

EAST ROCKAWAY UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
East Rockaway, New York  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education  
7:00 P.M., November 21, 2017, East Rockaway Jr. / Sr. High School  
Preceded by Proclamation from Senator Todd Kaminsky,  
Recognition of Peter Wilson, Mathematics Wall of Excellence,  
an Elementary STEAM Enrichment for All Presentation;  
and a Public Forum

MINUTES

Present: Members of the Board of Education: Patti Nicoletti, Neil Schloth, Kristin Ochtera, John Giannotti, Jr., Superintendent, Lisa J. Ruiz; Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations, Jacqueline A. Scio; Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, Mona Hecht; District Clerk, Vitina Fazi

Absent: Keith Gamache

1. The meeting was called to order by Patti Nicoletti at 7:03 p.m. Kristin Ochtera led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board President Patti Nicoletti welcomed everyone to the meeting. She stated that tonight there were two special recognitions, followed by the STEAM presentation. Ms. Nicoletti introduced Ms. Ruiz. Ms. Ruiz welcomed everyone and thanked all for joining us this evening. She stated that Senator Todd Kaminsky was present to recognize Erik Walter for a tremendous act of bravery. Ms. Ruiz introduced Senator Kaminsky. Senator Kaminsky presented Mr. Walter with a proclamation, on behalf of the NYS Senate, for his heroic efforts in saving two young lives in Long Beach in September, 2017. Ms. Ruiz thanked Senator Kaminsky for attending tonight and for his tremendous support of the East Rockaway UFSD. Ms. Ruiz congratulated Mr. Walter as our “hometown hero.”

Ms. Ruiz then introduced Mr. James Zervas, Math and Science Chairperson. Mr. Zervas introduced math teacher, Deanna Mignella who spoke about the requirements for the Math Award of Excellence. Ms. Mignella then announced Peter Wilson, the recipient of the Math Award of Excellence. She stated that the award will be placed on the Mathematics Wall of Excellence in the Jr./Sr. High School. Ms. Ruiz congratulated Peter on achieving the vigorous requirements of the award.

Ms. Ruiz then introduced Ms. Guggino-Hastings who gave a brief description of the STEAM presentation. Ms. Guggino-Hastings then introduced Ms. Michelle Healy, Enterprise and STEAM teacher in the elementary schools. Also present were sixth grade students from Rhame Avenue and Centre Avenue schools. Ms. Healy spoke about the importance of computers in the future. She showed a presentation involving the three modules of the STEAM program: coding; maker space activities; and robotics. The sixth grade students were invited to the podium to share their thoughts

about the STEAM program. Ms. Healy thanked the Board of Education, administration, and Ms. Guggino-Hastings for their support in putting this program together. The students and staff are enthusiastic and committed to succeeding in the program. Ms. Ruiz thanked Ms. Guggino-Hastings for her vision and leadership in creating this program. Thanks also to Ms. Healy, for doing a remarkable job in designing the program. Ms. Ruiz also thanked the students for speaking to the audience.

At 7:44 pm Ms. Nicoletti resumed the public portion of the agenda.

2. Upon motion made by Kristin Ochtera, and seconded by Neil Schloth, the minutes of October 17, 2017, were unanimously approved.
3. Acknowledge Receipt of Financial Reports – September 2017
4. Correspondence – None
5. Hearing of visitors on items in the Agenda - none
6. Action Agenda

Ms. Ochtera commented on the resignation of Ms. Guggino-Hastings. She stated that she would like to recognize the good work of Ms. Guggino-Hastings these past 17 years; as well as her innovative programming. She respects the manner in which she balances the demands of her career and family life. Ms. Ochtera wished her the best and much success in her new position. Ms. Nicoletti and the Board shared the same sentiments.

Upon motion made by John Giannotti, Jr., and seconded by Kristin Ochtera, the following Items 1 through 11 were unanimously approved on a consent agenda.

