

MINUTES
ROCKY POINT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
June 25, 2007

Mrs. Thalen called the meeting to order at 7:44 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Geraldine Thalen, President
Joseph Sanseverino, Vice-President
Jane Bonner, Trustee
Michael Matera, Trustee
Margaret Smith, Trustee
Carla L. D'Ambrosio Ed. D., Superintendent of Schools
Sherry J. Alessandro, Asst. Supt. for Human Resources/Administration
Michael W. Ivanoff, Director of Finance and Operations
Patricia Jones, District Clerk

Absent: None

Mrs. Thalen opened the meeting to questions or comments from the community:

- Ms. Donna McCauley, Service Unit Coordinator of the Suffolk County Girl Scouts, Rocky Point division, expressed her concerns regarding the frequency in which the district withdraws its permission for usage of building rooms previously approved requests for specific dates/functions. Ms. McCauley understood that school functions take precedence over outside agency use of said buildings but indicated that last minute withdrawal of previously approved requests presented an extreme hardship for the Girl Scouts. Ms. McCauley asked that this situation be looked into in hopes of avoiding this problem in the upcoming school year. Mrs. Thalen explained that the Board of Education was not actively involved with building usage and suggested that Ms. McCauley keep in close contact with the building principal of the school in which usage was being sought so that alternate plans could be made in as much advance as necessary if the situation warranted it. Mr. Matera suggested that once approval for building usage is granted by the school building principal, if usage will not be possible, the building principal should "look to other schools" to accommodate the usage request. Dr. D'Ambrosio stated that space was, indeed, a problem, especially during the month of June. Dr. D'Ambrosio advised Ms. McCauley that this type of problem would be investigated further.
- Mrs. Pat Sparks read from a prepared statement. She extended her sincere gratitude and congratulations to Edward Collins, Barry Molloy, Sandra DeHayes, Jaye Vedder, Dorothy Wennerod, Anne Donovan, Colette Keegan, Bernadette Cassell, Pat Fischetti, Pat Halpin and Eileen Ferdinandsen upon their retirement. Mrs. Sparks also thanked Ms. Bonner for her years of service as a member of the Board of Education and her contributions to the children of the Rocky Point

UFSD. Mrs. Sparks took a moment to thank Irene Pedota, former district clerk, for her professionalism and many years of dedicated service to the members of the Board of Education.

There were no further comments or questions. Mrs. Thalen reminded the audience that there would be another opportunity, at the end of the meeting, for any other questions or comments.

PLAQUE PRESENTATION TO OUTGOING BOARD TRUSTEE, JANE BONNER

On behalf of the Board of Education, Mrs. Thalen presented the outgoing board members, Jane Bonner, with a plaque in commemoration of her four years of service as a school board trustee. Mrs. Thalen stated that Ms. Bonner gave her heart and soul to every issue presented for consideration before the Board and thanked her for her dedicated service to the community and the children of the Rocky Point UFSD.

PRESENTATION: HERITAGE TRUST AWARD

Ms. Amy Satchell, secretary of the Heritage Trust Organization, presented the district with a trophy and certificate in recognition of its overall achievement and leadership in distributing Recycling Challenge leaflets to students. Of the four northern Brookhaven districts that participated in the 2007 EarthDay Recycling Challenge, the students of Frank J. Carasiti and Joseph A. Edgar Schools returned the most pledges and, as a result, the Rocky Point School District was declared the winner for 2007. Mrs. Thalen thanked Ms. Satchell for the award and invited the students of the Rocky Point High School and Rocky Point Middle School to meet the successes of JAE and FJC.

PLAQUE PRESENTATION TO PATRICK COLLINS, PH.D., RETIRING SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

Dr. D'Ambrosio, on behalf of the Board of Education, presented Dr. Collins with a plaque in commemoration of his thirty-two years of dedicated service to the students of Rocky Point Schools.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Carol Tvelia, principal, Joseph A. Edgar School

