

EAST ROCKAWAY UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
East Rockaway, New York
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
7:30 P.M., April 24, 2014 - East Rockaway Jr. /Sr. High School
Preceded by Recognition of Reflection Contest Winners, Presentation on
STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics)
and a Public Forum

MINUTES

Present: Kristin Ochtera, President; Patti Nicoletti; Neil Schloth; Linda Schmidt; Lisa J. Ruiz, Superintendent; Dr. Joan Colvin, Director of Finance and Operations; John Piccarella, Director of Curriculum and Technology; Denise Lobascio, District Clerk.

Absent: John Giannotti, Jr.

1. The meeting was called to order by Kristin Ochtera at 7:40 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Neil Schloth.
2. Upon motion by Patti Nicoletti, seconded by Neil Schloth the minutes of the March 11, 2014 and April 8, 2014 meetings were unanimously approved.
3. Acknowledged Receipt of Financial Reports – February 2014
4. Correspondence - Two
5. Action Agenda

A. Personnel

Upon motion by Linda Schmidt, seconded by Patti Nicoletti the following items numbered 1 – 11 were unanimously approved:

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept, with regret, the following resignations for the purpose of retirement:
 - a. Lorraine Donlon, Reading Teacher, effective July 14, 2014
 - b. Susan DuBeau, Special Education Teacher, effective July 1, 2014
 - c. Daniel Ezell, Music Teacher, effective July 1, 2014
 - d. Joan R. Kelly, Elementary Teacher, effective July 1, 2014

- e. Geri Strugatz, Computer Teacher, effective July 1, 2014
- f. Barbara Tullo, Music Teacher, effective July 1, 2014
- g. Duke Tullo, cleaner, effective July 1, 2014

- 2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the following resignation:
 - a. Laura Bruzzo, substitute teacher, effective April 4, 2014
- 3. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, terminate the services of Michael Periera from the probationary position of cleaner, effective April 17, 2014.
- 4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, grant tenure to the following staff member on the effective date indicated and subject to satisfactory evaluation:

<u>Staff Member</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Tenure Date</u>
Ann Marie Kenny-Chapur	School Psychologist	May 10, 2014

- 5. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the resignation of Binafshah Hussan from the position of substitute food service worker effective April 24, 2014, and approve the appointment of Binafshah Hussan to the position of food service worker, effective April 25, 2014, at the Step 1 hourly salary set forth in the East Rockaway Food Service and Monitor Union contract for the 2014-2015 school year.
- 6. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve a FMLA leave of absence for the following:
 - a. Maria Treglia, senior stenographer (10 month), effective January 21, 2014, through April 25, 2014
 - b. Mary McLeod, elementary teacher, effective February 24, 2014, through May 21, 2014
 - c. Fran Dixon, special education teacher aide, effective February 26, 2014, through April 8, 2014
 - d. William Gies, maintainer, effective March 6, 2014, through May 29, 2014
- 7. Upon the recommendations of the Superintendent, approve the request of Maria Treglia for a leave of absence for medical reasons from her senior stenograph (10 month) position, effective April 26, 2014.
- 8. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request of Jeanne Paige for a child rearing leave of absence from her part- time (.5 FTE) speech language teacher position, effective April 7, 2014 through June 30, 2014.

- 9. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request of

Kimberly Rosenkrantz for an extension of her child rearing leave of absence from her speech- language teacher position, effective August 28, 2014, through January 30, 2015.

10. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request of Ann Marie Kenny-Chapur for a child rearing leave of absence from her school psychologist position, effective August 28, 2014, through January 30, 2015.
11. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following temporary assignment at the salary established by the East Rockaway Board of Education:

Substitute Teachers:

- a. Nancy Laurino, short-term substitute elementary teacher, effective March 11, 2014
- b. Tina Johnson, short-term substitute elementary teacher, effective March 10, 2014, through April 4, 2014
- c. Samantha Simon, per diem substitute teacher, effective April 25, 2014
- d. Lauren Wolkin, per diem substitute teacher, effective April 25, 2014
- e. Evan Braunschweiger, per diem substitute teacher, effective April 25, 2014
- f. Christopher Considine, per diem substitute teacher, effective April 25, 2014