A. Personnel

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the following resignations:
  - a. Michael Curti, Junior Varsity Baseball Coach, effective October 30, 2017
  - b. Luke Tesoriero, Junior High Baseball Coach, effective October 30, 2017
  - c. Ariana Arnone, short-term substitute teacher, effective November 3, 2017
  - d. Laura Guggino-Hastings, Director of Pupil Personnel Services, effective November 26, 2017
2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve an increase in the teaching assignment of Alexandra Mendyk to .7 FTE, effective October 2, 2017, through June 30, 2018, at the BA, Step 3, annual salary set forth in the East

Rockaway Teachers Association contract for the 2017-2018 school year.

3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve an increase in the assignment of Edward Correll to .7 FTE, effective November 22, 2017, at the MA, Step 2, annual salary set forth in the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for the 2017-2018 school year.
4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Joseph Puleio to the position of short term substitute science teacher, effective October 23, 2017, at the per diem salary established by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for the 2017-2018 school year.
5. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Mariana Pineda to the position of short term substitute special education teacher, effective November 1, 2017, through January 26, 2018, at the per diem salary established by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for the 2017-2018 school year.
6. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request of Debra Muller for a FMLA leave of absence effective December 4, 2017, through March 9, 2018.
7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Debra Anastasio to the position of teacher aide, (6 hours per day), effective November 22, 2017, upon Civil Service approval, at the Step A annual salary set forth in the East Rockaway Teacher Aides Association Agreement for the 2017-2018 school year.
8. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Kaylyn Hansen to the position of part-time monitor effective November 22, 2017, upon Civil Service approval, at the Step 1 hourly salary set forth in the East Rockaway Food Service and Monitors Unit Agreement for the 2017-2018 school year.
9. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve an increase in the grade school lunch supervision stipend set forth in the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract, Appendix B.E. to \$3,927.50 to account for five days of service per week for the 2017-2018 school year.
10. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Theresa Hempstead to the position of substitute teacher caller/scheduler at the per diem salary set forth on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for the 2017-2018 school year.

11. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following temporary assignments at the salary approved by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for substitute workers for the 2017-2018 school year:
  - a. Dana Stuono, concert supervisor, effective November 22, 2017
  - b. Tracie Goldman, per diem substitute teacher, effective November 22, 2017
  - c. Jean Maxwell, per diem substitute teacher, effective November 22, 2017
  - d. Tina Brindisi, per diem substitute teacher, effective November 22, 2017
  - e. Mariana Pineda, per diem substitute teacher, effective November 1, 2017
  - f. Theresa Amabile, athletic supervisor (day/evening), effective November 13, 2017

## B. Other Items

Upon motion made by Neil Schloth, and seconded by John Giannotti, Jr., the following Items 1 through 15 were unanimously approved on a consent agenda.

1. Approve the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District has solicited bids for the District's FEMA Grant Mitigation project ("Project"); and

**WHEREAS**, it has been determined after consultation with the District's Architect and the Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations, that there is sufficient and appropriate cause for rejecting all bids received in connection with said Project; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that, in the best interest of the District and the public in making economical use of public moneys, the Board hereby rejects all bids received for said Project and directs the District's Business Office and Architect to re-advertise for bids in connection with said Project, in accordance with Section 103 of the General Municipal Law.

2. Accept the IDEA – Part B, Section 611 Federal Funding Grant Award for the funding dates of July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018 with an approved budget total of \$302,931.
3. Accept the IDEA – Part B, Section 619 Federal Funding Grant Award for the funding dates of July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018 with an approved budget total of \$11,297.
4. Approve the Consultant Services Provider Agreement between East Rockaway UFSD and Dr. Caryl Oris, M.D. for Psychiatric Consultation and Evaluation Services for the 2017-2018 school year and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
5. Approve the tuition agreement with Harmony Heights for special education services for one (1) student, Student ID No. 180008243, for the 2017-2018 school year and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the tuition agreement on behalf of the

East Rockaway Board of Education.

