

MINUTES
ROCKY POINT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
February 6, 2017

Mrs. Sullivan called the meeting to order at 6:14 pm in the auditorium of Rocky Point High School.

Present: Susan Sullivan, President
Scott Reh, Vice President (Arriving at 6:45pm)
Melissa Brown, Trustee
Sean Callahan, Trustee
Edward Casswell, Trustee
Michael F. Ring, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
Deborah De Luca, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent
Gregory Hilton, School Business Official
Susan Wilson, Executive Director for Educational Services
Kelly White, District Clerk

Absent: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:14 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Callahan and seconded by Mrs. Brown to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss confidential personnel matters pertaining to select employees and ongoing confidential legal matters.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:06 p.m.

Mrs. Sullivan announced that the Board was returning from Executive Session.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Sullivan invited Dr. Ring to begin with the Superintendent's Report.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Ring welcomed the meeting attendees and announced that earlier this evening the second 2017-2018 budget workshop was conducted. Dr. Ring informed that the third and final presentation of the RPUFSD 2017-18 School Year Budget will take place at the March 20th Board of Education meeting. This will be when the full budget will be presented, to include revenue and expenses along with any other referendums. He noted that the Board of Education will not vote to adopt the proposed budget until the April meeting of the Board. Dr. Ring invited all to attend next month to view the budget presentation.

Additionally, Dr. Ring advised that student and staff recognitions will take place at the upcoming March meeting. He expressed how this is a great opportunity to hear about what our staff and students are accomplishing. Dr. Ring shared that many of the school's highest achievements, particularly in athletics, are awarded in the winter months and he extended his hopes that all are able to attend.

Dr. Ring reminded the meeting attendees that school is closed for winter recess from February 20th through February 24th.

Mrs. Sullivan then opened the floor to questions and/or comments by meeting attendees. There were no questions/comments at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

The items listed below are presented as part of the Consent Agenda which can be adopted by the Board of Education under a single motion followed by a second and then a formal vote. On the following page the Consent Agenda items are listed in their regular order within a group. Before an actual vote is taken, any Consent Agenda item may be removed by a Board member without a formal motion or second. If this occurs, the indicated resolution will be discussed during its regular order on the agenda and voted on individually.

III-IX CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the following agenda items as one item:

- III: Minutes** – Regular Meeting, January 9, 2017
- IV Budget Transfer Summary** – December 2016
- V: Treasurer's Report** – December 2016
- VI: Extra-Classroom Activity Account Treasurer's Report** – December 2016
- VII: Financial Reports** – December 2016
- VIII: Internal Claims Audit Report** – December 2016
- IX: Committees on Special Education Schedules 2-6-17-A and 2-6-17-B**, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools, to arrange for appropriate services, as indicated.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

X DONATION TO SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

Upon a motion made by Melissa Brown and seconded by Edward Casswell, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accepts the \$47.30 donation from Mrs. Miriam Cuin, to be deposited to the Heely Emergency Lunch Program (HELP), as requested.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

XI DONATION FROM GREAT AMERICAN OPPORTUNITIES

Upon a motion made by Edward Casswell and seconded by Sean Callahan, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves and accepts the donation from Great American Opportunities in the amount of \$15.20 as per the attached.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rocky Point Union Free School District hereby approves the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to increase the general fund budget by \$15.20 as a result of the donation.

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

A2110500020000 \$15.20

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Mrs. Sullivan extended her gratitude to Great American Opportunities.

XII DONATION FROM YOURCAUSE, LLC

Upon a motion made by Sean Callahan 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 and accepts the donation from YourCause LLC, on behalf of Ms. Katelyn Viola, in the amount of \$25.00 as per the attached.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rocky Point Union Free School District hereby approves the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to increase the general fund budget by \$25.00 as a result of the donation.

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

A21105000300000 \$25.00

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Mrs. Sullivan thanked YourCause for their donation.

XIII LIVE LIKE SUSIE SCHOLARSHIP DONATION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves and accepts the donation on behalf of the Live Like Susie Scholarship in the amount of \$100.00.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Mrs. Sullivan thanked the anonymous donor for their donation.

