

EAST ROCKAWAY UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
East Rockaway, New York  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education  
7:30 P.M., April 12, 2011 – East Rockaway Jr./Sr. High School  
Preceded by a Curriculum Presentation – Elementary Computer Program and a Public Forum

MINUTES

Present: Members of the Board of Education: Linda Schmidt; Neil Schloth; Michaelene Abbott-Cooper; Patti Nicoletti; Kristin Ochtera; Superintendent, Dr. Roseanne Melucci; Director of Finance and Operations, Marcy Tannenbaum; and District Clerk, Denise Lobascio, members of the community

1. The meeting was called to order by Linda Schmidt at 7:57 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Neil Schloth.
2. Upon motion by Kristin Ochtera, seconded by Neil Schloth the minutes of the March 15, 2011 meeting were unanimously approved.
3. Acknowledged receipt of the February, 2011 financial reports.
4. Correspondence – One
5. Action Agenda

A. Personnel

Upon motion by Michaelene Abbott-Cooper, seconded by Patti Nicoletti the following items #1-10 were unanimously approved:

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request for an extension of the child rearing leave of absence of Deanna Mignella from her mathematics teacher position, effective July 1, 2011 through the end of the fall semester of the 2011 – 2012 school year.
2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the resignation of Courtney DeMarco for the position of teacher aide, effective March 24, 2011.
3. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the probationary appointment of Barbara Winters to the position of senior typist clerk, 10-month, effective May 2, 2011, at the prorated Step A annual salary set forth in the East Rockaway Secretaries Association Contract for the 2010-2011 school year.
4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the resignation of Sheri Hummel from her position as the After School Program Assistant at the Centre Avenue School, effective June 30, 2011, and further approve the appointment of Sheri Hummel to the position of After School Program Director at the Centre Avenue School, effective September 6, 2011, at the hourly salary set forth by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for the 2011-2012 school year.
5. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the resignation of Patricia Mendoza from the position of food service worker, effective March 31, 2011.
6. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Lisa Pennstrom to the position of food service worker, effective March 30, 2011, at the Step 1 hourly salary set forth in the East Rockaway Food Service & Monitor Union contract for the 2010-2011 school year.
7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of David Simpson to the position of permanent substitute teacher, effective April 27, 2011, through June 30, 2011, at the per diem salary established

by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the non-contractual salary schedule for the 2010-2011 school year.

8. 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 the 2010-2011 school year:
  - a. Stennett McCarthy, substitute cleaner, effective March 13, 2011
  - b. Amira Sharfeldine, substitute food service worker, effective April 13, 2011
  - c. John Denny, substitute teacher, effective April 6, 2011
9. 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:

None

10. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District approves the preferral of charges pursuant to Civil Service Law Section 75 against the individual named in Confidential Attachment "A"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education designates and appoints Richard Thompson, Esq., to serve as hearing officer in said matter.

#### B. Other Items

Upon motion by Neil Schloth, seconded by Michaelene Abbott-Cooper, the following items #1-23 were unanimously approved:

1. Approve the budget to be presented for public vote on May 17, 2011 in the amount of Thirty-Four Million, Three Hundred Seventeen Thousand, Nine Hundred Fifty-Nine Dollars and No/100 (\$34,317,959.00) Dollars.

2. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT HEREBY RESOVLED that the Board of Education of the East Rockaway UFSD approves the real property tax report card prepared by the district's business office for the 2011 Annual District Meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of said report card shall be submitted to the State Education Department by the end of the next business day following this approval.

3. Approve for the purpose of disposal as obsolete the textbooks specifically listed on the attached Textbook Removal Form.
4. Approve for the purpose of disposal one (1) Baldwin upright piano, Log No. 000721.
5. Approve for the purpose of disposal as obsolete and/or broken the equipment more fully set forth on the attached Memorandum, *Items for Disposal*.
6. Approve the terms and conditions of the contract with GWJ Consultants LTD for professional development services, *Inclusion Training for Teachers*, during the period March 8, 2011, through June 24, 2011, and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the Board of Education.
7. Approve the contract with Rolling River Day School and Camp for the rental of parking spaces for the 2011 summer camp season and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract.

8. Approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, a number of public school districts in Nassau County wish to jointly solicit proposals, together with the Nassau Board of Cooperative Educational Services (“BOCES”) for pupil transportation services for the 2011-2012 school year (and any renewal period) in accordance with the applicable provisions of General Municipal Law;

WHEREAS, the public school districts and the BOCES have agreed to form a Cooperative (the “Cooperative”) for this purpose;

WHEREAS, the East Rockaway Union Free School District, is desirous of participating in the Cooperative for joint solicitation of proposals for pupil transportation services as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-0 in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Inter-Municipal Cooperative Transportation Agreement attached hereto; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorizes the East Rockaway Union Free School District to participate in the Cooperative.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the Inter-Municipal Cooperative Transportation Agreement attached hereto and authorizes the Board President to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.

9. Approve the contract for consultation services with Nancy Nunziata, Pupil Transportation Consultant, for the period July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012, and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education, a participant in the Southwest Quadrant Transportation consortium.
10. Approve the participation of East Rockaway School District in the cooperative bid conducted by Garden City Schools on behalf of the participating school districts for automotive supplies, materials, parts as more fully set forth on the attached resolution and authorize the District Clerk to file the resolution with Garden City UFSD.
11. Accept a donation in the sum of Five Hundred (\$500) Dollars from the East Rockaway Alumni Association for showcases for the Music Department.
12. Accept a donation in the sum of Five Hundred (\$500) Dollars from the East Rockaway High School PTA for showcases for the Music Department.
13. Accept a donation in the sum of Seven Hundred (\$700) Dollars from the Centre Avenue School PTA to assist in covering the costs of Centre Avenue School field trips.
14. Accept a donation in the sum of One Thousand Three Hundred Thirty (\$1,330) Dollars from Centre Avenue School PTA to reduce the per student cost of the Greenkill Overnight Field Trip.
15. Approve the terms and conditions of the contract with RCP Consultants Inc. for NCLB Consolidated Grant Application Training for the period July 1, 2011 through August 31, 2011 and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the Board of Education.
16. Approve the admission of Freeport UFSD Student I.D. No.180007155 to attend the East Rockaway Public Schools for the period March 17, 2011, through June 24, 2011 and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the resulting tuition agreement between the Board of Education of East Rockaway UFSD and the Board of Education of Freeport UFSD.
17. Approve the award of the contract for the purchase and installation of air conditioning and heating units to the lowest responsible bidder(s) more particularly set forth on the attached Facilities Directors Consortium Bid, AC Split Systems April 2011 Summary; and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contracts on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education, a participant in the Rockville Centre Cooperative, a purchasing consortium, should the need arise.
18. Approve the terms and conditions of the contract with Career & Educational Counseling Center at The Long Island Home d/b/a South Oaks Hospital for Level II Assessments /Vocational Evaluations and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.

19. Approve the contract with Bio Sense Pest Management, Inc. for termite treatment services for the period March 10, 2011 through June 30, 2011, and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.

20. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that approval is hereby granted to enter into agreement with the following individuals/firms for student related services, as indicated, in the Requests for Proposal published in Newsday on March 4, 2011, for the 2011-2012 school year, and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the resulting service contracts on behalf of the Board of Education.

**PROVIDERS:**

Access 7 Consulting, Inc., All About Kids, Bilinguals, Blue Sea Educational Consulting, Carina Atteritano, Creative Tutoring, Dr. Caryl Oris, Helping Hands Behavioral Outreach, Horizon Healthcare Staffing, Islip Tutoring, Kids First, Maxim Staffing, Metro Therapy, New York Therapy Placement, St. James Tutoring Inc., Syosset Tutoring, Team Therapy, Thera Care, Top Grade, Variety Child Learning Center.

21. Approve the revised non-contractual unit salary schedule for the 2010-2011 school year.

22. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District approves the Amendment dated April 12, 2011, to the East Rockaway Secretaries Association Contract, dated July 28, 2010, clarifying the terms and conditions of employment for the part-time unit members under said contract.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent of Schools is authorized to execute the Amendment on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.

23. Approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District has determined that six (6) automatic external defibrillators (AEDs) are in need of replacement to be in compliance with Article 30, Section 3000-B (a)(A) of the Public Health Law resulting in an emergency situation requiring their immediate replacement in order to maintain the district's Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) Program; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby declares the emergency purchase of said automatic external defibrillators to be an ordinary contingent expense and authorizes the Director of Finance and Operations to make the appropriate and necessary transfer(s) between budgetary contingent expenditure codes to fund such expense.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the terms and conditions of the purchase agreement with Cardiac Science for six (6) automatic external defibrillators is approved and the President of the Board of Education is authorized to execute said agreement on behalf of the Board of Education, and the Director of Finance and Operations is authorized to take any necessary steps to complete the purchase.

**C. Budget Transfers**

1. Upon motion by Patti Nicoletti, seconded by Kristin Ochtera the following budget transfers were unanimously approved:

- a. Transaction No. 11-0024
- b. Transaction No. 11-0025

Upon motion by Michaelene Abbott-Cooper, seconded by Patti Nicoletti the following items D & E were

unanimously approved:

D. CSE Recommendations

E. CPSE Recommendations

6. Policy Matters for Review

- a. ER 004.6 Investment Policy
- b. ER 007.24 Homeless Children
- c. ER 007.24-R Homeless Children Regulation

7. Superintendent's Report

Here's what's happening in our schools.

The National Junior Honor Society is sponsoring a trip to Liberty Science Center where students will view live open heart surgery via distant learning technology. The environmental science class is planning a trip to the Bay Park Sewage Treatment Plant to learn more about this facility that is right in their neighborhood. The forensic science class will once again visit Tanglewood Science Center as part of their final exam. Students will participate in a simulated crime scene as part of the field portion of their final.

The Science Leadership Club is in the process of building a Greenhouse at the high school. The East Rockaway Science Department now has a compost program in the back of the school. Unused fruits and vegetable will develop into nutritious compost that can later be used in the Greenhouse. Students in Science Leadership will also help the East Rockaway Tree Board plant trees throughout the community on April 30th. The Science Department will be presenting the 4th Annual Family Science Night on June 7th at 6:30 pm. Marine Biology, a new science elective, is scheduled to start in the fall. Seventy juniors and seniors registered for the class.

Our annual Shakespeare study is underway with students reading a variety of works- English 9R/H Romeo and Juliet; English 10R/H Macbeth; English 11R Othello; English 12R Hamlet. The Annual Poetry Contest is coming to a conclusion. I will be reporting out our final four entries next month.

As we get ready for our annual budget vote our students are learning about voter's rights in their social studies classes and focusing on voter responsibility.

From Rhame Avenue School, grade 3 students enjoyed a presentation on butterflies from South America. This presentation was the beginning of a unit on animal life cycles. Grade 5 students are studying about the Lewis and Clarke expedition. They filmed themselves solving problems as explorers and will be presenting their work using movie maker software. Grade 6 had its annual science fair and sent the visitors on a scavenger hunt for answers based on the science experiments. The Centre Avenue Sixth grade Science Fair will be held on April 27<sup>th</sup> 7-8PM. Grade 6 students from both schools will be participating in the annual outdoor environmental program at Greenkill this week, April 13-15.

This week is National Library Week, April 11-16, community members have been invited to attend the Great Rhame Avenue Read Aloud. They will be reading to the students during their normal library times.

To encourage reading Rhame Avenue sponsored a "Read Like a Rock Star!" whereby during this two week program, school activities and incentives have been planned to encourage reading. The class with the most minutes read will win a reading prize!

The Centre Avenue Students are learning different forms of dance to improve cardio vascular health.

I am pleased to announce that Mr. Joe Lores has been selected as Section VIII Coach of the Year by the Basketball coaches Association of New York. Congratulations Joe!

ERHS received 1<sup>st</sup> place at the Annual Music in the Parks Competition/Performance in Williamsburg, Virginia this past weekend.

The Centre Avenue PTA was treated to Music in our Schools presentation at last week's

meeting. Mrs. Lalama and her NYSSMA students were outstanding singing, and playing their instruments.