6. Approve the Health and Welfare Agreement between the East Rockaway UFSD and Seaford UFSD for health and welfare services for the 2017-2018 school year, and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the agreement on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
7. Approve the Health and Welfare Services Agreement between the East Rockaway UFSD and the following school districts for health and welfare services for the 2017-2018 school year and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the agreement on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
  - a. Baldwin UFSD
  - b. Elmont UFSD
  - c. Hewlett UFSD
  - d. Island Park UFSD
  - e. Lawrence UFSD
  - f. Long Beach UFSD
  - g. Lynbrook UFSD
  - h. Malverne UFSD
  - i. Oceanside UFSD
  - j. Rockville Centre UFSD
  - k. Roosevelt UFSD
  - l. Sewanhaka UFSD
  - m. Valley Stream #13
  - n. Valley Stream #24
  - o. Valley Stream #30
  - p. New York City Department of Education
8. Approve the Consultant Services Contract between East Rockaway UFSD and Dr. Cherise Pemberton, for student services for the period December 4, 2017, through June 22, 2018, and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
9. Approve the Contract for Consultant Services between the East Rockaway UFSD and FBA of Syosset, for Flexible Spending Plan services, for the 2018 calendar year and authorize the Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
10. Accept the following donations:
  - a. Sofa valued at \$542, from James Lores for the East Rockaway Jr/Sr High School faculty lounge
  - b. Nine (9) golf clubs valued at \$180 from Tony Morreale for the High School Physical Education Golf Unit

- c. From the Centre Avenue PTA, a check in the amount of \$87.84 for classroom supplies
- d. From the Centre Avenue PTA, a check in the amount of \$1,000, for the Centre Avenue Class of 2024

11. Approve the members of the Professional Development Team (revised) pursuant to policy 9700, Staff Development.

|                         |                  |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Mona Hecht, Chairperson | Melinda Best     |
| Caitlin Castellano      | James DeTommaso  |
| ToniAnn Donald          | Annette Dubiel   |
| Alex Goldberg           | Pam Murano       |
| Danielle Schaetzle      | Ashley Tener     |
| James Zervas            | Rachele Banducci |

12. Approve the employment agreement with Susan Kosser as the interim Director of Pupil Personnel Services, effective November 27, 2017, through June 30, 2018, and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the agreement on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education; and further approve the appointment of Susan Kosser as the Title IX officer, Chairperson for CSE and CPSE Committee effective November 27, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

13. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that, in accordance with the provisions of New York State Education Law §3012-c and Subpart 30-2 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District (“District”) hereby certifies Susan Kosser as qualified lead evaluator. The District hereby authorizes Susan Kosser to conduct and/or complete the annual professional performance reviews of classroom teachers within the District.

14. Approve the revised Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for 2017-2018.

15. Declare obsolete for the purpose of disposal and/or recycling, the items listed on the attached Textbook Removal form dated November 17, 2017.

C. Budget Transfers

Upon motion made by Kristin Ochtera, and seconded by John Giannotti, Jr., the following budget transfers were unanimously approved.

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following budget transfers:

- a. Transaction No. 18-0006
  - b. Transaction No. 18-0007
  - c. Transaction No. 18-0008
- D. Upon motion made by John Giannotti, Jr., and seconded by Neil Schloth, the CSE Recommendations were unanimously approved.
- E. Upon motion made by John Giannotti, Jr., and seconded by Kristin Ochtera, the CPSE Recommendations were unanimously approved.
7. Policy Matters
- 1. Policy for Review
    - a. 5300, Code of Conduct
8. Good and Welfare
- a. Congratulations to Eileen Levine and family on the birth of her daughter, Saoirse Lee, on October 23, 2017
  - b. Condolences to the Soto family on the passing of Jose Saglimbeni, father-in-law of Miguel Soto, and grandfather to Christian Soto
9. Superintendent's Report

Achievement:

During Superintendent's Conference Day, elementary school teachers and teaching assistants received basic Thinking Maps training. Each building has scheduled inter-classroom visitations for teachers to collaborate to better understand and teach students about text structure. After this cycle, the focus will be on author's craft which began this past week under the guidance of one of our educational consultants. Teachers from both buildings met for an entire day of professional development around author's craft and moved into observing model lessons conducted within their own classrooms to gain further insight and begin to use similar techniques within their own classrooms.

At the High School, Superintendent's Conference Day offered workshops on cultural competence, family engagement and differentiated workshops on Google Classroom.