XIV HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY CHECK DONATION

Upon a motion made by Melissa Brown and seconded by Edward Casswell, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accepts the check for \$150.00 from Hofstra University.

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 \$150.00 as a result of the check from Hofstra University.

Be it **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the following budget code be adjusted to reflect that increase:

A2110500300000 \$150.00

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

XV DONATION FROM PTA FOR CHALLENGE DAY

Upon a motion made by Edward Casswell and seconded by Sean Callahan, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accepts the \$1,500 donation from the Rocky Point PTA for Challenge Day.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Mrs. Sullivan extended her thanks the PTA for their donation.

XVI RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PROPERTY TAX CAP FORM

Upon a motion made by Sean Callahan 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 5-0

XVII SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

Upon a motion made by Scott Reh and seconded by Melissa Brown, 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 equipment.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

XVIII COLD WAR VETERANS TAX EXEMPTION

Upon a motion made by Melissa Brown and seconded by Edward Casswell, the following resolution was offered:

WHEREAS, Section 458-b, subdivision 2, paragraphs (a) and (b), of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York (“RPTL”), allows the Rocky Point Union Free School District (“District”) to provide tax exemptions to certain qualified owners of qualified residential real property, as defined by section 458-b; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the community to provide such relief to the Cold War veterans of the District;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rocky Point Union Free School District (“Board”) elects to participate in the exemptions of RPTL, Section 458-b, subdivision 2, paragraphs (a) and (b);

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to RPTL, §458-b, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), subparagraph (i), the Board adopts the ten (10%) percent exemption, which amount shall not exceed the statutory basic maximum set forth therein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to RPTL, §458-b, subdivision 2, paragraph (b), the Board adopts the exemption relating to service connected disabilities, which amount shall not exceed the statutory basic maximum set forth therein.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

XIX 2016-2017 HEALTH SERVICE CONTRACTS

Upon a motion made by Edward Casswell and seconded by Sean Callahan, 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 and the Superintendent of Schools to enter into an agreement for health services for the 2016-2017 school year with the following districts:

Patchogue-Medford School District

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

XX AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE ROCKY POINT ADMINISTRATORS’ ASSOCIATION

Upon a motion made by Sean Callahan 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 execute an Agreement between the District and the Rocky Point Administrators’ Association for the purpose of modifying the March 21, 2016 Stipulation of Settlement (PERB Case No. U-34442 & U-34789 – Rocky Point UFSD), specifically (a)(iii).

Mr. Callahan requested the rationale behind the above resolution.

Dr. Ring explained that there were various disciplines under each of the two Instructional Directors and they felt that it was best to split the AP exams along those same lines. Therefore, the Director of Humanities will handle the AP courses and exams associated with her disciplines and the Director of MST will handle those associated with his.

Mr. Callahan inquired if this was limited to the only the AP exams.

Dr. Ring advised that the tests are the most significant area and are the most burdensome. However, it would also include other works associated with the courses, such as arranging for AP Institute and curriculum writing.

Motion carried 4-1

Mr. Callahan dissented

XXI a.) REVIEW AND RE-ADOPTION OF BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY NUMBERS: 5661, 7131, 7410, 8260 (FIRST READING)

Discussion ensued.

Upon a motion made by Sean Callahan and seconded by Scott Reh, #5661 District Wellness Policy will be tabled and discussed at a later date.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education tables the following policy:

- 5661 District Wellness Policy

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

As a result of the carried motion to table the review and re-adoption of Board of Education policy 5661, the original motion was revised as indicated below.

b.) REVIEW AND RE-ADOPTION OF BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY NUMBERS: 7131, 7410, 8260 (FIRST READING)

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education reviews and re-adopts the following policies (first reading):

The Board of Education voted on the below items only:

- 7131 Education of Homeless Children and Youth
- 7410 Extracurricular Activities
- 8260 Title I Parent and Family Engagement

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

XXII ANNUAL MEETING (BUDGET VOTE AND TRUSTEE ELECTION)

