

EAST ROCKAWAY UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
East Rockaway, New York  
Special Meeting of the Board of Education  
6:00 P.M., July 20, 2021  
East Rockaway Jr. / Sr. High School Library

MINUTES

Present:

Members of the Board of Education: Kristen O'Hagan, Peter McNally, Dominick Vulpis, Daniel DeMatteo, Joseph Kilgus, Superintendent Lisa J. Ruiz, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations, Jacqueline A. Scio, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, James DeTommaso, District Clerk, Nereyda Amaya Moran.

1. The meeting was called to order by Kristen O'Hagan at 6:00 pm.
2. Ms. O'Hagan led the Pledge of Allegiance
3. Recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools

Ms. O'Hagan asked if the trustees had any questions regarding Items A-L. There were no questions. Ms. O'Hagan then asked for a motion to approve Items A-L below.

Upon motion made by Daniel DeMatteo, seconded by Dominick Vulpis, all in favor AYE, opposed: NONE; abstained: NONE; the motion was unanimously passed, and the following Items A-L were approved.

- A. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the following resignations:
  1. Nicole DiBenedetto, short term substitute social studies teacher, effective July 14, 2021
  2. Cindy Dower, substitute teacher, effective July 14, 2021
  3. Diane Drakopoulos, monitor, effective July 7, 2021
  4. David Barth, Director of Physical Education, Health & Athletics, effective July 31, 2021
  5. Lauren Radburn, permanent substitute teacher, effective July 20, 2021
- B. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request for an FMLA leave of absence of Janna Bonacorsi from her probationary Director of Guidance position effective September 13, 2021, through October 15, 2021.
- C. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request for a medical leave of absence of Karin Leary from her physical education teacher position effective August 31, 2021, through October 8, 2021.
- D. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Caitlin Castellano to the part time position of ENL teacher for the Summer Enrichment Program effective August 2, 2021, through August 13, 2021, at the hourly salary established by the East

Rockaway Teachers Association Contract for Other Educational Assignments for the 2021-22 school year.

- E. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Marie Anderson to the part time position of ENL teacher effective July 19, 2021, through August 13, 2021, at the hourly salary established by the East Rockaway Teachers Association Contract for Other Educational Assignments for the 2021-22 school year.
- F. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Kristyn Klemm-Smith to the position of summer school substitute nurse effective July 16, 2021, through August 11, 2021, at the hourly contractual salary established by the East Rockaway Board of Education and East Rockaway School Nurses Association Agreement for the 2021-2022 school year.
- G. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the three year probationary appointment of Dame Forbes to the position of Science Chairperson , (tenure area: science; certification status: permanent), effective August 31, 2021, subject to applicable laws and regulations regarding the granting of tenure, at the MA60, Step 14, (plus stipend) annual salary set forth in the East Rockaway Teachers Association Contract for the 2021-2022 school year.
- H. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the four-year probationary appointment of Emily Brostowin to the position of special education teacher, (tenure area: special education; certification status: initial), effective August 31, 2021, subject to applicable laws and regulations regarding the granting of tenure, at the BA, Step 2, annual salary set forth in the East Rockaway Teachers Association Contract for the 2021-2022 school year.
- I. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Renande St. Vil to the position of short-term family and consumer science teacher, effective August 25, 2021, through December 3, 2021, at the per diem salary established by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for the 2021-2022 school year; and further approve an appointment to the position of per diem substitute teacher effective December 6, 2021 through June 30, 2022, at the per diem salary established by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for the 2021-2022 school year.
- J. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, correct the appointment of Ann Kerner to read as follows:  
  
Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the four-year probationary appointment of Ann Kerner to the position of elementary teacher, (tenure area: elementary; certification status: initial), effective August 31, 2021, subject to applicable laws and regulations regarding the granting of tenure, at the BA, Step 2, annual salary set forth in the East Rockaway Teachers Association Contract for the 2021-2022 school year.
- K. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the revised 2021-2022 fall coaching schedule at the stipend salary set forth in the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for the 2021-2022 school year.

- L. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following summer curriculum writing appointments at the hourly salary established by the East Rockaway Teacher Association Contract for summer curriculum work, effective July 21, 2021:
  - 1. Joseph Polite
  - 2. Nicole Signorello
  - 3. Dame Forbes
  - 4. Ann Kerner

4. Other Items

Ms. O’Hagan asked if the trustees had any questions regarding Items A-D There were none. Ms. O’Hagan then asked for a motion to approve Items A-D.

Upon motion made by Joseph Kilgus, seconded by Daniel DeMatteo, all in favor AYE, opposed: NONE; abstained: NONE; the motion was unanimously passed, and the following Items A-D was approved.

A. Approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the East Rockaway UFSD Board of Education nominated Robert “B.A.” Schoen for the position of NYSSBA Area 11 Director for a two-year term beginning January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2023.

- B. Approve the extended contract with Nassau BOCES for summer 2021 transportation services and authorize the Superintendent and President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
- C. Approve the award of the bid for transportation services with First Student for summer 2021 transportation services and authorize the Superintendent and President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
- D. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following budget transfer.
  - 1. Transaction No. 21-0026.

5. Good and welfare

- A. Congratulations to James Hickey and family on the arrival of their son, Colton Patrick, born on July 12, 2021
- B. Condolences to Laura Clarke and family on the passing of her daughter, Taylor Rose Clarke.
- C. Condolences to Mayor Romano and Theresa Romano and family on the passing Phillip Guerrieri.

6. Board Member Comments

Dominick Vulpis: This summer has been difficult, a lot of East Rockaway people passing, in reference to Dr. Richard Meagher and Taylor Clarke. I was hearing some of the amazing stories of people that had an encounter with them and it is unbelievable the culture of the community and how does this community come out of people who has given service over the years. Also, I received a phone call from Mr. Barth, he wanted to reach out and thank us and specifically praise the board of education, thanking us for all the support to the Athletics department and he regrets that he won't be here to witness it. Wish him the best at his new position.

Joseph Kilgus: I wanted to wish good luck to Mr. Barth, he did a great job with our Athletics department, and I wish him the best in the future on his new job.

Kristen O'Hagan: I would like to wish Mr. Barth well on his new position, we thank him for all time, effort, and input on the new athletics complex and for all the hard work he has done in the district .... Remember, once a rock always a rock!

Daniel DeMatteo: No comments.

Peter McNally: No comments.

7. Upon motion made by Peter McNally, seconded by Joseph Kilgus, and passed unanimously, the special meeting was adjourned at 6:08 pm and the Board continued with a work session in the library.

Respectfully submitted,

Nereyda Amaya-Moran  
District Clerk