Faculty participated in collegial circles to brainstorm how to maximize student academic achievement.

The high school administration is meeting with parents and students who are failing multiple subjects in the hope of improving grades and seeking ways to engage the families within the school in support of the students' academic efforts.

The high school administration and department chair staff are developing strategies to support

student preparation for January Regents and mid-term exams.

Congratulations to our girls' volleyball team who won the Nassau County Championship.

Seven cross-country runners participated in the NYS Championship in Wayne, New York.

Students in 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade social studies classes participated in the first annual *Artifact Project Day* where students bring in objects that represent themselves and the class was transformed into a "museum".

Science teachers met with a science research consultant to discuss how 7<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> grade science courses can prepare students for the possibility of taking science research in their future.

The K-12 Math Committee had its initial meeting. The committee will be using NWEA data to identify strengths and weaknesses in the elementary math program. That analysis will identify programs that best meet our students' needs and support our teachers. The committee will also make recommendations on changes to our program that lead to universal acceleration to algebra in eighth grade.

#### Opportunity:

Centre Avenue recently concluded its first *All Star Basketball Tournament* with sixth grade students. There were eight teams all together, with almost 30 students, who competed during recess to advance to the next round. On November 15th, the *Rockets* played against the *Knicks*. All teams showed great sportsmanship, integrity, and teamwork. The *Rockets* won the finals, and each player received custom made basketball T-shirts that the PTA generously donated. In the coming weeks, Centre will run additional basketball tournaments in fifth and sixth grade.

For the kindergarten's event for the month of November, Rhame Avenue plans to highlight and celebrate the Thanksgiving Day Parade in a special way. As part of a Social Studies Unit, the plan is to read the story *Balloons Over Broadway* by Melissa Sweet and learn how one of the most amazing parades in the world came to New York City. The origins of the parade are deep rooted in our history and the children are super excited to learn about it! After learning about the Thanksgiving Day Parade, we plan to bring this event to our school and title it "*Balloons Over Rhame Avenue School*." Students have created giant balloons of their favorite storybook characters, superheroes, and more! The Balloons will fill the hallways before Thanksgiving break on Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> as the kindergarten students parade through the entire school and wind up in the lobby where their parents will greet them and take pictures.

Forty-Five students in the Senior Class attended their Senior Banquet on Thursday, November 16, 2017.

*Alumni Day* will be celebrated on Wednesday, November 22, 2017. Recent alumni will address our student body on their college experiences and the transition from high school.



The PTA sponsored a Student Council hall decorating contest. The results were: Freshman; Juniors; Sophomores; and Seniors.

The Winter athletic season has begun:

High School: Boys' basketball, girls' basketball, wrestling, and competitive cheer

Middle School: Boys' basketball and girls' volleyball

The Mock Trial team competed at the annual Moot Court competition in Mineola earlier this month supported by Hofstra law student, Mike Pentola.

Science Research and AP Biology students took a field trip to the Cold Spring Harbor DNA Learning Center Lab in Lake Success. While there, students amplified a small region of their own mitochondrial DNA and used the produce as template for DNA cycle sequencing.

Students in AP Biology and AP Environmental Science conducted experiments at the Oceanside Marine Study Area on October 17, 2017. The students worked directly with Michael Farina, a conservation biologist, to draw conclusions based on their observations and experiments. Experiments included data collection of water quality and salt marsh ecology observations and inferences.

#### Connection:

Mr. Alex Goldberg will be offering a parent workshop on Google Classroom and Infinite Campus portal on December 11, 2017. You will be hearing more about this shortly.

On December 4, 2017, the East Rockaway Task Force will be presenting a community forum sponsored by Senator Kaminsky and Assemblywoman Melissa Miller, entitled *Vaping Danger in Disguise*. Guest speakers include Patricia Folan, Director of Northwell Health Center for Tobacco Control, the POP Unit of NCPD and Judi Vining of Long Beach Aware. We hope you will spread the word and join us for this important event. Vaping has become a concern for us.