Seasonal Cleaners, effective May 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015:

- a. Dania Ayala
- b. Christopher Brockett
- c. Lucia Castro
- d. Francesco Florio
- e. Vincent Gross
- f. Irma Puca
- g. Matthew Froman

Substitute Cleaner

- a. Richard L'Hommedieu, effective April 25, 2014

B. Other Items

Upon motion by Neil Schloth, seconded by Linda Schmidt the following items numbered 1 -20 were unanimously approved:

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the East Rockaway School District hereby abolishes the position of Director of Finance & Operations, effective July 1, 2014.
2. Approve the establishment of a new position, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations, effective June 16, 2014.
3. Approve the probationary appointment of James P. Robinson to the position of Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations, effective June 16, 2014, and authorize the Superintendent to execute the employment agreement on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
4. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the East Rockaway School District hereby abolishes four (4) positions in the teaching assistant tenure area, effective June 30, 2014. The Superintendent is directed to notify the affected staff members of this action.
5. Approve the purchase of the following textbooks:
Wild, John J., et al. *Fundamental Accounting Principles*. New York, New York; 2013
6. Declare obsolete for purpose of disposal two green cabinets Inventory Nos. 1855 and 1112 from the high school art room.
7. Accept a donation of office and conference room chairs from Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP valued at Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00).
8. Accept a grant in the value of \$1,225.00 for a one year subscription to Reflex Math.
9. Approve the contract with SCOPE Education Services for After School Child Care Programs for school-aged children for the 2014-2015 school year and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
10. Approve the contract with Rolling River Day School and Camp for the rental of parking spaces for the 2014 summer camp season and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
11. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Director of Finance & Operations, or designee, on behalf of the Board of Education of the East Rockaway School District, be and hereby is authorized to participate 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.

12. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Director of Finance & Operations, or designee, on behalf of the Board of Education of the East Rockaway School District, be and hereby is authorized to participate in cooperative bidding conducted in conjunction with the Boards of Education of the participating school districts for bids for the items and services as more fully set forth in Attachment "A". of contract pursuant to these cooperative bids will be made by the respective Board of Education in cooperation with the participating school districts.
13. Approve the award of the bid for AC Split Systems for the 2014-2015 school year to the lowest responsible bidders: Ultimate Power, L & J Plumbing and Carefree Air Conditioning, as more fully set forth in the Facilities Directors Consortium bid run for AC Split Systems April 4, 2014 and authorize the Director of Finance & Operations to execute the resulting contracts on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
14. Approve the contract for consultation services with Nancy Nunziata, Pupil Transportation Consultant, for the period July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015, 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.
15. 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 2014-2015 school year and Summer 2014 (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;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the School District to participate in the Cooperative; and

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.

16. Approve the participation in the Levittown Public Schools Perkins Consortium for Career and Technical Programs – The Gerald R. Claps Career and Technical Center for the 2014-2015 school year.
17. Approve the following consultant services contracts and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education:
 - a. GB Innovations, Inc. for assistive technology consultations and training during the 2013-2014 school year
 - b. Assistive Learning Technology Alternatives (ALTA) for independent assistive technology evaluation services during the 2013-2014 school year
 - c. Christina Sivin for speech and language services, effective April 7, 2014, through June 26, 2014
 - d. Catharina Kleuskens, LCSW, for selective mutism services during the 2013-2014 school year
 - e. The Long Island Home d/b/a South Oaks Hospital for career training/job coaching for special education students during the 2013-2014 school year
 - f. Brooks Harper Enterprises, Keynote Speaker for Career Night, on May 28, 2014

