

EAST ROCKAWAY UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
East Rockaway, New York
Meeting of the Board of Education
7:30 PM, June 11, 2013 – East Rockaway Jr/Sr High School Auditorium
Preceded by a Presentation from the President of the
East Rockaway Education Foundation and a Public Forum

MINUTES

Present: Members of the Board of Education: Kristin Ochtera; Linda Schmidt, Neil Schloth; Patti Nicoletti, John Giannotti, Jr.; Superintendent, Dr. Roseanne Melucci; and 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 by Kristin Ochtera at 7:35 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Linda Schmidt.
2. Upon motion by Linda Schmidt, seconded by Neil Schloth the minutes of the May 14, 2013 and May 21, 2013 meetings were unanimously approved.
3. Acknowledge Receipt of Financial Reports – April 2013
4. Correspondence – Two
5. Action Agenda

A. Personnel

Upon motion by Patti Nicoletti, seconded by Neil Schloth, the following items #1-20 were unanimously approved:

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, correct Personnel Item, No. 10 on the May 14, 2013, agenda and minutes to read:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the probationary appointment of Jennifer Spiteri to the position of school guidance counselor (tenure area: guidance counselor; certification status: provisional), effective August 22, 2013, through August 21, 2016, at the MA, Step 1 (plus stipend), annual salary set forth in the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for the 2013-2014 school year.

2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the following resignations:
 - a. Edward Reicherter, junior varsity assistant football coach, effective May 16, 2013
 - b. Hannah Park, probationary elementary teacher, effective June 30, 2013

- c. Jacqueline Partos, assistant cook, effective June 21, 2013
 - d. Nicholas Tomasso, per diem substitute teacher, effective June 21, 2013
 - e. Melissa Negrin, food service worker, effective June 21, 2013
3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept, with regret, the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Jerrilyn Kosotan, from her teacher aide position, effective June 30, 2013.
 4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept, with regret, the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Colleen Shepis from her teacher aide position, effective June 21, 2013.
 5. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent, approve the request for a child rearing leave of absence of Rachele Kempton from her special education teacher position, effective June 13, 2013, through October 4, 2013.
 6. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request for an unpaid leave of absence of Allison Corvi, effective June 5, 2013, through September 13, 2013.
 7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Melinda Best to the position of ESL teacher for the Jump Start Program, effective July 29, 2013, to August 2, 2013, at the hourly salary established by the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for Other Educational Assignments for the 2013-2014 school year.
 8. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following special education summer school appointments, effective July 8, 2013, through August 16, 2013, at the hourly salary established by the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for Other Educational Assignments for the 2013-2014 school year:

Kathleen Crowley	Special Education Teacher
Kristen Donovan	Special Education Teacher
Allison Gerbert.....	Special Education Teacher
Randi Kilcommons	Resource Room Teacher
Tina Smith.....	School Psychologist
Bethany Kinkaid	Speech/Language Teacher
Jane Faiella.....	Reading Teacher
Eileen Levine	Substitute Teacher
Sara Licklider	Substitute Teacher

9. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following special education summer school teacher aide appointments, effective July 8, 2013, through

August 16, 2013, at the hourly salary established by the East Rockaway Teacher Aides Association contract for the 2013-2014 school year:

Jessica Giliberti
Janet Block
Stefanie Medina

10. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Janine Milazzo to the position of summer school nurse for the special education summer school program, effective July 8, 2013, through August 16, 2013, at the hourly salary established by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for the 2013-2014 school year.
11. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Francesca DeVivo to the position of summer monitor, effective July 8, 2013, through August 16, 2013, at the Step 11 hourly salary established by the East Rockaway Food Service and Monitors Union agreement for the 2013-2014 school year.
12. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following temporary *summer* assignments, effective July 8, 2013, through August 16, 2013, at the salary approved by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for the 2013-2014 school year:

Jeanne Abrami, substitute teacher aide
Carolyn Fernandez, substitute teacher aide
Jill Toy, substitute teacher aide
Gina Sardegna, substitute teacher aide
Melissa Hawxhurst, substitute summer monitor
Alice Calabrese, substitute summer school nurse

13. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following appointments for summer CSE/CPSE meetings, effective July 1, 2013, through August 31, 2013, at the hourly salary set forth in the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for Other Educational Assignments for the 2013-2014 school year:

James Hickey	General Education Teacher
Bethany Kinkaid	Special Education Teacher
Eileen Levine	Special Education Teacher
Tina Smith.....	School Psychologist

14. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the fall coaching assignments more fully set forth on the 2013-2014 Fall Coaching Schedule at the stipended salary set forth in the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for the

2013-2014 school year.

15. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Wendy Beauchesne to the position of permanent substitute teacher, effective October 1, 2013, through June 26, 2014, at the per diem salary established by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the non-contractual salary schedule for the 2013-2014 school year.
16. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Reneé Duncan to the probationary position of school nurse, effective August 27, 2013, at the Step 2 annual salary set forth in the East Rockaway Nurses Association contract for the 2013-2014 school year
17. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the probationary appointment of Heather Loughran to the position of teaching assistant, (tenure area: teaching assistant; certification status: initial), effective August 29, 2013, through August 28, 2016, at the Step 2, annual salary set forth in the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for teaching assistants for the 2013-2014 school year.
18. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve appointment of Andrew Cangemi to the position of leave replacement English teacher, effective August 29, 2013, through January 31, 2014, at the prorated MA, Step 1 annual salary established by the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for the 2013-2014 school year.
19. 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 2012-2013 school year:
 - a. Bethany Kinkaid, Short Term Substitute Teacher (speech/language), effective May 10, 2013, through June 21, 2013.
 - b. Dawn Grochmal, substitute teacher aide, effective June 11, 2013
20. 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 2013-2014 school year:
 - a. Jody Delegianis, substitute school nurse, effective July 1, 2013

B. Other

1. Upon motion by Linda Schmidt, seconded by Neil Schloth, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District appoints Lisa Ruiz as Superintendent of Schools, effective August 1, 2013, upon the terms and conditions of employment set forth in the agreement dated June 11, 2013; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board President of the Board of Education is authorized to execute said agreement on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.

Upon motion by Neil Schloth, seconded by Patti Nicoletti, the following items #2-6 were unanimously approved:

2. Accept the following donations for the purpose of replacing instructional items lost and/or for the restoration of district facilities damaged in Hurricane Sandy:

For Deposit to Special Aid Revenue Account F-216-2112-200:

- a. \$15,000.00 from the East Rockaway Education Foundation
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3. Accept the following donations of musical instruments having a combined estimated value of \$4,625.00 for the Music Department from Farmington Public Schools to replace instruments lost or damaged in Hurricane Sandy:
 - a. Three trumpets
 - b. Five flutes
 - c. Two baritone horns
 - d. One trombone
 - e. Five alto saxophones
 - f. Four clarinets
 - g. One tenor saxophone
 4. Accept a donation of a Carrier Spinnet piano valued at \$350.00 from the Collins family for the Music Department to be located at Rhame Avenue School.
 5. Accept the following donations to the Rhame Avenue School for the purpose of purchasing books and supplies:

For Deposit to Special Aid Expenditure Account No. F213-2113-400-00-0000:

 - a. \$7,410.46 from East Elementary School, New Canaan, Connecticut
 - b. \$1,374.00 from McGraw Communications
 - c. \$50.00 from Lorraine Liberti
 6. Accept a donation in the sum of \$2,000.00 from an anonymous donor to be used specifically towards the guided level library or to enhance the reading program at Centre Avenue Elementary School.

Upon motion by Patti Nicoletti, seconded by Linda Schmidt, the following items #7-16 were unanimously approved:

7. WHEREAS, the District has been offered and accepted the donation of certain services and other valuable benefits by Rent the Runway, Inc. ("RTR") to be used towards the High School's Senior Prom, including the donation of dresses, tuxedo rentals, a celebrity music performance, DJ, decorations, photographer and college study help benefits; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that in connection with the foregoing, the Board of Education hereby ratifies and approves the Location Contract between the District and Hudson and Sunset Media, LLC and hereby authorizes the Board President to execute the location contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.

8. Approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District has heretofore duly established the following reserves:

- a. Capital Reserve for Building Improvements and Repairs
- b. Capital Reserve for Technology
- c. Reserve for Retirement Contributions

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District authorize the Director of Finance and Operations to fund the reserves and assign an amount from the unappropriated fund balance as follows:

Transfer From	Transfer To	Amount Not to Exceed
General Fund's Unappropriated Fund Balance		\$1,350,000.00
	Capital Reserve for Building Improvements and Repairs	\$200,000.00
	Capital Reserve for Technology	\$200,000.00
	Reserve for Retirement Contributions	\$800,000.00
	Assigned for School Lunch Fund	\$150,000.00

9. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Education Law section 2034(6)(b), the Board of

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Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District orders the opening and the unsealing of the ballot box for the May 15, 2012, Budget Vote and Election and for all previous District meetings and elections and orders the destruction of all ballots contained therein.

10. Approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the proposed 2013-2014 budget for school purposes in the total amount of Thirty-Six Million Eight Hundred Forty-Three Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-Eight Dollars (\$36,843,428.00) be adopted, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District authorizes 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.

11. Approve the resolution to issue Tax Anticipation Notes in the sum not to exceed Ten Million (\$10,000,000.00) Dollars as more fully set forth on the attached Schedule "A."
12. Approve the award of the contract for the Exterior Gutter Replacement at East Rockaway High School and Centre Avenue Elementary School, Capital Improvement Program No. 28-02-19-03-0-001-033 and No. 28-02-19-03-0-003-015 respectively, to the lowest responsible bidder, Capitol Restoration Corp., and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
13. Approve the award of the contract for investigative services for the 2013-2014 school year to the lowest responsible bidder, Global Investigative Services, as more fully set forth in the Cooperative Bid for Investigative Services and authorize the Director of Finance & Operations to execute the resulting contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
14. Approve the contract with Custom Clay for reconstruction of sod for the athletic fields damaged by Hurricane Sandy and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
15. Approve the contract with Mary Joe Brown for physical therapy services for the special education summer program, effective, July 8, 2013, through August 16, 2013, and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.

16. Approve the admission of one Valley Stream UFSD # 13 student, Student I.D. No. 83110001 to attend the East Rockaway Public Schools for the 2012- 2013 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.

C. Budget Transfers

1. Upon motion by Neil Schloth, seconded by Linda Schmidt, the following budget transfers were unanimously approved:
 - a. Transaction No. 13-0011
 - b. Transaction No. 13-0012
 - c. Transaction No. 13-0013
 - d. Transaction No. 13-0014

D. Upon motion by Patti Nicoletti, seconded by Linda Schmidt the CSE Recommendations were unanimously approved.

6. Policy Matters

1. Upon motion by Linda Schmidt, seconded by Neil Schloth, the following policies were unanimously adopted:
 - a. 5000, Student Policies Goals
 - b. 5020.3, Rights of Students With Disabilities Under Section 504
 - c. 5040, Prayer in Schools
 - d. 5130, Compulsory Attendance Ages
 - e. 5152, Admission of Non-Resident Students
 - f. 5182, Release Time for Religious Instruction
 - g. 5252, Student Activities Funds Management
 - h. 5450.1, Notification of Sex Offenders
 - i. 5710, Violent and Disruptive Incident Reporting
 - j. 8410, Student Transportation
 - k. 9240, Recruiting and Hiring
2. For Review:
 - a. 5162, 5162-R, Student Dismissal Precautions and Regulation
 - b. 5210, Student Organizations
 - c. 5440.1, Student Alcohol Testing (Breathalyzer)
 - d. 8413, Transportation for Non-Public School Students

7. Superintendent's Report

Congratulations to Kristin and Patti on being reelected to the Board. Thank you to the East Rockaway community for supporting the budget last month and supporting the technology and facilities reserves. Congratulations and welcome to Mrs. Ruiz. I look forward to helping your transition to your new position. Here's what's happening in our schools.

The ERHS annual Awards Recognition Night took place last Thursday, June 6th. We thank our parents for coming out to support their children. Yesterday was the last day of classes at ERHS. Our teachers and students are now in the process of administering the remaining final and State exams. I would like to remind parents and students that respectful behavior is expected for the end of the school year. We have all been through a great deal this year and we expect to conclude the year with peaceful and appropriate celebrations and ceremonies. Parents, speak with your children to make sure they are not getting themselves involved in something that is inappropriate and in violation of the Code of Conduct.

At Centre Avenue this week students in Grade 6 will present their Country Food Fest Reports. Grade 5 students will present Avatars on Greek and Roman gods as they relate to the planets and moons. Students in Grades 3-6 are preparing for the Talent Show on June 12th from 6-8 PM. Many CA field trips will be taking place this month. Some are combined trips with Centre Avenue and Rhame Avenue students: Gr. 6 Liberty Science museum, Grade 4 to Madame Tussauds, Grade 1 to the Queens Zoo, and Grade 2 will visit Memorial park with their Rhame Avenue counter parts.

