

EAST ROCKAWAY UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
East Rockaway, New York
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
7:00 P.M., May 26, 2015 – East Rockaway Jr. /Sr. High School
Including Award of Honorary Diploma, Recognition of Student Artist, Scott Reill, Recognition of
Music Award Recipients and Recognition of Tenure Candidates, and a Public Forum

MINUTES

Present: Members of the Board of Education: Kristin Ochtera, Patricia Nicoletti, Neil R. Schloth, Superintendent, Lisa J. Ruiz; Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations and Deputy District Clerk, James P. Robinson; John Piccarella, Director of Curriculum & Technology; staff members and members of the community

Absent: Trustee, John Giannotti, Jr.; Trustee, Keith Gamache; District Clerk, Denise Lobascio

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:06 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Neil R. Schloth.

Ms. Ruiz: Award of Honorary Diploma; Ms. Fuller said a few words. Special thanks to Ms. Johnson and Ms. Volino.

Ms. Ruiz: Thanks to Mr. Thomas Schloen for the Music Awards.

Ms. Ruiz: Tenure Recommendations

2. Upon motion by Patricia Nicoletti, seconded by Neil R. Schloth, Agenda Items No. 2.1, the Minutes of April 21, 2015, and Agenda Item No. 2.2, the Minutes of May 5, 2015, were unanimously approved.

Upon motion by Patricia Nicoletti, seconded by Neil R. Schloth, Agenda Item No. 2.3., was tabled, upon unanimous approval by the Board.

3. Acknowledge Receipt of Financial Reports

4. Correspondence – None

5. Action Agenda

A. Personnel

Upon motion by Patricia Nicoletti, seconded by Neil R. Schloth, the following Personnel Item No. 5. A. 1, was unanimously approved:

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, grant tenure to the following staff members on the effective date indicated and subject to satisfactory evaluation:

<u>Staff Member</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Tenure Date</u>
Joseph Spero	Principal (secondary)	July 1, 2015
Kristi Boyce	Teaching Assistant	September 20, 2015
Dina Reilly	Assistant Principal	November 9, 2015

Five-minute recess at 7:50 p.m. Refreshments served in cafeteria.

Board President resumed the meeting at 8:07 p.m. and turned the meeting over to Superintendent Ruiz.

Upon motion by Neil R. Schloth, seconded by Patricia Nicoletti, the following Personnel Items Nos. 5. A. 2 through 16, were unanimously approved:

2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept, with regret, the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Patricia Russell, from her monitor position, effective May 29, 2015.
3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the following resignations:
 - a. Myriam Spadafora, school social worker, effective June 30, 2015
 - b. Christine Comegna, School District Treasurer, effective June 14, 2015
4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve a child rearing leave of absence for Eileen Levine from her special education teacher position, effective October 5, 2015 through the end of the fall semester of the 2015-2016 school year.
5. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following proctor assignments, effective May 4, 2015, through June 25, 2015, at the supervision salary rate established by the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract, Appendix C, for the 2014-2015 school year:
 - a. Kevin Denis
 - b. Clare Marco

6. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Marie Anderson to the position of ESL teacher for the Jump Start Program, effective August 10, 2015, to August 14, 2015, at the hourly salary established by the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for Other Educational Assignments for the 2015-2016 school year.
7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following special education summer school appointments, effective July 6, 2015, through August 14, 2015, at the hourly salary established by the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for Other Educational Assignments for the 2015-2016 school year:

Kathleen Crowley	Special Education Teacher
Kristen Donovan	Special Education Teacher
Allison Gerbert.....	Special Education Teacher
Randi Kilcommons	Special Education Teacher/Resource Room
Jane Faiella.....	Reading Teacher
Monica Saavedra.....	School Psychologist
Dr. Alissa Nunes	School Psychologist
Bethany Kinkaid	Speech/Language Teacher
Eileen Levine	Substitute Teacher
Nancy Laurino	Substitute Teacher
Erin Kennedy	Substitute Teacher

8. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following appointments for summer CSE/CPSE meetings, effective July 1, 2015, through August 31, 2015, at the hourly salary set forth in the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for Other Educational Assignments for the 2015-2016 school year

Monica Saavedra.....	School Psychologist
Dr. Alissa Nunes	School Psychologist
Laura Peterson	Special Education Teacher
Deborah Iannico.....	Special Education Teacher
Eileen Levine	Special Education Teacher
Geraldine Fedoronko	Speech Teacher
Dawn O'Shea Rooney.....	General Education Teacher
Laura Peterson	General Education Teacher
Laura Peterson	Chairperson, CSE/CPSE
Monica Saavedra.....	Chairperson, CSE/CPSE
Dr. Alissa Nunes	Chairperson, CSE/CPSE

9. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following special education summer school teacher aide appointments, effective July 6, 2015, through August 14, 2015, at the hourly salary established by the East Rockaway Teacher Aides Association contract for the 2015-2016 school year:

Stefanie Medina Teacher Aide
Janet Block Teacher Aide
Melissa Hawxhurst..... Teacher Aide
Jill Toy Substitute Teacher Aide
Jessica Giliberti Substitute Teacher Aide
Linda Lindsley Substitute Teacher Aide

Board President Kristin Ochtera pointed out spelling corrections to two names.

10. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Elisa Cheung, to the position of summer school nurse appointment for the special education summer school program, effective July 6, 2015, through August 14, 2015, at the hourly salary established by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for the 2015-2016 school year.
11. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Francesca DeVivo to the position of summer monitor, effective July 6, 2015, through August 14, 2015, at the Step 13 hourly salary established by the East Rockaway Food Service and Monitors Union agreement for the 2015-2016 school year.
12. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following temporary summer assignments, effective July 6, 2015, through August 14, 2015, at the salary approved by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for the 2015-2016 school year:

Alice Calabrese, substitute summer school nurse
Lisa Zeilberger, substitute monitor (bus)

13. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following Driver and Traffic Safety Instructor appointments, effective July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016, at the hourly salary established by the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for Other Educational Assignments for the 2015-2016 school year:

Nicholas Cimorelli
Christian Soto
Dominick Vulpis

14. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the three year probationary appointment of Sara Perrone to the position of English teacher, (tenure area: English; certification status: initial), effective September 1, 2015, through August 31, 2018, at the MA, Step 1 annual salary set forth by the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for the 2015-2016 school year.
15. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the two-year probationary appointment of Dawn Ragone to the position of School Social Worker, (tenure area: School Social Worker; certification status: Permanent effective September 1, 2015, through August 31, 2017, at the MA40, Step 3 annual salary set forth by the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for the 2015-2016 school year.
16. 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 2014-2015 school year:
 - a. Cindy Dower, temporary teaching assistant, effective May 19, 2015
 - b. Amy Britt, substitute teacher, effective May 27, 2015
 - c. Peter Ryan, seasonal cleaner, effective May 27, 2015

B. Other Items

Upon motion by Patricia Nicoletti, seconded by Neil R. Schloth, the following Other Items Nos. 5.B.1 through 9, were unanimously approved:

1. Approve the tuition agreement with Maryhaven Center of Hope for special education services for two (2) students, Student ID No. 180005902 and Student ID No. 180005899, for the 2015 -2016 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.
2. Approve the tuition agreement with United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Inc. for one (1) student, Student ID No. 180005897 for the 2015-2016 school year and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
3. Approve the resolution to issue Tax Anticipation Notes in the sum not to exceed Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00).

4. Approve the award of the bid for transportation services including matron to Acme Bus Corp. for one new student residing in East Rockaway to Seaman Neck Middle School and authorize the Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations to execute the resulting contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
 5. Rescind the original Resolution from the Board Meeting Agenda of April 21, 2015, Other Item #9, and replace with the following Resolution, as listed herein (Other Items, Resolution #6).
 6. Approve the award of the bid for AC Split Systems for the 2015-2016 school year to the lowest responsible bidders: L & J Plumbing and Carefree Air Conditioning, as more fully set forth in the Facilities Directors Consortium bid run for AC Split Systems March 30, 2015, and authorize the Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations to execute the resulting contracts on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
 7. Resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the East Rockaway UFSD, hereby designated the Valley Stream Central High School District, Valley Stream, NY, as lead entity on behalf of the Board for purposes of submitting a Government Efficiency Plan in accordance with Education Law section 2023-b.
 8. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District approves the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement dated May 14, 2015, between the Board of Education and the East Rockaway Teachers Association, with respect to the terms and conditions of employment for the members of the teachers bargaining unit for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017.
 9. Approve the employment agreement with Debra A. Muller, as the District Treasurer, effective June 16, 2015 through June 30, 2016, and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the agreement on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
- C. Upon motion by Neil R. Schloth, seconded by Patricia Nicoletti, Budget Transfer No. 15-0012 was unanimously approved.
- D. Upon motion by Patricia Nicoletti, seconded by Neil R. Schloth, the CSE Recommendations were unanimously approved.

E. Upon motion by Neil R. Schloth, seconded by Patricia Nicoletti, the CPSE Recommendations were unanimously approved.

6. Policy Matters.

1. Policy for Review
 - a. 5405, Student Wellness
 - b. 1500, Public Use of Facilities

7. Good and Welfare

- a. Congratulations to Emily Pisani on the marriage of her daughter, Jackie to Anthony Conti
- b. Condolences to Pam Castellano and family on the passing of her mother-in-law, Phyllis Cassano
- c. Condolences to Catherine Corapi and family on the passing of her brother, John Saladino
- d. Condolences to Neil Schloth and family on the passing of his mother-in-law, Lena Ajamy

