe places and environments using our Health Smart Materials. The vocabulary words with this activity include: comfortable, uncomfortable, relaxed, unwinding, uptight, freaked-out.

In grade 6 the SEL words this month are diversity and tolerance. Bully prevention instruction includes using "Man in the Mirror" lyrics. On all grade levels they are participating in a read aloud using Bucket Filling Books.

Ms. Reilly is meeting with her 7th and 8th grade teams to review the curriculum and better align it with DASA and the SEL philosophy. The goal is to align SEL into over-arching themes reflecting pillars of character. In an effort to promote literacy across the content areas, a suggested reading list can be found for middle school students within the grade level newsletters.

Mr. Spero and Ms. Reilly would like to express their thanks and appreciation for the

warmth they have received and are making a smooth transition into their roles.

As you have heard the HS Auditorium is closed as we address an issue with mold. Thank you to the facilities department for taking the appropriate measures to handle it. We have called the insurance company and met with an adjustor. We are waiting for the results.

The Centre Avenue drop-off circle was widened this summer to accommodate busses.

Also, the back of the new wing was paved, a new pump for the heating system was installed and the baseball diamonds were re-groomed.

The kindergarten students at Rhame Avenue got to play outside on their beautiful new playground equipment! They attended a ribbon cutting ceremony with the Superintendent, Board President, PTA leadership and other administrators.

Students from our Life Skills program at the JSHS and RA attended Surfer's Healing for the third year for the HS students and the first time for the younger children. It was a wonderful experience for everyone. The older students had an opportunity to mentor the younger ones. This program builds confidence, social development and language development.

The Andrew Stern September 11th essay contest for grades 4-12 was distributed this month. The winners will be selected and celebrated at the January Board of Education meeting.

That concludes my report.

9. Privilege of the Floor

- Test scores
- Web site
- Mold in our auditorium
- Reconnect to parents who do not attend meetings
- Director of Fine Arts

10. Board Member Comments

Neil Schloth – Good to see everyone. Please come more, stay involved and do your homework. It is great that you are willing to help us. We have to start raising revenues in an effort to raise money.

Linda Schmidt – Thank you for coming out. Congratulations to the new staff. See you next month.

John Giannotti, Jr. – One reason I ran for the board is that I wanted people to say that they were moving to ER for the schools. I moved here because it is a nice community. Seeing everyone here tonight, and from the short time I have been on the Board, I can see we are on our way. We all need to work together; Superintendent, board, administration, teachers, parents and student. We all must be held accountable.

Patti Nicoletti – Welcome new staff, I hope you have a long and productive tenure here. Thank you to the parents for their comments. We are all dedicated to making a difference.

Kristin Ochtera – Thank you for coming. Welcome new faculty and staff. I believe the year is off to a good start. Tonight's discussion during Privilege of the Floor was slightly different from our usual business meeting format. It was beneficial for us to share perspectives and

helps the board and the superintendent develop forward moving strategies. I expect to return to our usual format, addressing policy matters and other issues relating to board work. Please remember it benefits everyone when action is taken quickly. Most issues and concerns can be addressed faster and more efficiently when they are addressed to the appropriate office. I encourage you to do that as frequently as needed. See you all next month - the theme is "Board Appreciation".

11. Upon motion by Patti Nicoletti, seconded by John Giannotti, Jr. and unanimously passed, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Lobascio
District Clerk