18. 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 February 13, 2014, for the 2014-2015 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: Abilities Inc. at the Viscardi Center; Access 7 Services, Inc.; All About Kids; Bilinguals Inc. d/b/a Achieve Beyond; APEX Therapeutic Services; Bifolco Consultants, Inc.; Blue Sea Educational Consulting, Inc.; Carina Hamel, LMHC; Creative Tutoring, Inc.; GB Innovations, Inc.; Helping Hands Children Services; Homecare Therapies LLC d/b/a Horizon Healthcare Staffing; Islip Tutoring Services, Inc.; Kids First Evaluation & Advocacy Center, Inc.; Catharina Kleuskens, LCSW; Metro Therapy, Inc.; New York Therapy Placement Services, Inc.; Dr. Caryl Oris, M.D.; Positive Behavior Support & Consulting & Psychological Resources, P.C.; Reach for the Stars Tutoring, Inc.; The Long Island Home d/b/a South Oaks; St. James Tutoring, Inc.;

Syosset Home Tutoring, Inc.; JNC Services d/b/a/Top Grade; Tutoring Service of Long Island; Variety Child Learning Center.

19. Approve the tuition agreement with Great Neck UFSD for special education services for one (1) student, Student ID No. 180006250, for the 2013-2014 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.
20. Approve the admission of two Hewlett Woodmere UFSD students, Student ID No. 14209 and 18028 to attend the East Rockaway Public Schools for the 2013-2014 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.

Upon motion by Patti Nicoletti, seconded by Linda Schmidt, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

21. WHEREAS, the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Nassau County (hereinafter "Nassau BOCES") has proposed and presented its Proposed Administrative Operations Budget for the 2013-14 school year (July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014), now therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Nassau BOCES Proposed Administrative Operations Budget for the 2014-15 school year in the amount of nineteen million, eight hundred ninety-three thousand, nine hundred fifty-five dollars (\$19,893,955.00) be, and hereby is, approved by this Board.

AND authorize the District Clerk to execute the Ballot and Clerk's Certificate and file same with Nassau BOCES.

Upon motion by Neil Schloth, seconded by Patti Nicoletti and unanimously passed,

22. Authorize the District Clerk to cast one ballot for each of the following individuals for their election to the Board of Cooperative Educational Services:
Deborah Ann Coates, Eric B. Schultz and Stephen B. Witt

Upon motion by Linda Schmidt, seconded by Patti Nicoletti, the following items numbered 23 – 25 were unanimously approved:

23. Approve the budget to be presented for public vote on May 20, 2014, in the amount of Thirty Seven Million, Two Hundred Ninety-Five Thousand Twenty-Eight Dollars (\$37,295,028.00).
24. Approve the following resolution:

*East Rockaway Public Schools
Board of Education
Regular Meeting – April 24, 2014
Page 7 of 14*

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 2014 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.

25. Approve the following resolution to revise previously authorized Capital Reserve Fund Expenditure Proposition (Building Improvements and Technology) duly adopted on March 11, 2014, as follows:

WHEREAS, by a duly adopted resolution dated March 11, 2014, the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District ("Board") previously approved the presentation of a proposition ("Proposition") to the voters of the School District seeking authorization to expend available funds from the District's Capital Reserve Fund for Building Improvements and Repairs to undertake certain school building improvements ("Project"), as described in a "Capital Projects 2014-15" report on file and available for public inspection in the office of the District Clerk ("Report"); and

WHEREAS, upon the review and recommendation of the District's Interim Director of Finance, it is necessary and appropriate to modify the funding sources set forth in said Proposition to include available funds from the District General Fund's unassigned fund balance for that purpose;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby authorizes and directs that the Proposition be modified as follows and that the Proposition, as so modified, be placed before the voters of the East Rockaway Union Free School District at the Annual District Meeting to be held between the hours of 6:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m. on May 20, 2014, at the polling place heretofore established within the District; and that the District Clerk be hereby authorized and directed to give notice of such modified proposition to be voted at said Annual District Meeting by publishing notice(s) thereof, and to have the necessary ballot labels printed for said vote in the form corresponding as nearly as may be with the requirements of the Education Law and the provisions of the voting machine rules of this school district:

PROPOSITION NO. 2 (Capital Reserve Fund for Building Improvements Expenditure/General Fund Expenditure):

