

MINUTES
ROCKY POINT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
February 13, 2013

Mr. Nofi called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. in the library of the Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School.

Present: Michael Nofi, President
Diane Burke, Vice President
Kathleen Heggers, Trustee
Scott Reh, Trustee
Michael F. Ring, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
Gregory Hilton, School Business Official
Susan Wilson, Executive Director for Educational Services
Patricia Jones, District Clerk

Absent: John Lessler, Trustee
Deborah De Luca, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Nofi invited Dr. Ring to begin with the Superintendent's Report.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Referencing the intensity of the past weekend snowstorm, Dr. Ring extended his gratitude to Mr. Hilton, Mr. Drenckhahn and the custodial staff for the phenomenal efforts they put forth in order to clear away and clean up the unprecedented amount of snowfall.

Dr. Ring invited Mr. DeBenedetto to the microphone to begin the building principal reports.

Mr. John DeBenedetto, Principal, Rocky Point High School

- Second semester report cards have been posted to the parent portal.
- The annual Patriotic Concert was held on February 5th. The concert was hosted by the high school orchestra, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade bands and the high school chorus. Also performing at the concert was the 8th grade chorus and the 5th grade High Notes Select Chorus.
- Students will view an assembly program entitled "Stories of Substance." A series of vignettes will touch upon issues facing teenagers such as bullying, substance abuse and distracted driving.
- This year's musical production is "Guys and Dolls." The students will perform a special production for senior citizens on February 27th. General performances are scheduled for February 28th through March 1st.

- Inspired by their teacher's personal reflection essays regarding the Sandy Hook tragedy, students Sarah Whitworth and Rachel Dwyer created "Peace Week." Students and staff participated through writings on post-it notes reflecting ways to be more peaceful. The post-it notes were then displayed in the main lobby of the high school. The post-it notes were surrounded by paper snowflakes created by the student body in support for the Sandy Hook Elementary School.
- On February 1st the advanced level French students hosted a middle school French Day for sixth graders. Through a series of activities, sixth grade students were exposed to all things French, including French cuisine.
- The Wrestling team has been named League VI champions.
- The Junior Varsity Cheerleaders won the LICCA Long Island Championship for the first time. The Varsity Cheerleading team just returned from the UCA Nationals held in Orlando where they placed third in the nation. Mr. DeBenedetto voiced his pride for their hard work and dedication to the sport.
- The Girls Winter Track team competed in the small school County Championship and placed in the shot put and 4x200 relay.
- The Boys Varsity Basketball team made the playoffs scheduled for February 14, 2013.

Dr. Scott O'Brien, Principal, Rocky Point Middle School

- Report cards have been posted to the parent portal.
- Tryouts for this year's play, *The Little Mermaid, Jr.*, have been completed. Performances will begin in March.
- Dr. O'Brien thanked Mr. DeBenedetto and the high school students for hosting French Day. Special thanks to Ms. Daly and her students for participating in this event.
- The Rocky Point Middle School Robotics Club participated in the "9th Annual First Lego League Qualifier Tournament." Thirty-six teams competed at Central Islip High School during a two day tournament for a limited number of slots in the "Championship Tournament" to be held in March at Longwood High School. Each team designed a robot to complete multiple tasks on a predetermined field map and presented a solution to a panel of judges for difficulties affecting our senior citizens. Dr. O'Brien proudly announced that the Rocky Point "Radical Robotix" team took home the 2nd place "Champion Award." This award is the most prestigious award of the First Lego League.
- All 6th, 7th and 8th grade students will participate in an assembly presentation by Detective Graziano of the Suffolk County Cyber Crimes Unit. Detective Graziano will speak to the students about internet safety and cyber bullying with the most up-to-date information about how to stay safe while using the internet.
- Due to this week's inclement weather, an abbreviated edition of Spirit Week was sponsored by the student government.
- Parent orientation for incoming sixth grade students is scheduled for March 7th at 6:30 PM in the high school auditorium. Current fifth graders will be visiting the middle school later this year for the student portion of the sixth grade orientation.