- Mrs. Tvelia announced that the Shared Decision Making Team decided that the construction of a new playground on the premises of JAE was warranted and that the children should decide what the new playground should look like. Following this announcement, a Power Point presentation was made by Mrs. McCabe's 4th and 5th grade GATES students. The students visited the current playground and conducted a "Playground Checklist" created by the U.S. Consumer Production Safety Commission (CPSC). The

results of their visit indicated several safety hazards were present. The proposed playground was presented and its advantages were highlighted. The GATES students pointed out that the proposed new playground meets all of the CPSC Safety regulations and would be an integral part of the Wellness Policy at JAE. A 3D finished model of the playground was available in the front of the auditorium during the meeting to be reviewed by meeting attendees. The GATES committee thanked the Board of Education members and the members of the audience for their time and dedication and expressed their hopes that their proposal for a new playground would be considered. Mrs. Thalen thanked and applauded Mrs. McCabe for her efforts on behalf of her students. Mrs. Thalen thanked the members of the community for passage of the EXCEL bond which would help to pay for a new playground.

Dr. D'Ambrosio and Mrs. Thalen announced that the presentation of the Grades 3-8 Testing – Student Performance 2006-2007 originally planned for this meeting would be postponed until September.

MINUTES

Upon a motion made by Joseph Sanseverino and seconded by Michael Matera, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Minutes of the following Board of Education Meetings be accepted as presented: **Regular Meeting, May 15, 2007.**

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

TREASURER'S REPORTS

Upon a motion made by Michael Matera and seconded by Margaret Smith, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the Treasurer's Reports for the month of April 2007, as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

EXTRA-CLASSROOM ACTIVITY ACCOUNT TREASURER REPORT

Upon a motion made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Jane Bonner, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the Extra-Classroom Activity Treasurer Reports for the month of April 2007, as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Upon a motion made by Jane Bonner and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino, the following motion was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the Financial Reports for the month of April 2007, as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN BOCES COOPERATIVE BIDDING SERVICES PURCHASING CONTRACTS FOR THE 2007-08 FISCAL YEAR ON AN “AS NEEDED” BASIS

Upon a motion made by Joseph Sanseverino and seconded by Michael Matera, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education participates in various “BOCES Cooperative Bidding Services Contracts” for the 2007-2008 fiscal year on an “as needed” basis.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE WITH OTHER DISTRICTS IN NASSAU/SUFFOLK COUNTIES IN THE JOINT BIDDING ON FOOD AND FOOD SERVICE SUPPLIES FOR THE 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR

Upon a motion made by Michael Matera and seconded by Margaret Smith, the following resolution was offered:

WHEREAS, it is the plan of a number of public school districts in Nassau/Suffolk counties, New York, to bid jointly on Food and Food Service Supplies for the 2007-2008 school year.

WHEREAS, ROCKY POINT SCHOOL DISTRICT, desires to participate with other districts in Nassau/Suffolk counties in the joint bidding of the commodities mentioned above as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-0 and,

WHEREAS, ROCKY POINT SCHOOL DISTRICT, wishes to appoint a committee to assume the responsibility for drafting of specification, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bids, reporting the results to the boards of education and making recommendations thereon; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the **ROCKY POINT SCHOOL DISTRICT**, hereby appoints Long Island School Food Service Director’s Association Cooperative Bid Committee to represent it in all matters related above, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that **ROCKY POINT SCHOOL DISTRICT’S** Board of Education authorize the above-mentioned committee to represent it in all matters leading up to the entering into a contract for the purchase of the above-mentioned commodities, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that **ROCKY POINT SCHOOL DISTRICT’S** Board of Education agrees to assume its equitable share of the costs of the cooperative bidding, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that **ROCKY POINT SCHOOL DISTRICT'S** Board of Education agrees to (1) abide by majority decisions of the participating districts on quality standards; (2) that unless all bids are rejected, it will award contracts according to the recommendations of the committee; (3) that after award of contract(s) it will conduct all negotiations directly with the successful bidder(s).

