

EAST ROCKAWAY UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
East Rockaway, New York
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
7:30 P.M. June 10, 2008– East Rockaway Jr. /Sr. High School
Preceded by a Presentation on Students' Artwork and a Public Forum

MINUTES

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Present: Members of the Board of Education: Mary Boccuzzi, Marie Girace, Vicki Alspector, Neil Schloth, Debbie Tufano, Superintendent, Dr. Roseanne Melucci; District Clerk, Denise Lobascio; staff and members of the community

Prior to the start of the meeting Mary Boccuzzi presented Debbie Tufano with a plaque in recognition of her years of service. Mary thanked Debbie for her hard work and her input to the board. Debbie was very touched and thanked the board and the community for the experience.

1. The meeting was called to order by Mary Boccuzzi at 7:55 pm and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Debbie Tufano.
2. Upon motion by Vicki Alspector, seconded by Marie Girace the minutes of the regular meeting of May 13, 2008 were unanimously approved.
3. Upon motion by Vicki Alspector, seconded by Marie Girace the minutes of the regular meeting of May 20, 2008 were unanimously approved.
4. Acknowledged receipt of Financial Reports for April 2008.
5. Mary Boccuzzi welcomed Neil Schloth, the newly elected Board member. Neil replied by thanking the community by giving him the chance to give his best effort to this job.
6. Correspondence – Three (3)

7. Action Agenda

Upon motion by Debbie Tufano, seconded by Neil Schloth, the following items #1 – 11 were unanimously approved:

A. Personnel:

1. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the request of Karin Leary for a child rearing leave of absence from her physical education teacher position, effective September 2, 2008 through January 29, 2009.
2. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, accept the resignation of Geoffrey Carr from the position of junior varsity assistant football coach, effective May 21, 2008.
3. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the probationary appointment of Patricia Woloszyn to the ten-month position of school nurse at St. Raymond's School, effective September 2, 2008, at the Step 1 annual salary set forth in the East Rockaway Nurses Association contract for the 2008 – 2009 school year.
4. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of James DeTommaso to the position of summer school principal, effective July 1, 2008 at the salary set forth on the Non-Bargaining Unit Salary Schedule established by the East Rockaway Board of Education for the 2008 – 2009 school

year.

5. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Marilyn Brekke to the position of summer school secretary, effective July 1, 2008 at the hourly salary established by the East Rockaway Secretaries Association contract for the 2008 – 2009 school year.
6. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, accept the resignation of Brian Bell from his position as a 12-month cleaner, effective June 6, 2008.
7. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, accept, with regret, the resignation of Patricia Guglielmo, for the purpose of retirement, from her position as senior stenographer 12-month, effective July 30, 2008.
8. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, accept the resignation of Phyllis Mott from her position as food service helper, effective June 1, 2008.
9. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Duke Tullo to the probationary position of 12-month cleaner, effective June 9, at the Step A annual salary set forth in the East Rockaway Custodial Unit agreement for the 2008 – 2009 school year.
10. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following temporary assignments at the salary approved by the East Rockaway Board of Education:
11. Jesse Baco, substitute teacher, effective May 28, 2008 through June 26, 2008
12. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the continuation of the emergency conditional personnel appointments for the following individuals pending receipt of notification of their fingerprint clearance from the State of New York, Department of Education:

Patricia Woloszyn

B. Other Items:

Upon motion by Marie Girace, seconded by Vicki Alspector the following items #1 – 11 were unanimously approved:

1. Approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the proposed 2008 – 2009 budget for school purposes in the total amount of \$32,004,070.00. Dollars be adopted, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District authorize the expenditure of said sum during the ensuing school year, and the necessary taxes upon the taxable property of the school district to meet said expenditures after first deducting the monies available from state aid and other sources.

2. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District readopt the following reserves:

1. Compensated Absences
2. Unemployment Reserves

3. Post Retirement Reserves
4. Employee Retirement System Reserves

AND that the Board of Education authorized the Director of Finance and Operations to fund said reserves at the end of each fiscal year.