Ms. Linda Towlen, Principal, Joseph A. Edgar School

- JAE students participated in different PARP activities during the last week of January and the first week of February. Ms. Towlen thanked the PTA for organizing the event.
- The High Notes Select Chorus performed in the Patriotic Concert at the high school on February 5th. Ms. Towlen thanked Mr. Knapp and the singers for all their hard work and the wonderful performance.
- On February 7th, the annual Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser was held. The students raised \$9,065.76. Student Ken Massa was this year's top fund raiser. Ms. Towlen thanked Ms. Amoscato, Ms. Famighetti and Mr. Camarda for organizing the annual event.
- The Student Council collected 1,170 cans of soup for the first "Souper Bowl." Students in Mrs. Marte's class collected the most cans (158) and were acknowledged with a bagel breakfast. The soup was donated to a local charity.
- The Technology Club created videos for entry into "Next Vista's Mountains of Creativity" video contest. Fifth grader, Kayla Smith, has been named a finalist. Special thanks to Ms. Varriale for her work with the club.
- Ms. Towlen wished everyone a restful and enjoyable mid-winter recess and encouraged all to take the time to read a good book.

Mrs. Virginia Kelly-Gibbons, Principal, Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School

- The PARP program began during the month of February with the theme "Read Around the World." Each night the students read with a parent or special family member. Following daily announcements, team standings were announced.
- Author and illustrator, Peter Catalanotto, joined the students for two assemblies. The students enjoyed learning about his development of story ideas and his pointers on drawing like an illustrator.
- Story night was successful. Parents and children came to hear Mrs. Kelly-Gibbons and Dr. Herbert read fairy tales, followed by chocolate milk and cookies served in the kitchen by their teachers. Mrs. Kelly-Gibbons thanked the teachers for their participation in this event and offered a special thank you to the PTA for all its hard work making PARP so successful.
- Mrs. Kelly-Gibbons acknowledged Mrs. Adamski for her involvement with the KIN program for which \$650.00 was raised through "stickergrams."
- Mrs. Kelly-Gibbons encouraged her students to enjoy a good book during the mid-winter recess.

Mr. Nofi thanked the building principals for their reports.

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

- Justine Kotarski asked for clarification of the early dismissal information announcement that was made on Friday afternoon. Ms. Kotarski expressed her view that the announcement was misleading and as a result she was not at the bus stop when her child was being dropped off several minutes earlier than she expected. Dr. Ring responded that he was responsible for the early dismissal

message released to parents. Dr. Ring explained that the fifteen minute early dismissal pertained to the high school and middle school only in an effort to ensure the FJC and JAE buses would be on time and not unduly delayed. Following continued discussion between Ms. Kotarski and Dr. Ring concerning the matter, Dr. Ring cited that the JAE and FJC buses left no earlier than approximately five minutes prior to their normal schedule, using inclement weather loading and release protocols. Dr. Ring further noted the inability of administration to control the time it takes the buses to travel in inclement weather to the inclement bus stops that are utilized during these weather conditions and that in these instances busses may be earlier or later than times scheduled for regular bus stops.

- Donna Masterson addressed the board with her concerns regarding additional security in the buildings, particularly after normal school hours when the buildings are being used by community programs. Ms. Masterson asked the board what actions were being considered to obtain additional security in the schools. Mr. Nofi responded that the administration was presently reviewing current and augmented security measures and that the administration would present its findings to the board for further review. Mrs. Hegggers expressed her understanding of Ms. Masterson's security concerns and the after-school building usage protocols. Mrs. Burke offered that she was not of the opinion that one person seated at a front door was the answer. Mr. Nofi commented that it is the district's responsibility to secure the safety of the students during the school day and that it was the responsibility of the coaches to monitor security of the students after hours. Mr. Nofi reviewed options for the district, including not opening the buildings for community use after hours. Mr. Nofi remarked that the safety of the students is of the utmost importance to the board and administration. Mr. Nofi thanked Ms. Masterson for her well stated concerns.

There were no other questions or comments. Mr. Nofi reminded meeting attendees they would have another opportunity to speak at the end of the meeting.