The librarians from both elementary schools recently met with the East Rockaway and Lynbrook public librarians. During this meeting, the public librarians expressed an overwhelming desire to collaborate with the school staff. They would like to visit the schools to do read-alouds, demonstrate the public libraries' databases that can be accessed at home or school, and share different resources that are available to the community. A new service that both public libraries offer is called Tutor.com. This service connects students who have homework questions with graduate students and teachers. It offers a platform where tutors can virtually model how to solve a problem. With the Engage Every Family initiative this year, both schools plan to work closely with the public library to leverage their valuable resources and programs.

The Student Council conducted a community blood drive on November 13, 2017. There were 36 pints of blood donated. Thank you to all who supported this important event.

Parent-Teacher Conferences for all families were conducted at our schools during the month of November.

Students in health classes in the middle school had a guest speaker on dietary choices.

Peer Leader Mentoring has been developed with Maureen Schutta.

The Social Studies and Foreign Language departments support “Respect Day” by having students write connections to the assembly and displaying exemplars of student responses.

Algebra textbooks written in Spanish have been given to our ENL students in the Algebra regents course.

In support of Red Ribbon Week, the ERSD Prevention Task Force hosted its first event called “*Plant the Promise*”. On Thursday November 9, 2017, students planted red tulip bulbs at the Jr./Sr. High School, which will bloom in the spring and serve as a reminder of the importance and beauty of a drug free life. The *Plant the Promise* event was sponsored by the Prevention Task Force and led by Co-Chairs Laura Hastings, Director of Pupil Personnel Services and Kristen Mednick, Social Worker. Task Force member and Assistant Principal James DeTommaso, and Social Worker and Transition Coordinator, Maureen Schutta, also provided organizational support and planning for this event. Students from several programs and clubs participated, including students in the Skills and Achievement Class and their Peer Mentors, along with members of Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) and Pride Club-GSA”. The *Plant the Promise* materials/ kit was donated to the Prevention Task Force by member Mary Kate Lynch. Ms. Lynch served as the coordinator for a similar community prevention related organization that disbanded in 2014, influencing the district’s formation of the Prevention Task Force.

#### Innovation:

Centre Avenue sixth grade students have been using Nearpod during their recent lessons. Nearpod is an online resource with an interactive slideshow and assessment tool to engage students and promote collaboration. Students and teachers can receive immediate feedback by having them draw on a map, respond to a poll question, post to a collaboration board, or take a multiple-choice quiz. Students become active participants in their learning, and at the same time, teachers receive valuable feedback on student learning.

Students in Mrs. Schoen's 5th and 6th Grade Library/Computer classes started the year researching about internet safety. Students brainstormed topics as a group, then focused on a specific topic and created a public service announcement providing two ways people can stay safe. They are creating animated avatars, called Vokis, and are recording their PSAs over the Vokis. As a reflection, students will be asked to view their classmates' Vokis and create video responses about what they learned using FlipGrid. The Vokis will be posted on Mrs. Schoen's 21st Century Skills website for all to see.

Mrs. Healy has been hard at work as Rhame Avenue students have begun coding! They have been learning about loops, nested loops, and conditionals, as well as digital citizenship. Students have learned that computer science is an integral part of almost every industry and career field. The STEAM Program is helping to prepare them for their future careers, and the students are loving it!

Meetings have been held with key supervisory personnel to discuss the implications of acceleration in math and science for all junior high students.

The Global 9R classes have been using a digital curriculum based in google docs for lesson planning and curriculum development to develop the skills necessary for students to perform well on the new Global History Regents in 2019.

#### 10. Privilege of the Floor:

Trish Albate: Ms. Albate questioned the clarity and consistency of the cell phone use policy in the Code of Conduct; use of Google Classrooms for all teachers; cell phones for some classroom activities; and participation by students in classroom activities who do not have cell phones. Ms. Ruiz and Ms. Nicoletti stated that the District's cell phone policy is currently being revised and Ms. Ruiz will be happy to meet with her to discuss her concerns.

