

**MINUTES**  
**ROCKY POINT PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**October 25, 2010**

**Mrs. Burke called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M.**

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Michael Nofi, President (arriving at 6:40 P.M.)  
Diane Burke, Vice President  
John Lessler, Trustee  
Kathleen Hegggers, Trustee  
Scott Reh, Trustee  
Michael F. Ring, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools  
Deborah DeLuca, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent  
Gregory Hilton, School Business Official  
Susan Wilson, Executive Director for Educational Services  
Patricia Jones, District Clerk

Absent: None

**RECESS**

At 6:04 P.M. Kathleen Hegggers made a motion and John Lessler seconded to recess the meeting in order to meet with members of the Rocky Point Teachers' Association in accordance with the contractual limits set forth between the Rocky Point Union Free School District and the Rocky Point Teachers' Association.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:10 P.M.

Mr. Nofi welcomed those in attendance to the meeting and turned the meeting over to Dr. Ring.

Dr. Ring announced several recognitions would be made during the course of the meeting beginning with recognition of the trustees of the Board of Education. Stating that this week in the month of October is deemed School Board Recognition Week, Dr. Ring noted that service as a Board of Education trustee is unpaid and can often be stressful and demanding. Dr. Ring commented that service as a Board of Education trustee is also fulfilling and meaningful to the community. Dr. Ring acknowledged that each member's service as a Board of Education trustee entitled them to the district's gratitude for their dedicated service and meaningful contributions to the community.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**Amy Agnesini, Director of Health, Physical Education, Athletics and Intramurals**

- The Varsity Girl's Lacrosse team was bestowed the honor of receiving the Founder's Cup, an award given to only one team in Suffolk County. The recipient of the Founder's Cup, voted upon by every coach in the county, represents the team that demonstrates the best sportsmanship, shows team character, and has a coach with a positive attitude toward the integrity of the sport. Congratulations to Coach Dan Spallina and the 2010 Girl's Varsity Lacrosse Team for bringing this recognition to Rocky Point. The following student athletes were acknowledged for this accomplishment: Alexa Anzalone, Alex Darcey, Christie Dougherty, Caitlin Gargan, Alyssa Guido, Samantha Guido, Jessica Hassett, Kristine Loscalzo, Samantha Mazzeo, Alyssa Milano, Emily Mercier, Kara Mupo, Cindy Russell, Julie Nolan, Amanda Sanchez, Haley Sanchez, Chelsea Spagnolo, Jennifer Wandle, Tracey Wandle, Jessica Volpe, Jamie Zimmer, and Aimee Zlotoff.
- The Rocky Point Cheerleaders will sponsor their annual "Pack the Track" event on October 26<sup>th</sup>. The event will raise money for breast cancer research and the proceeds will be donated to 1 in 9 Long Island Breast Cancer Action Coalition. Thank you to Coach Spallina, Coach Hayden and Coach Collier for their hard work in putting this fundraiser together.
- Coach Krejci and the Leaders Club members will sponsor Denim and Pink Day on Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. Faculty, staff and students may donate money to wear denim and pink on this day.
- On Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, the volleyball teams, with the help of Coach Krejci and Coach Tsavos, will host the annual Dig Pink games in support of the Breast Cancer Awareness Volleyball Rally that takes place all over the country in high schools and colleges. Proceeds will benefit Side-Out for the purpose of awarding grants to medical research organizations and entities dedicated to providing support to breast cancer patients and their families.

**William B. Caulfield, Principal, Rocky Point High School**

- During Homecoming Weekend, October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, more than one hundred and seventy five students attended the Homecoming Dance.
- Congratulations to the Rocky Point High School Marching Band for a wonderful performance at the annual Newsday Marching Band Festival at Hofstra University. Special congratulations to music teachers Amy Schecher and Kelly Gatto for a job well done.
- Our Rocky Point High School Newspaper, the *Eagle's Eye*, was announced as a Gold Medalist for the 2009-2010 school year. This is the first time the newspaper was awarded with this prestigious honor. Congratulations to newspaper advisor, Jessica Rubin, and staff members Caitlin Gargan, James Leonard and Joanna McDonnell.
- English teacher, Christine Blume, recognized and congratulated senior Kathleen Dallon as the recipient of the 2010 NCTE Achievement Award in Writing.
- Guidance counselor, Matt Poole, recognized and congratulated senior Zach Myslinski as a National Merit Semi-Finalist. Mr. Poole also recognized and

congratulated senior Rusian Ardashev upon his recognition as a commended student in the 2011 National Merit Scholarship program.