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RESOLUTION FOR CONTRACT EXTENSION - K & S SANITATION

Upon a motion made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Jane Bonner, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education renews the agreement for district wide garbage removal with K & S Sanitation for the 2007-2008 fiscal year at no additional cost.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RESOLUTION FOR CONTRACT EXTENSION – PAPA JOHNS PIZZA

Upon a motion made by Jane Bonner and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education renews the agreement with Papa Johns for the 2007-2008 fiscal year at no additional cost.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Thalen asked Mr. Ivanoff for the cost of pizza under the Papa Johns contract. Mr. Ivanoff responded that the cost was just under \$4.00 per pie. There was no further discussion.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RESOLUTION FOR CONTRACT EXTENSION – SAVE-ON PRINTING

Upon a motion made by Joseph Sanseverino and seconded by Michael Matera, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education renews the agreement with Save-On Printing for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, per the one-year extension clause.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Thalen asked Mr. Ivanoff for details of the Save-On Printing contract. Mr. Ivanoff responded that there were specific variables depending upon the specific item being printed; however, generally speaking, the cost for printing was the same “per page” as last year. There was no further discussion.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RESOLUTION FOR BID AWARD 08-01 to ALL-SUFFOLK AUTO SCHOOL

Upon a motion made by Michael Matera and seconded by Margaret Smith, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education awards bid number 08-01 In-Car Driver Education to All-Suffolk Auto School as the lowest responsible bidder meeting bid specifications.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RESOLUTION FOR THREE YEAR (2007-2010) CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH LAIDLAW EDUCATION SERVICES

Upon a motion made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Jane Bonner, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education authorizes the Board President to enter into an agreement with Laidlaw Educational Services for a three-year contract as per the negotiated Transportation Contract Extension Agreement.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Thalen questioned the name of the company providing busing services to the district and asked why it included the term “education services.” Ms. Bonner stated that this name had been in effect for several years. Mrs. Thalen asked Mr. Ivanoff for details concerning the extension of the contract. Mr. Ivanoff responded that the district would receive a \$260,000 savings in the form of a rebate during the first year of the new contract. Mr. Ivanoff also stated that Laidlaw would pay for gas; there would be no fuel costs to the district. There was no further discussion.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

NON-RESIDENT TUITION – SUMMER SCHOOL

Upon a motion made by Jane Bonner and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approves the tuition rate of \$350 per summer school class, and \$50 for Regents exam only, for non-residential students who wish to enroll in the 2007 summer school program.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Thalen asked Mr. Patrick Panella, the newly appointed summer school principal, how many out-of-district students had signed on for summer school. Mr. Panella responded that as of the evening of June 25th, approximately twenty (20) non-resident students were registered for summer school out of approximately ninety (90) registrants. Mr. Panella explained that registration was ongoing and that he would have a better idea of exact numbers within twenty-four hours. There was no further discussion.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RESOLUTION FOR HEALTH SERVICES CONTRACTS

Upon a motion made by Joseph Sanseverino and seconded by Michael Matera the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education authorizes the Board President to enter into an agreement for health services for the 2006–07 school year with the following districts:

- Bay Shore Union Free School District
- Port Jefferson School District
- Smithtown Central School District

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

CASH DONATION FOR SOUND EQUIPMENT FROM FRIENDS OF MUSIC

Upon a motion made by Michael Matera and seconded by Margaret Smith, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accepts the donation of \$4,500.00 from the Friends of Music.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rocky Point UFSD hereby approves, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to increase the general fund budget by \$4,500 as a result of the donation from the Friends of Music.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following budget code be adjusted to reflect that increase: A2110.208-03-3120 \$4,500

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

CASH DONATION FOR REGISTRATION FEE – MUSIC IN THE PARK FESTIVAL FROM FRIENDS OF MUSIC

Upon a motion made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Jane Bonner, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accepts the donation of \$1,488.00 from the Friends of Music.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

CASH DONATION FOR STRING BASS INSTRUMENTS FROM FRIENDS OF MUSIC

Upon a motion made by Jane Bonner and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accepts the donation of \$1,000.00 from the Friends of Music.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rocky Point UFSD hereby approves, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to increase the general fund budget by \$1,000 as a result of the donation from the Friends of Music.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following budget code be adjusted to reflect that increase: A2110.208-03-3120 \$1,000
All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RESERVE FUND TRANSFER

Upon a motion made by Joseph Sanseverino and seconded by Michael Matera, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approves the transfer of the not-to-exceed amount for the reserve funds as specified for 2006/2007.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

DISTRICT 2007-2008 WELLNESS POLICY

Upon a motion made by Michael Matera and seconded by Margaret Smith, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the District 2007 – 2008 Wellness Policy.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT SRA REAL MATH SERIES CURRICULUM K-5

Upon a motion made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Jane Bonner, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education adopt the SRA Real Math Series Curriculum K-5, published by McGraw-Hill, 2007.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Thalen asked Dr. D'Ambrosio who made the decision to accept the SRA Real Math Series Curriculum K-5. Mr. Sanseverino asked how this textbook series differs from what is currently in place. Dr. D'Ambrosio responded that the SRA Real Math Series Curriculum Series K-5 requires a critical analysis of thinking by the students when solving everyday math problems. The series also explains, in detail, verbal and written solutions to math problems. Dr. D'Ambrosio also stated that the series is in alignment with the new standards. There was no further discussion.