Upon a motion made by Melissa Brown and seconded by Edward Casswell, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Annual Meeting (Budget Vote and Trustee Election) of the Rocky Point Union Free School District, Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, New York be conducted on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 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 7:00 PM on May 2, 2017 at the Rocky Point High School, Rocky Point, New York and further

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Legal Notice of the Public Hearing and Annual Meeting, as required by law, be published in the *LONG ISLAND BUSINESS NEWS*, on March 31, April 7, April 21, and April 28, and in *THE VILLAGE BEACON RECORD* on March 30, April 6, April 20, and April 27 and further

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Legal Notice of the Annual Meeting (Budget Vote and Trustee Election), as required by law, be published in the *LONG ISLAND BUSINESS NEWS* on March 31, April 14, April 28, and May 12 and in *THE VILLAGE BEACON RECORD* on March 30, April 13, April 27, and May 11 and further

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

Rocky Point High School Gymnasium; and further

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 the vote and election to all residents within the District, and further

BE IT RESOLVED, that the residents of the Rocky Point Union Free School District may register to vote for School District Meetings 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 on the evening of May 9, 2017 until 9:00 PM. However, such registration may not take place less than five (5) days preceding any School District Meeting, and further

BE IT RESOLVED, that the District Clerk is 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 certify as to the necessary information.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

XXIII 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 16, 2017 AND APPOINTMENT OF BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR SPECIAL VOTER REGISTRATION TO BE HELD ON MAY 9, 2017.

Upon a motion made by Edward Casswell and seconded by Sean Callahan, 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 5-0

XXIV FINAL DETERMINATION – DENIAL OF TENURE

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that, pursuant to NY Education Law Section 3031, the Board of Education finally determines to reaffirm the denial of an award of tenure to probationary administrator, Mr. John DeBenedetto, for the amended reasons approved by the Board of Education at its meeting of January 9, 2017.

Motion carried 4-0

Mr. Casswell abstained

XXV BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO APPOINTMENT OF BETSY DEVOS AS SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

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

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Rocky Point Union Free School District is comprised of trustees duly elected and sworn to provide for the appropriate education of the school-aged children residing within the Rocky Point Union Free School District; and **WHEREAS**, President Donald J. Trump has heretofore nominated Betsy DeVos to be secretary of the U.S. Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, Betsy DeVos by her own account and according to all available evidence has no meaningful experience in any aspect of public education at any level; and

WHEREAS, Betsy DeVos is an fervent supporter of school vouchers and other forms of school privatization in order to deprive public schools of funding; and

WHEREAS, these facts unequivocally disqualify Betsy DeVos from holding the position of Secretary of the United States Department of Education;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rocky Point Union Free School District hereby opposes the confirmation of Betsy DeVos as United State Secretary of Education and calls upon Senator Charles Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand and the entire membership of the United States Senate to reject her confirmation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the District Clerk of the Rocky Point Union Free School District is hereby directed to forward a certified extract of the minutes containing this resolution.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

XXVI PERSONNEL

Upon a motion made by Susan Sullivan and seconded by Melissa Brown, 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

Mrs. Sullivan inquired of the trustees if they had any new business they wished to discuss. There was no new business at this time.

Mrs. Sullivan once again invited the meeting attendees to come forth with any questions or comments.

- Mr. Giagios advised that he sat on the Wellness Committee and explained that their objective with the revisions was to provide some clarification to the Wellness Policy. He shared that members of the committee found that there was an abundance of ambiguous language as well as numerous contradictions. They hoped that, with the revisions made, the policy would be more concise.

The President of the Board of Education, Mrs. Sullivan, shared that she sits on the Wellness Committee as well and can attest to the time put into the changes that were made. She also advised that the Board of Education will review this matter at a future meeting.

Mr. Callahan thanked Mr. Giagios and Mrs. Sullivan for the clarification.

There were no further questions/comments.

XXVII ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion made by Edward Casswell and seconded by Melissa Brown, the Board of Education adjourned the meeting at 7:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly White
District Clerk