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District, is hereby authorized to undertake certain school building improvements ("Project"), as described in a "Capital Projects 2014-15" report on file and available for public inspection in the office of the District Clerk ("Report"), all at no additional cost to District taxpayers; said Project to commence during the 2014-2015 school year and to

consist of the following: (1) East Rockaway High School/Middle School: Interior reconstruction to the existing technology building, including but not limited to structural concrete slab replacement/reconstruction, electrical replacement and interior finishes; (2) District wide heating, ventilating, and temperature control reconstruction; (3) District wide asphalt paving, concrete curb and sidewalk replacement; (4) District wide security; all of the foregoing to include equipment, construction and other work required in connection therewith, as well as preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto and to the financing thereof; and to expend therefor an amount not to exceed \$356,000; provided that the detailed costs of the components of the Project as set forth in the Report may be reallocated among such components if the Board of Education shall determine that such reallocation is in the best interests of the District and no material change shall be made in the scope of the Project; that an amount not to exceed \$156,000 is hereby appropriated for said purpose from the District's Capital Reserve Fund for Building Improvements and Repairs, heretofore established by the voters of the District on May 20, 2008, and such sum is hereby authorized to be expended and applied toward the cost of the Project; and that \$200,000 is hereby appropriated from the General Fund's unassigned fund balance for said purpose, and such sum is hereby authorized to be expended and applied toward the cost of the Project.

PROPOSITION NO. 3 (Capital Reserve Fund for Technology Expenditure /General Fund Expenditure):RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District, is hereby authorized to expend from the District's Capital Reserve Fund for Technology Replacement, heretofore established by the voters of the District on May 20, 2008, an amount not to exceed \$320,000 to undertake certain district-wide purchases and/or replacement of certain technology and telecommunications equipment and software ("Project"), as described in a "Proposed Technology Reserve Spending 2014-15" report on file and available for public inspection in the office of the District Clerk ("Report"), all at no additional cost to District taxpayers; said Project to commence during the 2014-2015 school year and to consist of the following: (1) Smart classroom projects necessary to complete the outfitting of all instructional spaces with interactive whiteboard technology; (2) network upgrades and replacements; (3) Data Backup and Email upgrades; (4) technology lab upgrades; and (5) replacement of computer hardware all of the foregoing to include equipment, construction and other work required in connection therewith, as well as preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto and to the financing thereof; provided that the detailed costs of the components of the Project as set forth in the Report may be reallocated among such components if the Board of Education shall determine that such reallocation is in the best interests of the District and no material change shall be made in the scope of the Project. that an amount not to exceed\$120,000 is hereby appropriated for said purpose from the District's Capital Reserve Fund for Technology, heretofore established by the voters of the District on May 20, 2008, and such sum is hereby authorized to be expended and applied toward the cost of the Project; and that\$200,000 is hereby appropriated from the General Fund's unassigned fund balance for said purpose, and such sum is hereby authorized to be expended and applied toward the cost of the Project.

C. Budget Transfers

Upon motion by Neil Schloth, seconded by Linda Schmidt, the Board of Education unanimously approves the following budget transfers:

- a. Transaction No. 14-0008
- b. Transaction No. 14-0009

6. Policy Matters

1. For Review

- a. 5030, Student Complaints and Grievances
- b. 5550, Student Privacy

7. Good and Welfare

- a. Condolences to the Salazar family on the passing of Frieda DeSibio, grandmother of Jorge Salazar, Rhame Avenue Custodian
- b. Condolences to the Sheridan family on the passing of Anthony Favuzzi, father of Luanne Sheridan, Rhame Avenue Teacher Aide
- c. Condolences to the Hughes family on the passing of Gail Hansen, aunt of Kelli Hughes, Centre Avenue Teaching Assistant
- d. Congratulations to Kristen Ford, high school math teacher, on her engagement to Mr. Chris Riccardi
- e. Congratulations to Jeanne Paige, Rhame Avenue speech language teacher, and her family on the birth of Connor John Paige, born April 4, 2014.