Board President Kristin Ochtera turned the meeting over to Superintendent Ruiz

8. Superintendent's Report

Elementary

- The Healthy Action Team at Rhame Avenue organized a visit from "ROK Fitness" this past week. Personal trainers spent recess with the students and engaged them in a variety of exercises and activities to promote "staying fit" and "being healthy."
- The PTA Sponsored Health and Wellness Fair at Rhame. A number of professionals including an Allergist, Audiologist, Poison Control Employee, Tennis Pro, ROK Fitness Trainer, and the East Rockaway Public Library were present to help promote health and wellness in our daily lives.
- Special Visitors day and Entrepreneurs Day took place at Rhame this month. Our 5th grade Entrepreneurs set up shop in the gym and presented their "inventions" and "products" to parents and staff in hopes of making a sale. Monopoly money and a make-believe ATM were made available to the adults making "purchases." The children had to promote their products, negotiate prices and distribute business cards. It was an incredible experience and the children did a wonderful job. All other grade levels had exciting presentations and activities planned for the "special visitors" in the classrooms and we had a wonderful turnout. It was truly an enjoyable day.
- The Elementary Spring Concert took place on May 19th to thunderous applause! A great job by grades 3-6 students. The children sang and played their instruments beautifully. Thanks

to Mrs. Lalama, Ms. Weil. Mr. Ceglio and Mr. Schloen for helping organize and prepare our students for this exciting performance.

- Mrs. Healy's Enterprise program participated at the all-day SUNY Old Westbury Math Olympiad competition last Tuesday. Lucy Temple, Elizabeth Sun, Madeline Prucha, Mark DiLapi, and Jason Miller represented Centre and Rhame Avenue Schools.
- The 6th grade Enterprise Stock Market team came in 3rd place out 100's of teams entered. Sophia Pasinisi, Elizabeth Sun and Lucy Temple are invited to the Garden City Hotel for lunch and awards on June 10th and be honored for their outstanding showing.
- The Centre Avenue 6th grade Science Fair was held this month. Fifty outstanding student projects were presented to parents and family members in the All Purpose room. Projects from "How does music influence heart rate"? To "What substances cause iron to rust"? It was a great learning experience for all!
- The Memorial Day parade was held with great Pomp and Circumstance as our elementary and HS Marching Band performed for all!

ERHS

- On Wednesday, May 13th, East Rockaway Jr/Sr High School held its annual National Honor Society Induction ceremony to recognize both returning and new members. This year, the Junior High welcomed 40 returning members and 35 new members, while the high school welcomed 43 returning members and 12 new members. Advisors Robert Kennedy and Joyce Loftus (high school) and Patricia Murphy and Lexi Mendyk (junior high) facilitated a fantastic evening, showcasing the leadership of each group and their outstanding achievements. Ms. Patti Nicoletti from the Board of Education also addressed the students. Seniors were given special recognition by acknowledging the colleges they will be attending, which include Yale, UNC Chapel Hill, Colgate, Binghamton, Geneseo, and Albany among others.
- The East Rockaway Jr/Sr High School Music Department held its annual spring concert last night to a full, supportive audience of parents and community members. Led by Mr. Thomas Schloen, Ms. Samantha Clarke, Ms. Marichelle Weill and Ms. Seanna Silver, the show was divided by junior and senior high students, as well as by the department's various ensembles – band, chorus, orchestra, jazz and percussion. The energy throughout the show was high, as students displayed their diverse sets of skills through classical and contemporary pieces. Through the generosity of the East Rockaway Education Foundation, the show was also supported by accompanist Eng-Tze Pan.
- Twelve students from East Rockaway's middle school participated in the annual Long Island Science Congress. The competition showcased the applied research talents of

students across the county. Students were chosen from this year's Science Fair. The following is a list of students and their recognition at this year's event:

Matthew Miller	Achievement Status
Michael Arena.....	Meritorious Status
Emma Neary	Honorable Mention
Madison Cipriano.....	Honorable Mention
Leanne Wright	Honorable Mention
Brandon Frantzen.....	Honorable Mention
Anthony Prelesnick.....	Honorable Mention
Emily Chelius.....	Honorable Mention
Alex Rovner	Honorable Mention
Jake Wooding.....	Honorable Mention
Caroline Dolan	Honorable Mention

Please join us in congratulating our students and their excellent representation of our school district.

- Girls Softball advanced to the Finals with a 2-1 series victory over Oyster Bay. We wish them luck as they move forward.

9. Privilege of the Floor – None

10. Board Member Comments

Neil R. Schloth: Thank you to those in attendance for being at the meeting. Acknowledged and thanked the efforts of those receiving tenure this evening

Patricia Nicoletti: Thanks to the community for their support. Welcome, Ms. Muller.

Kristin Ochtera: Echoed trustee comments. Thank you, not only to children, but to the tenure recipients for their efforts for our students. A superior musical performance and an exceptional work of art are similar not in the structure of the work but in the nuanced details that go into perfecting the work. It's that type of attention to detail that had been exhibited across the board by tonight's honorees. The success of our students and our tenure recipients is the result of deliberate effort to master more than the basics. In the case of Mr. Spero, the Board was presented with three candidates for that position. All of whom were well qualified. We took a chance that of those candidates, he was the right fit. He understands the importance in the details. Since that day, there was never a doubt that he is working to take Board's vision and manifest it in the day-to-day work.

Upon motion by Patricia Nicoletti, seconded by Neil R. Schloth, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James P. Robinson
Deputy District Clerk

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