The SEL words of the month are:

Centre Avenue Grade 6- Anxiety and Self-esteem

Rhame Avenue Grade 6 – Compromise, Attitude, Obstacles and Optimistic. Students are also creating posters on self-esteem.

Grade 7—Apprehension and Sibling-Rivalry

Grade 8—Sadistic and Inhibition

In other news, at this weekend's NYS Key Club Leadership Conference, Dylan Gross received the New York State "Super Distinguished" District Lieutenant Governor Award. This award was considered "Super" because Dylan received two separate awards; the Distinguished District Lieutenant Governor Award and the Outstanding District Lieutenant Governor Award. They combined both awards and called it the "Super Distinguished" award. Dylan was one of 22 Lieutenant Governors at the convention. We are all extremely proud of Dylan's accomplishments.

Our High School quiz bowl team finished the season ranked 5<sup>th</sup> on Long Island and 2<sup>nd</sup> out of ten teams in their division. Congratulations to Mrs. Orzano and her team!

Centre Avenue Grandparent's day is being held on April 29<sup>th</sup> 9-10:30 AM. Centre Avenue PTA Dad's Breakfast was on Saturday, 4/9 from 9-11 AM.

We recently conducted a security audit with the Nassau County Police Department for all three schools. Overall, we were pleased with the report. We have analyzed the results and will be making some changes in fencing, lighting, signage, ventilation and communication systems as per the recommendations from this audit.

Last week we received an email regarding a threat of violence toward school buses. We informed our bus drivers of this threat and discussed the measures they should take to be vigilant.

I want to remind the public that at this May's vote we will once again have three propositions: The operating budget, the technology reserve and the facilities reserve. Using the reserves keeps these items out of the budget. To spend from the reserves requires voter approval. We will be posting the particulars of the reserves on our website under the Business Office Information page. The annual budget hearing is on Thursday, May 5, 2011.

Follow-up From Prior Meeting

Community Survey - We are still waiting for it to go live and I will keep you informed.

Hand Sanitizers - I asked the principals to check the areas where we have hand sanitizers to make sure they are in working order as well as to tell me some additional locations for new dispensers. We will be adding hand sanitizers to the HS Mac lab, elementary gyms, Rhame Avenue music room and high school main office. They already exist in each of the cafeterias and computer labs.

Teachers contract for public comment before approval -The Board feels that this is an area where disclosing such documents would not be beneficial to the negotiations process.

Dress code/school uniforms - Mr. Fortgang has surveyed other principals on Long Island and those who responded do not have a dress code in place. The HS administrators will be working more closely with the classroom teachers to enforce the expectations for appropriate dress at school.

That concludes my report.

## 8. Privilege of the Floor

- Leave replacements for teachers on maternity leave.
- Rock Rivalry
- SAT preparation
- Science research class
- Kindergarten size at Centre Ave.
- Consolidation

## 9. Board Member Comments

**Michaelene Abbott-Cooper** – Thank you Mrs. Maini, Mrs. Strugatz and Mrs. Kreit for the

presentation. I participated in the Rhame Ave. read aloud program this week. Enjoy the vacation. Thank you for coming out and adding to our discussions. I hope you all come out May 17<sup>th</sup> to pass the budget.

**Patti Nicoletti** – Congratulations to the High School Band. Thank you elementary computer staff for the presentation. Thank you all for coming out and sharing your suggestions. It shows that you care. Your suggestions help us to move forward. Our budget hearing is May 5<sup>th</sup>. Come join us and tell your neighbors.

**Kristin Ochtera** – Thank you for coming.

**Neil Schloth** – Ditto. I would like to mention that I am running for the Board of Education this year and would like to ask for your support. The vote is the same night as the budget vote.

**Linda Schmidt** – Thank you for coming. We take your comments very seriously and want what's best for the children. Thank you Mr. Piccarella and the teachers for the presentation. Enjoy your vacation.

10. Upon motion by Neil Schloth, seconded by Michaelene Abbott-Cooper and unanimously passed, the meeting was adjourned at 9:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Lobascio  
District Clerk