

EAST ROCKAWAY UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
East Rockaway, New York
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
7:00 P.M., May 19, 2020
Meeting Closed to Public – Live Streamed on Google Meet

MINUTES

Present through Google Meet:

Keith Gamache, Dominick Vulpis, Neil Schloth, Kristen O’Hagan, Peter McNally, Superintendent
Lisa J. Ruiz, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations, Jacqueline A. Scrio; Assistant
Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, Mona Hecht, District Clerk, Vitina Fazi

Absent: None

1. The meeting was called to order by Keith Gamache at 7:05 p.m.
2. Mr. Gamache thanked everyone for joining us this evening for our third remote Board of Education Meeting. This meeting is now in order. He reminded everyone that this meeting is being live streamed and is also being recorded. He asked everyone to please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge was recited.
3. Public Comments on Agenda Items

This evening if you have questions regarding items on the agenda or other school district related items you can email them to boe@eastrockawayschools.org. Please be sure to include your full name and address so a district administrator can respond to your concern in an appropriate manner. I will also have the email open throughout the meeting and if possible/appropriate will do my best to address the matter. I also want to remind you that most concerns are appropriately addressed with your child’s teacher and/or building principal. Other general district questions should be directed to Mrs. Ruiz our Superintendent. Matters involving curriculum and instruction should be addressed to Mrs. Hecht and matters involving the budget and facilities should be directed to Mrs. Scrio. Mr. Araoz has created an excellent technology FAQ on the district homepage. If you need any further assistance with technology or have issues with a device, please reach out to him for assistance.

4. Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Gamache stated that we will now move to the approval of the minutes. This month we have the April 21, 2020, minutes and minutes of our special meeting held on May 12, 2020. He asked for a motion to approve the minutes of April 21, 2020, and May 12, 2020. May I have a motion to approve?

Upon motion made by Neil Schloth, seconded by Peter McNally, all in favor AYE, opposed:

NONE; abstained: NONE; the motion was unanimously passed, and the following minutes were approved:

- A. April 21, 2020, Meeting of the Board of Education
- B. May 12, 2020, Special Meeting of the Board of Education

5. Acknowledgment of Monthly Reports and Correspondence

- A. Receipt of Monthly Financial Reports: Mr. Gamache acknowledged receipt of the March 2020 financial reports
- B. Correspondence : Mr. Gamache acknowledged receipt of three items of correspondence addressed to the Board.

6. Recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools

I would like to turn the microphone over to Ms. Ruiz for her recommendations.

Mr. Gamache asked if the trustees had any questions regarding Items A-E below. There were no questions. Mr. Gamache then asked for a motion to approve Items A-E.

Upon motion made by Dominick Vulpis, seconded by Peter McNally, all in favor AYE, opposed: NONE; abstained: NONE; the motion was unanimously passed, and the following Items A-E were approved on a consent agenda.

- A. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the resignation of Stefanie Medina from her position as teacher aide, effective April 30, 2020.
- B. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District approves a two-year leave of absence for Robert Kennedy from his tenured teaching position (tenure area: special education), effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022.
- C. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District approves the appointment of Robert Kennedy to the position of Assistant Director of Pupil Personnel Services (tenure area: School District Leader), with a four-year probationary term, effective July 1, 2020, at salary step 1 of collective bargaining agreement between the Board and the East Rockaway Administrators Association.

[Ms. Ruiz stated: I am thrilled to share with you that tonight the Board of Education will be appointing Mr. Robert Kennedy to the position of assistant director of pupil personnel services. After an extensive search where we interviewed numerous qualified candidates, Mr. Kennedy clearly distinguished himself as the best prepared individual to take on the considerable responsibilities of this position. Many of you have known Rob for years and

therefore know that he is a highly responsible, caring, intelligent and knowledgeable professional with a strong work ethic, who will easily transition to this important leadership role. Rob joined the East Rockaway School District in 2009 as a high school English teacher and then moved into the special education department where he has successfully supported both general and special education students in inclusive settings with his creative and innovative instructional approaches since 2012. He has most recently served as principal of both our summer school and Twilight programs for the past two years.

I know you join me in congratulating Rob on this important new role which he will assume on July 1. We wish him all the best as he takes on new challenges. I know he will have your support. Congratulations Rob!]