- Music teacher, Amy Schecher, extended congratulations to junior Megan Viglione. Megan will represent Rocky Point High School at the 2010 NYSSMA All-State Conference in Rochester from December 2<sup>nd</sup> through December 5<sup>th</sup>. Megan will participate as a member of the All-State Mixed Chorus at Eastman's School of Music. Ms. Schecher presented Megan with a certificate and wished her well in Rochester.

Following all of the high school presentations, Mr. Caulfield commented upon the array of talent showcased in the areas of scholastics, music and athletics, and noted that it was his pleasure to recognize the students and staff for their fine achievements.

### **Scott O'Brien, Ed.D., Principal, Rocky Point Middle School**

- Mr. O'Brien extended his congratulations to those students recognized for their accomplishments.
- The first Community Astronomy Night for the 2010-2011 school year was held on October 21<sup>st</sup> at the Middle School. The event was extremely well-attended by students and community members. Thank you to Ms. Audra Hallock and other teachers from the science department for organizing this event.
- All students participated in the first of a three part series of Police Smart assemblies. The series addresses bully prevention, violence prevention and cyber bullying and is presented by a Suffolk County police officer. Character development, diversity and drug prevention presentations are scheduled in the coming weeks.
- The Student Council, under the direction of Mr. Connelly, will sponsor a fall dance on November 12<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. for sixth graders only and from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for seventh and eighth grade students.
- Eighth grade social studies teacher, Mrs. Alemaghides, along with twenty middle school students, will participate at the ninth annual Middle School Anti-Bias Tolerance Days. The keynote speaker is Holocaust survivor Werner Reich. Students will participate in small break out sessions that will provide them an opportunity to meet with other Long Island students to discuss ways to combat prejudice.

### **Carol Tvelia, Principal, Joseph A. Edgar Intermediate School**

- Ms. Tvelia offered her congratulations to the evening's honored students.
- Third and fourth grade students experienced life in the 18<sup>th</sup> century during a field trip for third graders to Old Bethpage Village and a trip for fourth graders to the Longwood Estate.
- There will be a series of "in-house" field trips. The first is scheduled for October 27<sup>th</sup> when the fourth and fifth grade students will experience a rainforest.
- Thank you to the PTA for sponsoring the JAE Book Fair.
- Fifth grade students were shown "Too Good for Drugs" presentations.
- The first Mystery Reader visited JAE on October 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Book Character Day is scheduled for October 29<sup>th</sup>.

- UNICEF is celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Trick or Treating for UNICEF. Fundraising baby scarecrows made by fourth grade students will be on view for your enjoyment.
- The Mentor Program will begin on November 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The Annual Salute to Veterans will take place from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. on November 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Kenneth Crawford, Acting Principal, Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School**

- The students are participating in the Joe and Lisa Costa Sixth Annual Book Drive in honor of their daughter, Stephanie-Lynn. This book drive results in many new donated books.
- A forty-five minute In-School Field Trip for first grade students, provided by the Department of Environmental Conservation, was conducted on October 4<sup>th</sup> and October 5<sup>th</sup>. These programs are designed to introduce students to some of the wild animals sharing our planet.
- More than twenty FJC students, dressed in Broadway theatre costumes and showing their school spirit, marched in the Homecoming Parade on October 9<sup>th</sup>.
- On October 27<sup>th</sup> the first graders will pick pumpkins on the back fields of FJC.
- The annual FJC Harvest Day Parade will be held on Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Ring introduced Mr. Peter Rodriguez, CPA, of the firm of Cullen & Danowski, LLP, the external auditors for the Rocky Pont UFSD. Mr. Rodriguez presented a synopsis of the 2009-2010 school district's financial statements and explained in detail his firm's final analysis of same. Mr. Rodriguez summarized the report, including all aspects of internal controls, risk assessments and auditing programs. Mr. Rodriguez reported that the district was granted the highest opinion of "unqualified opinion." Furthermore, the district presented "no material weaknesses" and "no instances of non-compliance" following an extensive testing of checks and balances. Mr. Rodriguez noted the final report contained a minor comment concerning the school lunch fund which was being addressed promptly.

Dr. Ring thanked Mr. Rodriguez for his presentation. Dr. Ring announced upon the Board of Education's official acceptance of the report and its findings that the documents would be available for review on the district's website beginning October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010 for a period of one year.

Mr. Nofi invited questions and/or comments from meeting attendees.

- Dr. Pinkenburg expressed his concerns regarding the trans fat content of some items currently on the lunch menus and asked to whom he should direct his request to have these items removed. Dr. Ring responded that Elena Lynch-Dobert, School Lunch Manager, was invited to a recent Shared Decision Making meeting in order to hear the concerns of community members. At this meeting, Ms. Lynch-Dobert announced that she had eliminated the "small cookie" from the menu, the item which contained the most trans fat, and that she was in the process of culling out items that contained high levels of trans fat. In addition, Ms.