MINUTES

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Minutes of the following Board of Education Meeting be accepted as presented: **Regular Meeting, January 14, 2013.**

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the Treasurer's Report for the month of January 2013 as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

EXTRA-CLASSROOM ACTIVITY ACCOUNT TREASURER REPORT

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the Extra Classroom Activity Treasurer Report for the month of January 2013 as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

FINANCIAL REPORTS

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the Financial Reports for the month of January 2013 as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

BUDGET TRANSFER SUMMARY – JANUARY 2013

Upon a motion made by Kathleen Hegggers 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 January 2013 Budget Transfer Summary Report.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

INTERNAL CLAIMS AUDIT REPORT – JANUARY 2013

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke 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 January 2013 Internal Claims Audit Report.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

MEDICAID CONSULTANT SERVICES CONTRACT – SIVIC SOLUTIONS GROUP, LLC

Upon a motion made by Scott Reh 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 President of the Board of Education to enter into an agreement with Sivic Solutions Group, LLC for Medicaid consultant services for the period of January 1, 2013 through June 30, 2013.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

SURPLUS TEXTBOOKS

Upon a motion made by Kathleen Hegggers 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 approves for surplus the following attached list of textbooks.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

SURPLUS ITEMS

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke 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 for surplus the following attached list of surplus equipment.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

SALE OF 1995 FORD F-350 RACK TRUCK

Upon a motion made by Scott Reh 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 approves the sale of the 1995 Ford F-350 Rack Truck, VIN Number 1FDKF37H5SNB44 for \$2,550.00, the highest bid, through Auctions International, Inc.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

SALE OF 1999 DODGE RAM 250 PICK-UP TRUCK (RE-BID)

Upon a motion made by Kathleen Hegggers 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 approves the sale of the 1999 Dodge Ram 250 Pick-Up Truck, VIN Number 3B7KF26Z4XM559664 for \$1,125.00, the highest bid, through Auctions International, Inc.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PROPERTY TAX CAP FORM

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke 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 Rocky Point Union Free School District Property Tax Cap Form, as attached.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

DONATIONS FROM ROCKY POINT PTA AND ROCKY POINT ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB – “STORIES OF SUBSTANCE” PROGRAM

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the \$1,000.00 donation from the Rocky Point PTA and the \$200.00 donation from the Rocky Point Athletic Booster Club for the “Stories of Substance” Program.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rocky Point Union Free School District hereby approves, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to increase the general fund budget by \$1,200.00 as a result of the donation from the Rocky Point PTA and the Rocky Point Athletic Booster Club.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following budget code be adjusted to reflect said increase:

A 2110 490 04 0000 \$1,200.00

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

Mr. Nofi thanked the PTA and the Booster Club for this generous donation.

DONATION FROM ROCKY POINT ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB FOR CHALLENGE DAY

Upon a motion made by Kathleen Heggers 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 \$100.00 donation from the Rocky Point Athletic Booster Club for Challenge Day.

Motion carried – 4-0

Mr. Nofi thanked the Booster Club for the donation.

DONATION FROM ROCKY POINT PTA – AUTHOR VISIT (FJC)

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke 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 \$775.13 donation from the Rocky Point PTA for author Peter Catalanotto’s program, “Writing and Illustrating Books for Children, at the Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rocky Point Union Free School District hereby approves, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to increase the general fund budget by \$775.13 as a result of the donation from the Rocky Point PTA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following budget code be adjusted to reflect said increase:

A 2110 490 04 0000 \$775.13

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

Mr. Nofi expressed his gratitude to the PTA for the donation.