- D. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the revised request of Caroline Drummy for a FMLA leave of absence effective May 11, 2020, through June 30, 2020.
- E. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Ann Kerner, to the position of short-term elementary substitute teacher, effective June 1, 2020, through June 30, 2020, at the per diem salary established by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for the 2019-2020 school year.

7. Other Items

Mr. Gamache read Items 7 A-I and asked if there were any questions. There were no questions. Mr. Gamache then asked for a motion to approve Items A-I.

Upon motion made by Peter McNally, seconded by Kristen O'Hagan, all in favor AYE, opposed: NONE; abstained: NONE; the motion was unanimously passed, and the following Items A-I were approved on a consent agenda.

A. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts the Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures prepared by Cullen & Danowksi, LLP, for the period ended October 31, 2019, and the Corrective Action Plan dated April 27, 2020.

B. Approve the revised 2019-2020 Board of Education Meeting Schedule.

C. Correct Resolution, Other Item 7-L on the April 21, 2020, agenda at Paragraph 1 to read:

WHEREAS, on **January 21, 2020**, the Board of Education authorized East Rockaway School District to join with several other public school districts in Nassau County to jointly solicit proposals for Special Education Related Services for the 2020-2021 school year (and any renewal period) in accordance with the applicable provisions of General Municipal Law; and

D. Approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association has submitted its proposed 2020-2021 Budget and proposed 2020-2021 Slate of Officers and Members of the Executive Committee, for the approval of its member boards, the East Rockaway Board of Education authorizes the District Clerk to record the outcome of the votes and notify Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association of the results.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association Proposed Budget for the 2020-2021 school year (as accepted by N-SSBA's Executive Committee) be, and hereby is approved.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Nassau-Suffolk School Boards Association Proposed 2020-2021 Slate of Officers and Members of the Executive Committee (as presented by N-SSBA's Nominating Committee) be, and hereby is approved.

E. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby designates any school district employee, upon the approval of the Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations to serve as additional Election Inspector for the processing of the June 9, 2020 School District Budget Vote and Election with no additional compensation.

F. Approve the Intermunicipal Cooperation Agreement dated April 2, 2020, between the Board of Education of the East Rockaway School District, ("host district") and the Board of Education of the Valley Stream School District 24 ("sending district") for SCOPE emergency child care services, effective April 20, 2020, through the last date schools are ordered closed by the Governor, and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the Agreement on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.

G. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the East Rockaway UFSD authorizes and appoints the following individuals to serve in the capacity of election/poll workers in connection with the rescheduled June 9, 2020, annual school district meeting and election, to be held remotely by absentee ballot, at the salary set forth on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for the 2019-2020 school year:

1. Ronald DiRienzo (Poll Coordinator)
2. Nancy Landerer (Chairperson)
3. Deirdre Boller
4. William Spigonardo

5. Joseph Fragola
6. Carol Kramer
7. Rose Trum
8. Apolonia Carrasco

H. Approve the amendment to the RSS/BOCES Summer School Contract to enable instruction to be provided remotely for distance learning for Summer 2020 due the Covid-19 pandemic.

I. Accept the following checks to fund scholarships:

1. A check in the sum of \$500 from Robert E. Bishop and May A. Bishop, to fund the “John Bishop Memorial Scholarship” for 2020
2. A grant in the sum of \$4,000 from The Richard R. Ong and Heidi Lem Ong Charitable Fund to fund scholarships for the Valedictorian and Salutatorian

8. Mr. Gamache asked if there were any questions with regard to the CSE and CPSE recommendations. There were no questions and he asked for a motion to approve the CSE and CPSE recommendations.

Upon motion made by Kristen O’Hagan, and seconded by Neil Schloth, all in favor AYE, opposed: NONE; abstained: NONE; the CSE and CPSE recommendations were unanimously approved.

9. Budget Transfers

Mr. Gamache asked if there were any questions regarding the following budget transfer. We have one this evening. There were no questions and he asked for a motion to approve the following budget transfer.

Upon motion made by Neil Schloth, and seconded by Dominick Vulpis, all in favor AYE, opposed: NONE; abstained: NONE; the following budget transfer was unanimously approved.

A. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following budget transfer:

1. Transaction No. 20-0017

10. Policy Matters

A. Policy Subcommittee Report

Ms. O’Hagan provided the following report:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, based on the Coronavirus 19 situation, the Board has reviewed the changes to the Grading Systems policy, which is a local policy, to

reflect Remote Learning. We will review this policy again when we go back to “normal” teaching and learning conditions. We will continue to review the five other policies: 4531, Field Trip and Excursions; 8121.1-R, Opioid Overdose Prevention Regulation; 8130.1, Extreme Risk Protection Orders (The “Red Flag Law”) “New” “Notice”; 9150, Non-Fraternization “New”; and 6705, Federal Funds Purchasing. At this time, we do not have a date that we will be holding a Policy Sub-committee meeting.

B. For Adoption

Mr. Gamache asked if there were any questions regarding the policy being adopted this evening. He stated that policies are reviewed during the year. They are listed on our website and can be viewed. The Board always welcomes input during the review process.

Mr. Gamache asked for a vote of adoption for the policy listed in Item B(1) below. By a unanimous vote the Policy 4710, Grading Systems in Item B-1 below was approved for adoption.

1. 4710, Grading Systems

C. For Review

1. 4531, Field Trip and Excursions
2. 8121.1-R, Opioid Overdose Prevention Regulation
3. 8130.1, Extreme Risk Protection Orders (The “Red Flag Law”) “New” “Notice”
4. 9150, Non-Fraternization “New”
5. 6705, Federal Funds Purchasing

11. Reports

A. Board President’s Report

Since our last meeting we learned that the Budget Vote and Trustees election will be held on June 9th by absentee ballot mailed to all registered voters in the district. Mrs. Scio will provide more details along with information on next Wednesday’s Budget Hearing.

Our administration is working on developing a re-entry plan for the fall. This is a very fluid process as many decisions remain outside the district’s control and will be decided at the County/State level as more data comes in and Covid-19 cases are tracked throughout the summer. We are fortunate to have Mrs. Ruiz as a member of the Nassau County Council of School Superintendents Re-entry Committee. She will be providing an update tonight and keep us informed as things develop throughout the summer.

The Board continues to be proud of the high level of instruction and personal care being

demonstrated by our teachers and Mrs. Hecht will provide additional information as our Remote Learning Plan winds down for this school year.

Building level administrators continue planning meaningful end of year events to honor milestones in the safest, most appropriate way possible. I attended the Junior/Senior High School academic awards last week. The staff did a wonderful job offering kind words, praise, and even included applause for those being recognized for their achievements. Today's parade was heartwarming. Stay tuned and read notices for more events.

Mrs. Ruiz and the administrative team held a superbly well attended online conversation last week with over 100 attendees. They were able to offer updates on many of the topics I mentioned above and field questions from the audience.

B. Superintendent's Report

Our remote learning model has continued and once again I thank our parents, students, teachers and administrators for their efforts in making more than the best of a very difficult situation. We know that this is a challenging situation, but we believe our district has one of the best models and our teachers are putting forth considerable effort and ensuring that they provide live instruction for our students while also keeping connected socially and emotionally. Mrs. Hecht will update you a little bit more later in my report.

The last day of school was originally scheduled for June 26, 2020. As you are aware, we lost our spring break this year which was 8 days, and we will be providing instruction on Friday, May 22 and Tuesday May 26, 2020, which were designated as snow day/days off. In East Rockaway the school year consists of 182 days. I know that today some school districts have sent out guidance informing their communities that they will be ending the school year early, once they have met the threshold for their required number of days in their school calendar. We are still awaiting confirmation from our school attorneys which we expect to have by tomorrow and then we will make that final determination. It is expected that the year will end approximately two weeks earlier than our original end date. Parents can take a big sigh of relief – the end is in sight.

We have begun planning for our reentry to school in September. As you can imagine there are many factors that we must consider and plan for. Most importantly the COVID-19 situation will guide any and all planning and decisions we make based on guidance from the Governor's office and the NYSDOH.

The governor has indicated that schools could not reopen until we entered phase 4 and at this point in time, we are not in phase 4. We do, however, have the benefit of following models that have already been implemented in other countries and states to learn from and

we are working closely with Altaris, our security consultants but also our colleagues in Nassau County districts.