8. Superintendent's Report

2014-2015 Proposed School Budget

Tonight the Board of Education approved the school budget the 2014-2015. The budget to budget increase is 1.23%, the lowest increase in more than 10 years. 1.73% is the tax levy law-compliant increase. Our proposed budget maintains all current academic and extracurricular programs, adds additional AP and college-level courses, and provides for enhancements in our elementary reading support program. Our budget hearing presentation will take place on Tuesday, May 13th at the ERHS auditorium at 7:00 PM. We will also be providing presentations on the proposed budget at upcoming PTA meetings according to the following schedule:

Rhame Avenue April 28th 7:00 PM

*East Rockaway Public Schools
Board of Education
Regular Meeting – April 24, 2014
Page 10 of 14*

Centre Avenue
ERHS

April 28th 7:45 PM
May 14th 7:00 PM

In addition, you can view a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed 2014-2015 school budget on our website.

Elementary Schools

- Centre and Rhame Avenue Schools completed NYS ELA testing April 1, 2, and 3.
- Math testing is scheduled for April 30, May 1, 2.
- Kindergarten Screening is in progress. If you know of a child that will be 5 years old on or before December 1st please have them call the registrar at 887-8300 ext. 440.
- Centre Avenue and Rhame Avenue 6th graders attended Greenkill Environmental overnight experience on April 9-11 and had a successful trip learning about pond ecology, forest ecology, orienteering, and team building. Rock wall climbing and canoeing were explored as well.
- East Rockaway Jr./Sr. High School Guidance Counselor, Jim O'Driscoll, visited our 6th graders on April 23rd and 24th to bridge the transition from 6th grade to the Junior High School.
- Reading teachers, Lorraine Donlon and Ashley Tener, organized Centre Avenues March Reading Madness. Students competed by grade level to read the most minutes during the month of March. Ms. Lyons' 4th grade class logged 11,710 minutes as the overall classroom winners.
- Centre Avenue School is participating in Assemblyman's Brian Curran's Flag Day essay contest in grades K-5. Winners will be recognized on Sunday, June 8th at Greis Park.
- The Centre Avenue class of 2013 donated two paper cutters, a paper shredder, an iPod dock for the Physical Education program and 4 CB radios to improve safety during the lunch program.
- The Centre Avenue PTA has curriculum enhancement funds to supplement classroom teaching. Centre Avenue kindergarten teachers used these funds to purchase an incubator. Twelve chicks were hatched to the children's amazement. Integrated curriculum units centered on the chick hatching project.
- Rhame Avenue is piloting a dog therapy program in our special classes. Tootsie, the miniature Labradoodle, is certified through Therapy Dogs International (TDI.org) and visits children in a variety of settings ranging from schools to hospitals. She is a hypoallergenic, non-shedding dog. When visiting children at school, she serves as a Tail Waggin' Tutor. Children sit with her, either individually or in a small group, as they read aloud. For struggling readers or socially shy children, Tootsie offers a safe audience without fear of judgment. Over time, students build more confidence as they practice reading in a relaxed atmosphere.

- The Rhame Avenue PTA held their annual Flight Night on Wednesday, March 12th. Students from 3rd and 4th grade came together to learn how to make paper

airplanes. Once the airplanes are made and decorated, there were obstacle courses set up to see how far and on target the planes can go. It was a nice turn out and the children had fun.

- Rhame Avenue Student Council organized a week-long Earth Day celebration. Activities included “garbage free lunch day.” Children are encouraged to limit the amount of garbage they produce during lunch and a prize awarded to the grade that produced the least amount of trash.

- Senior Cuttitta is visiting our Sixth Graders to teach beginning Italian

Jr./Sr. High School

Middle school students and the teachers participated in the annual Long Island Language Teachers poster contest. The theme of this year's contest was “Unmask Cultures: Be A Polyglot.” The department reviewed all student poster entries and submitted five students in the regional contest.

Our middle school ambassadors of character have been leading peer lessons through their social studies and science classes on reducing bullying behaviors among young adolescents through lessons on tolerance and paying it forward.