3. Approve the resolution to issue Tax Anticipation Notes in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000 as more fully set forth on Attachment "A."
 4. Accept a donation from the East Rockaway High School Alumni Association in the sum of \$450 for two enclosed cork bulletin board display cases for the junior high school wing.
 5. Accept the \$1,000 scholarship from the New York State Association for Superintendents of School Buildings and Grounds (Nassau County Chapter) in honor of Jim Ristano for the "Trout in the Classroom Program" at East Rockaway Jr. /Sr. High School.
 6. Approve the contract with Helping Hands Behavior Outreach, Inc., socialization/respite program with ABA focus services, effective August 7, 2007 through June 30, 2008 and authorize the superintendent to execute the contract.
 7. Approve the lease agreement with East Meadow Driving School for the use of one (1) summer driver education vehicle, the terms of which are more particularly set forth in the said lease agreement and authorize the Superintendent of Schools to execute the agreement.
 8. Approve the contract for the wood shop dust collector to the lowest responsible bidder, Air Purifiers Inc. in the amount of \$19,850.00.
 9. Approve the contract dated May 19, 2008 with the Daytop Preparatory School for education instruction for the student whose name appears on the confidential attachment "A" and authorize the superintendent of schools to execute said contract.
 10. Approve the adoption of the Wilson Foundations Language Program for Phonics Instruction for Grades K-2.
 11. Accept a \$250.00 grant for the East Rockaway High School girls' athletic program from Women's Sports Foundation in honor of Kelli Hughes for her accomplishments as an outstanding student-athlete and dedication to community service.
- C. Upon motion by Debbie Tufano, seconded by Vicki Alspector the CSE Recommendations were unanimously approved.
- D. Approve the CPSE Recommendations - None
5. Policy Matters For Review:

Policy 1740, Relationship with Nonpublic Schools

6. Superintendent's Report.

I would like to thank the Board of Education for supporting my recommendations on items for the budget and also thank the community for supporting the schools and passing the budget.

Thank you to Debbie Tufano for all that she's done. I will miss her as part of the Board. She is a smart lady

and I have learned a great deal from working with her.

The seniors of the ALPSS program created an exit project and I have permission from one of the students to share her report with you. She wrote about what ALPSS meant to her, how fortunate she has been to be in the program, and how ALPSS made it possible for her to finish High School. She is looking forward to going on to college. Mrs. Morgan had the idea to create ALPSS for our students and under Dr. LoVerde's supervision it continues to flourish.

We have many things going on in our schools, some of which include:

- HS Awards recognition night was well done and well attended.
- Sen. Dean Skelos was at Rhame Avenue speaking to students in grades 5 & 6

about government.

- We had our science research forum at the High School which included an elementary science night.

- At Rhame, Grade 3 students participated in China Day and the Grade 5 students showcased their State reports at the Travel Symposium.

- We received the preliminary scores on the math tests taken this year. The students did well and the middle school scores show improvement.

- Grade 4 students from both schools are participating in the Historical retrospective being held at the Lynbrook Library.

- Rhame Avenue participated in a Flag assembly. The children learned how to treat a flag. Kate Murray, County Supervisor was also present.

- Grade 3 students entertained us with their recorder performances at both elementary schools. Thank you to Mrs. Lalama.

- With the \$1000 scholarship that we received through Mr. Ristano's organization we will start a Trout in the classroom program.

This will include habitat study, water resources, and water conservation. The funds will buy the equipment to start this program. Eventually the space we are using for the program will be a full living lab. A senior seminar student designed the mural for living lab as part of her senior project.

- The annual sports awards dinner took place at the end of May to honor our athletes.

- Our girls' varsity softball team made the County C championship.

- Heather Loughran tossed a perfect game on May 6th. With this win she has made school history.

- The Founders Day celebration was a success last month. I would like to thank all of the PTAs for their participation and thank Mr. Silk for his participation.