- Lynch-Dobert reported that she was using funds to introduce more fresh fruits to the meal menu and was replacing some canned vegetables with frozen vegetables.
- Dr. Pinkenburg shared his belief that pulling students out of their classroom in order to participate in orchestra lessons was a disruption to all students. Dr. Pinkenburg reported that these students were absent from class for approximately one hour. Dr. Ring responded to Dr. Pinkenburg's concerns and advised that at this time, a better alternative does not exist.
  - Patricia Scalone, president of the School Related Professional Association, extended her gratitude to each of the members of the Board of Education for their dedicated service. Mrs. Scalone announced in honor of School Board Recognition Week the School Related Professional Association donated the sum of \$250.00 to the North Shore Youth Council Community Revitalization Project in their name.
  - Mr. Leon Saylor asked if the woods in front of the Frank J. Carasiti School could be cleared as they posed a threat to the safety of the students. He noted that the current heavily wooded conditions in the front of the FJC building would be deemed unacceptable by his employer, the Comsewogue School District, and should be addressed as soon as possible. Mrs. Burke announced that the wooded area in front of the FJC building was determined to be "not within the jurisdiction of the school district" by the Pine Barrens Commission. Mrs. Burke explained that the school district had previously met with the Pine Barrens Commission in order to remove and/or reshape the trees and brush for safety reasons. Mrs. Burke advised the Pine Barrens Commission declared the trees and brush in front of the FJC building to belong to the Pine Barrens and were not within the jurisdiction of the school district, therefore, the district was not permitted to remove the trees or the underlying brush. Mrs. Burke expressed her commitment to readdress the issue in another attempt to secure a satisfactory solution.
  - Mr. Saylor expressed an additional concern regarding the lack of proper lighting in the FJC parking lot. Mr. Crawford acknowledged the problem with the parking lot lighting and advised that a solution would be sought immediately in order to correct the situation.
  - Ms. Mary Heely, president of the Rocky Point PTA, announced the next scheduled meeting will be held on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010 in the Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School cafeteria. Ms. Heely extended an open invitation to attend this meeting and noted that by volunteering only one hour a year to the PTA would help make quite a difference in supporting programs. Ms. Heely offered her sincere gratitude to school board trustee Kathleen Hegggers for her assistance in continuously stepping up when volunteers were unable to meet their commitments. Ms. Heely thanked Dr. Ring, Mrs. Manitta and Ms. Agnesini for their consistent open door policies. Ms. Heely also expressed her gratitude to Mr. Marchetta for his commitment to the Interscholastic Sports for the Challenged program.

There were no further questions or comments.

## **MINUTES**

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke and seconded by Kathleen Heggors, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Minutes of the following Board of Education meetings be accepted as presented: **Regular Meeting, September 27, 2010, Audit Committee Meeting, September 27, 2010.**

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

## **TREASURER’S REPORTS**

Upon a motion made by Kathleen Heggors and seconded by Scott Reh, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education accepts the Treasurer’s Reports for the month of August 2010 as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

## **EXTRA-CLASSROOM ACTIVITY ACCOUNT TREASURER REPORT**

Upon a motion made by Scott Reh and seconded by John Lessler, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education accepts the Extra-Classroom Activity Treasurer’s Report for the month of August 2010 as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

## **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Upon a motion made by John Lessler and seconded by Diane Burke, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education accepts the Financial Reports for the months of July and August 2010 as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

## **BUDGET TRANSFER SUMMARY – JUNE (FINAL) 2010 AND SEPTEMBER 2010**

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke and seconded by Kathleen Heggors, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the June (Final) and September 2010 Budget Transfer Summary.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

## **INTERNAL CLAIMS AUDIT REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2010**

Upon a motion made by Kathleen Hegggers and seconded by Scott Reh, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the September 2010 Internal Claims Audit Report.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

**2009-2010 INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

Upon a motion made by Scott Reh and seconded by John Lessler, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the Independent Auditors' Report with accompanying statements and schedules for the fiscal year ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010, which have been submitted by our external auditors, Cullen & Danowski, LLP.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

**2009-2010 INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON EXTRA-CLASSROOM ACTIVITY FUNDS**

Upon a motion made by John Lessler and seconded by Diane Burke, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the Independent Auditors' Report on Extra-Classroom Activity Funds with accompanying statements and schedules for the fiscal year ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010, which have been submitted by our external auditors, Cullen & Danowski, LLP.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

**BOND ISSUE RELATED CAPITAL PROJECT SCIENCE LAB RECONSTRUCTION – CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 (TELSAN ELECTRIC, INC.)**

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke and seconded by Kathleen Hegggers, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts and approves the attached change order in reference to the bond issue related project, and authorizes the president of the Board of Education to execute said change order.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