- music students are working hard to prepare for their All State and NYSSMA auditions which take place April 25th, 26th and May 5th and 6th.
- Senior high school orchestra will be visiting both Centre Avenue and Rhame Avenue Schools to perform for grades 3, 4, and 5 in recognition of Music In Our Schools Month.
- Our high school music teacher, Ms. Kitzi, will be performing her Masters recital at SUNY Purchase on May 10th.
- In response to Jazz Appreciation Month (April), the elementary schools will celebrate with songs of the jazz style and repertoire. Lessons will include listening, improvisation activities and studies of jazz composers, musicians, and time periods. They also read poetry related to jazz using onomatopoeia, metaphors, and simile to connect to the ELA Common Core.

The NAMM Foundation (National Association of Music Merchants) recognizes the East Rockaway School District for its outstanding commitment to music education with a Best Communities for Music Education (BCME) designation. East Rockaway joins 376 districts across the country to receive the prestigious distinction in 2014. In its 15th year, Best Communities for Music Education affirms school districts that have demonstrated exceptional efforts toward maintaining music education as part of the schools’ core curriculum.

- Students and faculty returned Monday from their European vacation – having visited London, Paris, and Barcelona. I heard wonderful things about the trip and how delighted and delightful our students were during their time abroad. Thank you to chaperones Mr. Cimorelli, Dr. LoVerde, and Mr. Cracolici.

Guidance Department

Sophomores and juniors visited Adelphi University in March, Sarah Lawrence College in April, and Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Connecticut today.

The counselors have been working with sophomores on career exploration activities. Students have completed an interest profiler that matched them to possible career clusters. College admission decisions have arrived. It has been a challenging year in the admission process but many of our students have received very good news. The college acceptances are displayed as t-shirts and pennants on the hallway bulletin board near the guidance office. Students received acceptances from many colleges including Binghamton University, FIT, Muhlenberg College, Berklee College of Music, Penn State, Syracuse University, University of Miami, University of Florida, Siena College, Stony Brook University, Hofstra University, City College, and many others. In honor of Administrative Assistants Week, I would like to thank all of the clerical employees for their considerable efforts and dedication to our district.

Dr. Colvin will provide an update on FEMA and provide some information on the Veterans Exemption.

We are finally seeing some of the FEMA money coming in. We have received in excess of 4.6 million within the past few weeks, so it seems that they are starting to send the money.

That is not the only good news, we are also working with FEMA on some mitigation efforts to protect us from future damages in the case of another storm.

The effective date of the veteran's exemption has been changed at the county level to the 2015-2016 school year.

9. Privilege of the Floor

- Budget notice information
- Date of the Budget Hearing was changed to May 13th
- Wizards Fundraisers for the Education Foundation
- Electric issues in the auditorium

10. Board Member Comments

Patti Nicoletti – Congratulations, Mrs. Kenny. I hope you have a long tenure here.

Congratulations to the seven staff members retiring. Welcome, Mr. Robinson. I hope you have a long tenure here.

Linda Schmidt – Thank you all for coming. Thank you, Mr. DeTommaso, Mr. Cimorelli, and Mr. Howard for your presentation. It is nice to see some of the other options that are out there for our children. Congratulations, Mrs. Kenny. Congratulations to the Reflection winners. Welcome, Mr. Robinson. Thank you, Joan, for filling in. Congratulations to the

retirees.

Neil Schloth – Congratulations, Mrs. Kenny. In my line of work I have seen many Social Workers prevent tragedy. Welcome, Mr. Robinson. I look forward to working with you. Thank you, Joan Colvin, for stepping in. You have done a great job with much energy.

Kristin Ochtera – The budget this year is significantly fantastic. Thank you, Dr. Colvin, Superintendent Ruiz, administration and the individual units. It is difficult to maintain program, and you have done just that. I want to thank Mary Volino, the Board Secretary for her hard work and also our District Clerk, Denise Lobascio.

11. Upon motion by Linda Schmidt, seconded by Neil Schloth and unanimously passed, the meeting was adjourned into executive session to discuss personnel matters and will not reconvene to public session.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Lobascio
District Clerk