As I mentioned in my letter today, we have formed a reentry team and will be forming subcommittees to address the various different areas including considerations for social distancing, sanitizing procedures, virus prevention strategies, isolation strategies should someone become ill in school, and the social emotional well-being of students. Please know that our priority is to always ensure the health, safety and well-being of our students and faculty and that will be in the forefront of all decisions that we make. We will be asking for your input as we move forward so please keep an eye out for surveys and other information we will share. We also expect to do another live virtual forum in the near future to obtain input as we found that meeting to be very productive.

I know many of you were wondering about our end of your events. They are starting to take shape and will be shared with you by your building principal. Mr. Schaffer will be hosting one more parent and student feedback session this Thursday evening so that we may share with you the options under consideration while gaining a better understanding of the limitations that are imposed upon us by the governor's executive orders. We are hopeful that in the near future some of these social distancing stay at home guidelines will be relaxed or even lifted which will enable us to hold a live graduation on either our field or at another outdoor location. We want to know what you were thinking, and we do take your input as well as very importantly, the input of our students into consideration when planning.

Pursuant to recently amended Executive Law §29-a, Governor Cuomo may "suspend any statute" or issue "any directive during a state disaster emergency," including a disease outbreak, "if necessary. to assist or aid in coping with such disaster." Thus, in effect, the directives in the executive orders have the force of law.

Under Executive Order 202.31 speaks to large gatherings: "non-essential gatherings of any size for any reason" are prohibited until May 28, 2020. This mandate may be extended or modified by a future executive order. Thus, an in-person graduation ceremony (even if socially distanced) is likely not permitted pursuant to the executive order. As I mentioned we do hope that either at the end of this month or in early June the governor may lift some of these restrictions which will allow us to move forward but it is important that we understand that we must abide by the executive orders issued by our governor.

Unfortunately, when the governor determined that "all schools shall remain closed through the remainder of the school year." This includes all school facilities such as our fields. We are hoping for a reprieve but if not, we have various options that we can't default to.

Rhame Avenue School

Rhame Avenue 4th and 6th grade students participated in a Virtual Tour of the White House

Grounds with East Rockaway High School alumnus Liz Daitz and Major Cher. Students toured the grounds of the White House and were allowed to ask questions. They learned that there is a bowling alley in the White House that is broken and cannot be fixed until Congress agrees to do so.

In an effort to meet the social needs of our students during this difficult time, our 4th grade students piloted virtual recess with lunch and organized games. It was a huge success! A student generated this idea and led one of the games. We are building in an SEL component into our 2nd grade class, by teaching students mindfulness practices. Students explored the use of affirmations or power words to help to focus them and keep remain centered.

Centre Avenue School

Teachers in the elementary schools have continued to learn how to use different digital tools to enhance remote learning. Two examples of interactive tools are Google Jam Board and Nearpod. Teachers have also scheduled virtual field trips to enrich the students' learning experiences. This week, 4th grade students will have the opportunity to virtually tour the White House privately. 5th grade students are working hard on their Entrepreneur Day projects and 6th grade students are putting the finishing touches on their Science Fair projects.

East Rockaway Jr./Sr. High School

The Junior/Senior High School celebratory parade took place today, May 19th. Over 60 teachers, administrators and other staff members participated. Members of the Class of 2020 were presented with a sweet treat and a congratulatory message personally by Mr. Schaffer and courtesy of his creative mom!

A virtual academic awards ceremony was held on Wednesday, May 13th. Over 175 students were "presented" with awards from each department and from various organizations and elected officials. Students and families tuned in from their homes through a Google Meet Livestream.

Virtual sessions were held for students in grades 9-12 with guidance counselors, administrators and teachers. Students were given the opportunity to ask questions about whatever was on their mind, including remote learning, college, AP Exams, etc. Regular sessions for the Class of 2020 have been held. Each week guest teachers join, and our seniors are treated to some virtual fun and games.

A webpage for the Class of 2020 was created. It features tribute videos, a Decision Day video, information about upcoming events. Also featured were Senior Athlete and Senior Music spotlights, that highlighted the accomplishments of our seniors in those two areas.

Acceptance letters have been sent to students that met the qualifications for National Junior and Senior Honor Society. We are looking forward to a virtual induction ceremony on June 3rd. Congratulations to all of the new and returning members!

Teacher Appreciation Week took place during the week of May 4th. The families of ERHS submitted pictures to thank our teachers. The pictures were made into a video to honor our amazing staff.

A series of events honoring the Class of 2020 have been developed our senior class advisors, including "Adopt a Senior", where East Rockaway staff presents a special gift to a graduate, lawn sign deliveries, a yearbook and cap and gown pick-up event and a Senior Family Drive through, where students and families drive through the ERHS Campus for one last celebration before graduation.

This year we have two open trustee seats. Unfortunately, Mr. Schloth and Mr. Gamache will both be stepping down. I would like to take a moment to thank them for their extensive board service and announce that we will give them both a proper sendoff at our June Board of Education meeting. I would like to thank you personally for the incredible support that you have provided me over the years, and I will certainly miss working with you both. We do have only two candidates who have expressed interest in running; therefore, they will run unopposed. Their names are Mr. Daniel DeMatteo, and Mr. Joseph Kilgus both of whom are former graduates of East Rockaway, parents in our district and have children attending both Rhame Avenue and the Jr./Sr. High School.

I will now turn the microphone over to Ms. Hecht who will speak about kindergarten registration and orientation and a brief update on our remote learning.

Ms. Hecht provided the following report:

We are excited to welcome our youngest learners into Kindergarten in September. We are moving forward with our kindergarten orientation as it was scheduled for tomorrow, May 20th. The elementary principals, Dr. McArthur and Mrs. Ma, have planned to present the orientation together as a virtual orientation. Two time slots are available to families: 10 am and 2 pm. This information has been shared with all families who have already registered children for kindergarten. The orientation will include information about the daily schedule as well as the special areas that students will be able to participate in during their first year of schooling. Also, a video will be shared, "A Day in the Life of a Kindergartener." This video was created last school year so families will be able to view a typical kindergarten classroom while it is in session. Additionally, the principals will share tips to support students during the summer to help them get excited about entering school as well as prepare them for the expectations of kindergarten. Information about the kindergarten

screening will be forthcoming when we have a better idea of our plans for reentry. Kindergarten registration continues to be open. The registration packet can be found on our website and includes contact information for our registrar. We can accept registration packets electronically via email as well as in person and the paper registration packets are available to be picked up from our security guard at the main entrance of the high school building.

As far as our remote learning plan is going, we are still moving forward and we have submitted our updated Continuity of Learning Plan to New York State. Our teachers and students continue to work hard and are doing a great job stepping up during this challenging time. We speak often about being “East Rockaway Strong.” Our teachers and students started out strong during remote learning, have continued strong and will finish strong.

Ms. Ruiz thanked Ms. Hecht for her leadership. There are so many details to attend to and communication with our faculty is so important at this time and Ms. Hecht is masterful at it. Ms. Scerio will now update us about the budget as well as the budget vote.

Ms. Scerio provided the following report:

Budget Process:

The budget that was adopted last week and contains a 2.28% budget to budget increase with a 2.24% tax levy increase. The budget maintains all current programs and continues to support the district vision for technology, capital and security. The few initiatives included in the budget are the Mental Health Clinic and new K-6 Reading Curriculum. In addition, the budget includes the visitor management system as a security enhancement and a few small capital projects to maintain our facilities.

As I am sure you have heard on the news, there is a potential for a decrease in state aid during the upcoming school year. I want to assure you the District is aware of this concern and has taken steps to be prepared for a potential loss in state aid.

While we anticipate no loss of program for the upcoming school year, there is much more uncertainty for future years. As the year progresses and the state of the economy becomes clearer, we will develop a plan to address any future losses of revenue.

All budget presentations are posted on the District’s website and I encourage you to review them for further information. As Mr. Gamache mentioned earlier the budget hearing is scheduled for May 27th at 7:00 pm. I hope you will be able to join the webinar.

Budget Vote:

As you know the budget vote is June 9, 2020. In light of the COVID-19, voting will be by

absentee ballot only. Absentee ballots with a postage paid return envelope will be mailed to every registered voter in the District in the middle of next week and should arrive by May 30th. Directions on how a resident can find out if they are a registered voter will be placed on the website later tomorrow as well as directions on how to register to vote. Ballots must be received at the District by 5:00 pm on June 9, 2020. Ballots must be received by the District no later than 5:00 pm on June 9, 2020. There is no guarantee that we will know the results of the budget vote on June 9th and we may have to continue on June 10, 2020.