Randi O'Moore: Ms. O'Moore stated that she recently attended the best open school night at the *East Rockaway Jr./Sr. High School*. Teachers were all prepared. She thanked Ms. Ma for coordinating the basketball tournament at Centre Avenue School which her daughter participated in. She questioned the status of updating the field and fixing the bulkhead. Ms. O'Moore also asked the Board to consider the possibility of adding American Sign Language as a choice of languages. Ms. Nicoletti thanked Ms. O'Moore for the compliments and will bring the new language request to Ms. Hecht. Ms. Ruiz provided an update on the bulkhead and field as a "work in progress."

Christine Delvalle: Ms. DelValle wished much luck to Ms. Guggino-Hastings. She was very grateful for her assistance with her child and said she will be missed.

Tara Elias: Ms. Elias had questions regarding "vaping." Ms. Guggino-Hastings responded that the East Rockaway Prevention Task Force in conjunction with Senator Todd Kaminsky and Assemblywoman Melissa Miller will be conducting a presentation "Vaping Danger in Disguise" on December 4, 2017.

#### 11. Board Member Comments

John Giannotti, Jr.: Mr. Giannotti, Jr. congratulated Mr. Walter on his very brave act of saving those two young lives from the waters in Long Beach. He also congratulated Peter Wilson on receiving the Math Excellence Award. Mr. Giannotti, Jr. thanked Ms. Healy for her STEAM presentation. His daughter loves the program. He thanked everyone for coming out tonight and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Neil Schloth: Mr. Schloth thanked Ms. Guggino-Hastings her for her many years of service in the District. Her leadership at Rhame Avenue School, and her role as PPS Director, were exemplary. He admires her for reaching for the best results for our students. She clearly moved our schools forward and encouraged our students to reach for higher goals. He wishes her much success in her

new position.

Mr. Schloth also thanked Ms. Healy for our new STEAM program. Ms. Healy embraced the new program and made it a productive and appreciated program for our students. The enthusiasm exhibited by her students tonight shows the degree of student engagement Ms. Healy has been able to generate with her students.

Many thanks to Senator Kaminsky for his efforts to help our schools succeed. He has done more for our District than his predecessors and has made a difference here. Mr. Schloth wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving with family and friends and good will to all.

Kristin Ochtera: Ms. Ochtera piggy-backed on her fellow trustees' comments. She expressed deep gratitude for all stakeholders in the community who step up for our schools. Achievements set forth by previous board members have been met. It is now time for us to look forward with creative thinking and new initiatives which will set the stage for moving forward. It is a difficult and challenging endeavor and requires new thinking and staff to look at a world that doesn't exist yet and encourages them to think outside of their comfort zone. She is proud to be a part of this district and is excited about what it is going to look like going forward.

Patti Nicoletti: Ms. Nicoletti thanked the many people who work so hard in the District and it has made a big difference. For example, Peter Wilson, has made a difference in his accomplishments. Mr. Walter demonstrated a heroic act, is a role model, and has inspired all of us to do better. Thanks to the students who presented so well for the STEAM presentation, Ms. Guggino-Hastings and Ms. Healy. As both Ms. Ochtera and Mr. Schloth said, Ms. Healy, a veteran teacher, embraced the new program. What she likes best about the STEAM program, is "STEAM for all." Thanks to Ms. Guggino-Hastings for her vision and for allowing all the students to participate in the STEAM program. Thanks to the staff for their hard work all year long. She thanked Ms. Guggino-Hastings for giving her heart to the District. She will be missed. Ms. Nicoletti thanked her fellow board members. She gave a special "shout out" to Mr. Giannotti, Jr. and Ms. Ochtera who took time to be on the District's Policy sub-committee, which is one of the most important tasks of the Board of Education. Many thanks to the community members who consistently show up at the meetings to support our students. The addition of the crossing guard demonstrates our commitment to do the best for our students. Ms. Nicoletti invited everyone to the Work Session on December 12, 2017, and to the Board meeting on December 19, 2017. She wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and spending time with food and family.

Lisa Ruiz: Ms. Ruiz neglected to mention that a crossing guard has finally been hired. She thanked Mayor Romano for his assistance in procuring the guard. This is a prime example of how the Village and the District can work together for the best interest of our schools.

12. Upon motion made by Neil Schloth, and seconded by John Giannotti, Jr., and passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vitina Fazi  
District Clerk