In Athletics, congratulations to our Girls Varsity Softball team on their success as Nassau County Champs. Elementary Students are preparing and practicing for this year's field day in Physical Education classes. Field Day is scheduled for Friday, June 14th.

I am pleased to let you know that Mr. Schloen will assume the responsibilities as the department chairperson for Fine Arts for next year. I want to thank Mr. Fortgang for his transition services this year and I don't know what we would have managed the aftermath of Sandy without him.

Under the heading of SEL, the Centre Avenue Garden of Kindness has 350 photos of the students with Flowers showing their good deeds. Also, I am very proud of our High School students who are conducting fund raisers for the students and families in Oklahoma. They realize how much support we received after the hurricane and they are paying it forward to help others. These are truly exceptional young men and women and parents you deserve credit as well for raising children who recognize the importance of helping others. I invite you to search East Rockaway to Oklahoma on You Tube to see the video that our students put together and will send to Moore, Oklahoma.

The students at Rhame Avenue and Centre Avenue are also paying it forward. The students from both schools, formally known as CARE---Centre Avenue Rhame Elementary, are collecting summer materials for children in Oklahoma.

In other news, the 2013 ERHS Yearbook has been inducted into the Walsworth Yearbooks' Gallery of Excellence. You may recall that we earned this honor for the 2012 yearbook. The company told us that they have never had a school earn this award for two consecutive years. Congratulations to Mr. Schloen, Ms. Smith and the yearbook staff for an outstanding publication.

Summer reading assignments at the elementary schools will be posted on the website along with our HS Summer Reading program. Also posted will be the elementary school supply lists.

Last month a parent asked a question about speed limit signs in front of Centre Avenue. Mr. Silk has verified that speed limit signs are posted.

In closing I would like to thank everyone for their support throughout the years and to thank those who asked questions, which gave us all an opportunity to reflect and make changes where changes needed to be made. I am happy to leave you with a passed budget and in capable hands. I will see some of you at my last Board meeting in July. Have a wonderful summer everyone!
That concludes my report.

8. Privilege of the Floor

- Several community members voiced their thanks and regards to Dr. Melucci for her years of service.
- Another community member congratulated Kristin and Patti for their reelection and Dr. Melucci on her retirement.

9. Board Member Comments

John Giannotti, Jr. – Dr. Melucci, it has been a privilege to work with you. You and the members of the board have made my transition very easy. Best of luck.

Patti Nicoletti – I would like to thank the community for their show of support last month. I look forward to working with my fellow board members and our new Superintendent. I want to wish a warm welcome to Mrs. Ruiz to our school district.

As I have mentioned before, there is a huge learning curve in being a Board of Education member. I have completed all the necessary training and then some but I would like you to know that some of the most important things I have learned about managing a school district, I have learned from working with and watching our retiring Superintendent, Dr. Melucci. She has taught me how a person must base their decision on fact, education law, school policy, past practice...but always that decision has been made with compassion and sensitivity, whether toward a student or staff member. She has always handled herself with grace, even in the face of adversity. To quote lyrics from a song from one of my favorite musicals, *Wicked*, which is no reflection on her; "Because I knew you, I have been changed for good." Thank you for all of your tireless dedication to our children. You will be missed.

Neil Schloth – I would like to acknowledge the Leadership and Guidance that Dr. Melucci brought to our School District. Dr. Melucci worked very hard to help our School District survive thru tough economic times and the worst Hurricane that ever hit East Rockaway. I truly believe that her efforts allowed our School District to improve and move forward during a period of drastic Financial cuts by the New York State Government. Dr. Melucci showed much courage and dedication to our Schools while trying new programs and strategies to improve our School district. I wish Dr. Melucci much happiness in her retirement and thank her for the Outstanding job she did for our School District!

Linda Schmidt – Thank you to the Education Foundation for the donation. Congratulations to the retirees. Thank you for supporting the budget. Mrs. Ruiz, I look forward to moving

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forward. Dr. Melucci, it has been an honor and privilege working with you all these years. Thank you all for coming.

Kristin Ochtera – Congratulations to the softball team, the music awards and the academic award winners. What a great outcome to a “horrible year” with much support. Dr. Melucci, thank you for the past three years. You are certainly a pillar of strength. Thank you for your years of service.

10. Upon motion by Linda Schmidt, seconded by Neil Schloth and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Lobascio
District Clerk