Ms. Ruiz thanked Ms. Scrio for her report.

After reconnecting to WIFI, Mr. Gamache returned to the screen and thanked Ms. Ruiz, Ms. Hecht and Ms. Scrio for their reports.

12. Good and Welfare

- A. Congratulations to Caroline Drummy and husband James on the arrival of their son Eoin James (“E.J.”) Drummy on May 10, 2020
- B. Condolences to Michele Nastasi and family on the passing of her mother-in-law, Enrica Nastasi, on May 12, 2020

13. Public Comments - None

Mr. Gamache stated that he hasn’t received any email comments this evening. He reminded everyone that the meeting is being recorded and encouraged residents to contact the board at boe@eastrockawayschools.org and to contact your child’s teacher or appropriate administrator with any concerns. Most concerns are appropriately addressed with your child’s teacher and/or building principal. Other general district questions should be directed to Mrs. Ruiz our Superintendent. Matters involving curriculum and instruction should be addressed to Mrs. Hecht and matters involving the budget and facilities should be directed to Mrs. Scrio. Mr. Araoz has created an excellent technology FAQ on the district homepage. If you need any further assistance with technology or have issues with a device, please reach out to him for assistance.

14. Board Member Comments

Kristen O’Hagan: As the school year heads into the final stretch, I would like to thank the administrative team for creating virtual ceremonies to celebrate the students in the community and for bringing a sense of normalcy into our households. The High School parade this afternoon commemorating the Seniors was amazing. Seeing the administrators and the teachers brought such a sense of excitement and Rock Pride. As a reminder to all registered voters - you will be receiving a ballot for this year’s budget vote and trustee election in the mail in the

coming weeks. We've appreciated the past support in passing school budgets by the community and I want to remind you to return your vote before June 9th. Thank you

Dominick Vulpis: "Ditto" to Rob Kennedy. Congratulations on your appointment which is a sign of great things to happen. An interesting situation happened today. As the parade was in front of his home, two gentlemen came over to him. They were graduates of the class of 2000. They came up to him, introduced themselves and said how happy they were to see him, and said what a great thing the school district is doing. They also indicated they wanted to make a documentary. He gave them the Superintendent's name and number for follow-up. The beauty about this is you never know how a human soul is touched until students come back. To you, Ms. Ruiz, administrators and teachers who have willingly provided daily education and for their on-going education, we thank you! Thanks to Mr. Araoz who has done a marvelous job with all our staff members and students in assisting them with any of their needs. Many thanks to all for constantly checking in with everyone and for all you have done.

Neil Schloth: Mr. Schloth was not able to provide his comments due to a computer issue.

Peter McNally: Mr. McNally "piggy-backed" on Mr. Vulpis' comments. It's been said you really don't know someone's true character until times get tough. Through these tough times East Rockaway has risen through the challenges and came through under Ms. Ruiz's leadership. Everyone has risen to the occasion with events such as the elementary parade, senior parade, virtual "coffee and conversation" and virtual awards ceremony. It was awesome to see how happy the children were to see their teachers and administrators. It could not be done without the help of everyone. Many thanks to Mr. Araoz for all he does for students and staff.

Keith Gamache: Mr. Gamache thanked everyone for attending our third remote board meeting. It is very strange doing our meetings remotely; it's nice having an audience and making a personal connection. At our last "coffee and conversation" virtual meeting the screen was broken up into a grid with many people and it was nice to see all the faces. He reiterated the importance of voting this year and encouraged everyone to attend next week's remote public budget hearing. It's an opportunity to get many questions answered. Absentee ballots have to be returned to the District by 5 pm on June 9, 2020. That is not a postmark deadline. Keep an eye out for ballots coming in the mail.

Keith Gamache: Thank you for attending tonight's meeting and staying informed. I hope you will attend next week's Budget Hearing and remember to have your Vote in by 5:00 pm on June 9, 2020.

15. Mr. Gamache asked for a motion to adjourn. Upon motion made by Dominick Vulpis, seconded by Peter McNally, and passed unanimously, the public meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vitina Fazi
District Clerk