- Every month I give you the Social Emotional learning words. Dr. Mark Bracket, author of the program we are using, asked if he can come in talk to our students and teachers regarding the implementation of S/E learning in our schools.

- I would like to thank the legislators for the increase in state aid this year. I have sent them a letter to express our appreciation. Bob Barra gave us \$10000 towards the purchase of smart boards and in addition he is providing funds for the 5-6th grade summer program.

- Bob Emery, Director of Guidance received the counselor of the year award.

- Centre Avenue had a motivational assembly entitled "Yes You Can" where the speaker taught the children that the only limitations that we have are the ones we put on ourselves.

- Our puberty program is going on in grades 5 and 6.

- Kindergarten students went on a trip to the Museum of Natural History.

- Grade 2 is doing a project on insects called Build a Bug.

- We had our ESL end of the year picnic.
- 6th grade students visited the Jr./Sr. High School for an orientation program for 7th grade..
- Our Enterprise students raised \$2290.98 for Cerebral Palsy.
- The music awards program that was canceled last night due to the power outage will be held on Wednesday, at 7:00.

There will be a variety of summer projects throughout the district, some of which include: installing a dust collection system in the woodshop; replacing floor tiles on the 1st and 2nd floors of the high school; restoring the football tower; installing appropriate flooring for the weight room, and the masonry work at Centre Avenue.

We had an unfortunate surprise this morning. Someone painted the bell tower green last night. We are doing a complete investigation. The police were called and we are finding out the cost to clean it up. The police will charge the crime based on the cost. If you hear of or know of anything regarding this, please let us know.

7. Privilege of the Floor

One community member asked that the Board consider a showcase night at the elementary level where numerous grades could show their work at a time where parents can show up with child and encourage their work.

Another community member asked if there was a policy that dictates at what temperature the students can withstand during the day. Dr. Melucci replied there wasn't a policy, however, at the secondary level Mr. Fortgang advised the teachers where in the building there was air conditioning and encouraged them to use that space. Some students just left. At the elementary schools, the children didn't notice the heat. None of the students were expected to exert themselves in a gym class those days.

Another community mentioned the power failure of the day before and suggested that someone work with LIPA to have an emergency number where we can call in an emergency and get through.

A community member/future board member thanked Debbie Tufano for her dedication to the school district and the community. I will miss her and the board will. She congratulated Neil on his win.

8. Board Member Comments

Mary Boccuzzi mentioned that Mrs. Schmidt will be back as a board member July 1 and that she looks forward to working with her again.

Debbie Tufano – I would like to thank everyone for coming out tonight on this hot night. I would also like to thank everyone on the board. It has been a pleasure to work with all of you. Thank you members of the community. This has been an experience I will never forget. The veterans taught me so much. I am leaving you in capable hands.

Vicki Alspecter - Thank you everyone for coming and to the administrators that come every month. I would like to thank Debbie for her years of hard work. Congratulations to the softball team, graduates and scholarship winners.

Marie Girace - I thank everyone for coming. Mr. Bishop, thank you for the presentation. We have so many talented kids in all areas. Thanks to Debbie for her years of service and her wisdom and input to the board. We will miss you a lot. Welcome Linda and Neil.

Neil Schloth – Thank you for showing up. I look forward to working with everyone. I would like to thank Debbie Tufano who helped me through this process. The only thing I will miss is that I will not be able to work

with her, as she is a great leader and very dedicated. I would like to thank the community for putting me in this position and I will serve with open ears.

Mary Boccuzzi – First I would like to echo everyone. Thank you Mr. Bishop and Imara. I am amazed at anyone who can paint. Mrs. Alspector is quite the painter. I see the students in our district with great talent spanning academics and singing, dancing and acting. Thank you to the girls on the Varsity softball team, we wish them luck. I just want to say we welcome anyone's comments. We try to do the best for the most and sometimes that is not easy. Have a wonderful summer and we will see you in September.

9. Upon motion by Vicki Alspector, seconded by Marie Girace and unanimously approved the meeting was adjourned into executive session at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Lobascio
District Clerk