All in favor- Motion carried 5-0

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBER: SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT MEMBER

Upon a motion made by Jane Bonner and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approves the appointment of Tracy Mueller as a Parent Member to the Committee on Special Education. (In accordance with the Commissioner's Regulations, Part 200 and the provisions of the Education Law, Section 4402.)

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

COMMITTEES ON SPECIAL EDUCATION/PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Upon a motion made by Joseph Sanseverino and seconded by Michael Matera, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education votes to arrange for appropriate services pursuant to the recommendations of Schedule 6-25-07-A and Schedule 6-25-07- B.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RATIFICATION OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS AND AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS BY BOARD PRESIDENT ON BEHALF OF BOARD OF EDUCATION

Upon a motion made by Michael Matera and seconded by Margaret Smith, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education hereby ratifies the employment contract between the Board of Education of the Rocky Point UFSD and Michael Ivanoff, Director of Finance and Operations, and Gregory Hilton, Business Manager, for the period July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2008, and hereby authorizes the president of the Board, Geraldine Thalen, to execute the contracts on behalf of the Board.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RATIFICATION OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS AND AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS BY BOARD PRESIDENT ON BEHALF OF BOARD OF EDUCATION

Upon a motion made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Jane Bonner, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education hereby ratifies the employment contracts between the Board of Education of the Rocky Point UFSD and Irene Rosener, School District Treasurer and Joseph Nowaski, School Maintenance Crew Leader, for the period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008, and hereby authorizes the president of the Board, Geraldine Thalen, to execute the contacts on behalf of the Board.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

At 8: 35 PM, Mrs. Thalen asked for a motion to adjourn to Executive Session for a brief period to discuss certain personnel matters before voting on the items contained in the personnel agenda. The motion was made by Ms. Bonner and seconded by Mr. Sanseverino.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

The members of the Board of Education returned to Open Session at 9:03 PM.

PERSONNEL

Upon a motion made by Jane Bonner and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accepts the attached Personnel changes.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Resolution to Set the Board of Education Annual Organizational Date

Upon a motion made by Joseph Sanseverino and seconded by Michael Matera, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that Monday, July 2, 2007, is set as the date for the Board of Education Annual Organizational Meeting. Furthermore, the meeting will take place in the Rocky Point High School Auditorium at 7:30 PM.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Mrs. Thalen opened the floor to the audience for any questions or comments before the Board moved to Executive Session:

- Mrs. Santiago extended her appreciation to the principals for allowing the Friends of Music to attend musical production performances and raise money for the Friends of Music.
- Ms. Bonner thanked the members of the Board of Education for their support during her tenure as a board trustee. She expressed her gratitude for the countless hours the board members devote to issues concerning the RPUFSD and reminded all that QUITE often the members of the board of education spend more time with each other than they do with their own families. Ms. Bonner stated that the focal point of the board is its concerns with the interests of the children and the community. Ms. Bonner mentioned that although the different members may have different styles and go about expressing themselves in different ways, the end goal is to do what is best and will benefit the children of Rocky Point Schools. Mrs. Bonner extended her sincere and personal gratitude to Mr. William Caulfield, principal of the Rocky Point High School, for his tireless support, guidance and assistance during the difficult years.

- Mrs. Thalen, once again, thanked Ms. Bonner for her contributions as a member of the Board of Education of the Rocky Point UFSD.

There were no further questions or comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:13 PM a motion was made by Michael Matera and seconded by Margaret Smith to go into Executive Session to discuss particular personnel matters.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Jones
District Clerk

The Board of Education returned to Open Session at 10:30 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:40 PM a motion was made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Jane Bonner for the Board of Education to adjourn the meeting.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

Carla L. D'Ambrosio, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