BUDGET VOTE AND TRUSTEE ELECTION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Annual Budget Vote and Trustee Election in the Rocky Point School District, Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, New York be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 from 7:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M., and further

BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 2017 of the Education Law, a Public Hearing for the purpose of discussion of the expenditure of funds and the budgeting thereof be held at 5:30 PM on May 7, 2013 at the Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School, Rocky Point, New York and further

BE IT RESOLVED, that Legal Notice of the Public Hearing, as required by law, be published in the *LONG ISLAND BUSINESS NEWS*, on April 5, April 19, April 26, and May 3, and in *THE VILLAGE BEACON RECORD* on April 4, April 18, April 25, and May 2 and further

BE IT RESOLVED, the Legal Notice of the Annual Budget Vote and Trustee Election, as required by law, be published in the *LONG ISLAND BUSINESS NEWS* on April 5, April 19, April 26, and May 3 and in *THE VILLAGE BEACON RECORD* on April 4, April 18, April 25, and May 2 and further

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following school is hereby designated as polling place:

Polling and Registration Place: Rocky Point High School Gymnasium

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, in addition to the legal publication in four editions of each of the two above-mentioned newspapers, will send a notice with all information relative to the date and time of election to all residents and taxpayers within the District, and further

BE IT RESOLVED, that the residents of the Rocky Point School District may register to vote for School District Elections at the office of the District Clerk between the hours of 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM on any day that the office is open, and in the evening on May 14,

2013 until 9:00 PM. However, such registration will not take place less than five (5) days preceding any School District Election, and further

BE IT RESOLVED, that the District Clerk be authorized to assign the necessary personnel to function as Election Inspectors, and further

BE IT RESOLVED, that the final tally of votes shall be held at the Rocky Point High School, 82 Rocky Point-Yaphank Road, Rocky Point, New York at 9:00 PM on the evening of the election as soon thereafter as the election inspectors can supply the necessary information.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON; BOARD OF REGISTRATION; CHIEF INSPECTOR; POLL CLERKS; TELLERS; SUBSTITUTE TELLERS AND SUBSTITUTE POLL CLERKS FOR ANNUAL SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE/ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 21, 2013 AND APPOINTMENT OF BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR SPECIAL VOTER REGISTRATION TO BE HELD ON MAY 14, 2013

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoints the Chairperson; Board of Registration; Chief Inspector; Poll Clerks; Tellers and Substitute Poll Clerks and Tellers at an hourly rate of \$10.00, as per the attached list.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

APPOINTMENT OF THE 2012-2013 MEDICAID COMPLIANCE OFFICER

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Deborah De Luca be appointed to serve as District Medicaid Compliance Officer during the 2012-2013 school year.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

ROCKY POINT SCHOOLS DISTRICT-WIDE SAFETY PLAN – REVISED JANUARY 2013

Upon a motion made by Scott Reh 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 approves and adopts the Rocky Point Schools District-Wide Safety Plan – Revised January 2013

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

COMMITTEES ON SPECIAL EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Upon a motion made by Kathleen Hegggers 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 votes to arrange for appropriate services pursuant to the recommendations of Schedule 2-13-13-A and 2-13-13-B.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

PERSONNEL

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke 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 attached Personnel changes.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

EXAMINATION OF A DISTRICT EMPLOYEE

Upon a motion made by Scott Reh 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 approves the following resolution:

WHEREAS, a certain employee made known to the Board of Education has recently exhibited behavior that has raised concerns with regard to the health, safety and welfare of students and others

and

WHEREAS, such behavior may impact this employee's capacity to perform his/her duties and responsibilities,

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to Section 913 of the Education Law,

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that this employee is directed to report to the school district physician for a physical examination to determine his/her capacity to perform the duties required of such employee on or before Friday, March 1, 2013 or any adjourned date.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

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

- Mr. Reh shared that he was in attendance at the UCA National Cheerleading Competition in Orlando, Florida. Mr. Reh commended the members of the Varsity Girls Cheerleading team and their coaches, Mrs. Anna Spallina and Ms. Lenee Passiglia, for the professionalism and sportsmanship they displayed

throughout the competition. In addition, Mr. Reh praised Amy Agnesini for her enthusiastic and constant professional support of the team and its coaches. Mr. Reh also extended his gratitude to parents, Mrs. Johannesen and Mrs. Orlando, for their extraordinary contributions to the program and the athletes.

- Dr. Ring offered his congratulations to the team and coaches and announced that they would be publicly recognized at the March Board of Education meeting.

There were no further comments.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:35 p.m. a motion was made by Diane Burke and seconded by Kathleen Heggens for the Board of Education to adjourn the meeting.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Jones
District Clerk