**2010-2011 SPECIAL EDUCATION CONTRACT – BETHPAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT (CATHOLIC CHARITIES)**

Upon a motion made by Kathleen Hegggers and seconded by Scott Reh, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the president of the Board of Education to enter into a

contract with Bethpage Union Free School District for special education instructional services for a parentally placed student for the 2010-2011 school year under applicable Individual Educational Programs, applicable law, and/or district policy.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

**2010-2011 SPECIAL EDUCATION TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT – DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES INSTITUTE, INC.**

Upon a motion made by Scott Reh and seconded by John Lessler, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the president of the Board of Education to enter into a contract with Developmental Disabilities Institute, Inc. (DDI) for special education minivan transportation services for a student for the 2010-2011 school year under applicable Individual Educational Programs, applicable law, and/or district policy.

Prior to Mr. Nofi's request for a vote, Dr. Ring stated in accordance with the district's commitment to a policy of full disclosure and in order to prevent the possibility of the appearance of a conflict of interest with reference to this agenda item, he wanted to make it known that his brother is a member of the board of directors of Developmental Disabilities Institute, Inc.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

**2010-2011 SPECIAL EDUCATION CONTRACT – CAREER & EMPLOYMENT OPTIONS, INC.**

Upon a motion made by John Lessler and seconded by Diane Burke, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the president of the Board of Education to enter into a contract with Career & Employment Options, Inc. for specialized career assessment for the 2010-2011 school year, under applicable Individual Educational Programs, applicable law, and/or district policy.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

**2010-2011 SPECIAL EDUCATION CONTRACT - DEVEREUX**

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke and seconded by Kathleen Hegggers, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to enter into a contract with Devereux for special education instructional services for the 2010-2011 school year under applicable Individual Educational Programs, applicable law, and/or district policy, effective October 6, 2010.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0



### **2010-2011 SPECIAL EDUCATION CONTRACT – MADONNA HEIGHTS**

Upon a motion made by Kathleen Hegggers and seconded by Scott Reh, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the president of the Board of Education to enter into a contract with Madonna Heights for special education instructional services for the 2010-2011 school year under applicable Individual Educational Programs, applicable law and/or district policy.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

### **DONATION OF DICTIONARIES**

Upon a motion made by Scott Reh and seconded by John Lessler, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the donation of three hundred and twelve (312) dictionaries from the Port Jefferson Lodge 2138, B.P.O. Elks, valued at approximately \$530.40.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

### **DONATION – SEKOVA BANJO WITH CASE AND ENGELHARDT CELLO WITH CASE**

Upon a motion made by John Lessler and seconded by Diane Burke, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the donation of a Sekova banjo and case and an Engelhardt cello and case.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

### **DONATED ITEMS**

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke and seconded by Kathleen Hegggers, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the donated items as per the attached list.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

### **COMMITTEES ON SPECIAL EDUCATION/PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS**

Upon a motion made by Kathleen Hegggers and seconded by Scott Reh, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education votes to arrange for appropriate services pursuant to the recommendations of Schedule 10-25-10-A and Schedule 10-25-10- B.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

#### **COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION**

Upon a motion made by Scott Reh and seconded by John Lessler, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that in accordance with Commissioner’s Regulations, Part 200, each Board of Education shall appoint a Committee/Subcommittee on Special Education in accordance with the provisions of the Education Law, Section 4402. It is recommended for Board of Education approval that Deborah DeLuca, Assistant Superintendent, be added as a Chairperson for the 2010-2011 school year.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

#### **APPOINTMENT OF PLANT FACILITIES ADMINISTRATOR**

Upon a motion made by John Lessler and seconded by Diane Burke, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Rocky Point Union Free School District approves the employment agreement between the Board of Education and Peter Wagenhauser, Plant Facilities Administrator, and authorizes the president of the Board of Education to execute same on behalf of the Board of Education.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

#### **PERSONNEL**

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke and seconded by Kathleen Hegggers, the following resolution was offered:

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

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

#### **PERSONNEL – CARRYOVER ITEM TABLED AT THE SEPTEMBER 27, 2010 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

Upon a motion made by Kathleen Hegggers and seconded by Scott Reh, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the extra/co-curricular personnel agenda item tabled at the September 27, 2010 meeting of the Board of Education.

Motion carried 4-0 -Mrs. Burke abstained

Mr. Nofi opened the floor to questions and/or comments from meeting attendees.

There were no questions or comments.

At 8:10 P.M. Diane Burke made a motion and Kathleen Heggers seconded 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 returned to Open Session at 8:57 P.M.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke and seconded by John Lessler, the Board of Education adjourned the meeting at 8:58 P.M.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

Michael F. Ring, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools



