

**MINUTES
ROCKY POINT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
SEPTEMBER 20, 2021**

Mrs. Sullivan called the meeting to order in the auditorium of Rocky Point High School.

Present: Susan Sullivan, President
Edward Casswell, Trustee
Michael Lisa, Trustee
Jessica Ward, Trustee
Scott O'Brien Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
Susann Crossan, Assistant Superintendent
Christopher Van Cott, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Kelly White, District Clerk

Absent: Sean Callahan, Vice President

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6 p.m. a motion was made by Ed Casswell, and seconded by Michael Lisa, to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:05 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Sullivan reminded the meeting attendees of the public comment procedures.

Mrs. Sullivan announced Mr. Callahan's resignation from the Board of Education. She nominated Ed Casswell for Vice President, and Jessica Ward seconded.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

The Oath of Office was administered to Mr. Casswell by Kelly White, the District Clerk.

Mrs. Sullivan opened the floor to questions/comments regarding the agenda.

- Mr. Pinkenburg commented on the security issues regarding providing addresses in regards to policy # 1510. Mrs. Sullivan advised that they understand the security concerns and are working on finalizing the details prior to the second reading of the policy.

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. The Consent Agenda items are listed below 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 Jessica Ward, and seconded by Ed Casswell, 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, August 23, 2021; Regular Meeting, August 26, 2021
- IV Budget Transfer Summary** – Year End 2021 & August 2021
- V: Treasurer’s Reports** – July and August 2021
- VI: Extra-Classroom Activity Account Treasurer’s Report** – July & August 2021
- VII: Financials** – June, July and August 2021
- VIII: Internal Claims Audit Report** – August 2021
- IX: Committees on Special Education Schedules 9-20-21-A and 9-20-21-B** as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools, to arrange for appropriate services, as indicated.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

X ROCKY POINT PTA DONATION FOR INCOMING 9TH GRADE ORIENTATION

Upon a motion made by Ed Casswell, and seconded by Michael Lisa, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the \$300.00 donation from the Rocky Point PTA.

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 \$300.00 as a result of the donation.

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

A 211 0500 03 000 (HS) \$300.00

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

Mrs. Sullivan thanked the PTA for their donation. She also thanked the PTA again for their generous donation of the outdoor classroom.

**XI ROCKY POINT HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM SEATING
REPLACEMENT PROJECT (FEDERAL GRANT-FUNDED)**

Upon a motion made by Michael Lisa, and seconded by Jessica Ward, the following resolution was offered:

RESOLVED, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the Rocky Point High School auditorium seating replacement project utilizing federal grant funds (Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act/CRRSA) in an amount not-to-exceed \$230,000. The District will follow all purchasing regulations for contracting with vendors to complete this project; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education previously passed a Type II State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) determination at the August 26, 2021 public meeting indicating the project will have no significant adverse impact on the environment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the District will coordinate the submission of project plans and specifications to the New York State Education Department as required.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

XII TAX LEVY

Upon a motion made by Jessica Ward, and seconded by Ed Casswell, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the tax levy of \$52,483,059 for the 2021-22 fiscal year be approved.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

**XIII REVIEW AND RE-ADOPTION OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
POLICY NUMBER 1510 (FIRST READING)**

Upon a motion made by Ed Casswell, and seconded by Michael Lisa, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education reviews and re-adopts the following policy (first reading):

- 1510 – Regular Board Meetings and Rules (Quorum and Parliamentary Procedure)

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

**XIV ADOPTION OF BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY NUMBER 5350
(SECOND READING)**

Upon a motion made by Michael Lisa, and seconded by Jessica Ward, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education adopts the following policy (second reading):

- 5350 Payroll & Overtime

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

**XV TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT – DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES INC.**

Upon a motion made by Jessica Ward, and seconded by Ed Casswell, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves a 31-day transportation contract with Developmental Disabilities Inc. located at 99 Hollywood Drive, Smithtown, NY 11787 to provide minivan / small bus transportation on an as needed basis.

BE IT FURTHER REOSLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is authorized to execute said contract.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

XVI PERSONNEL

Upon a motion made by Ed Casswell, and seconded by Michael Lisa, 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

XVII NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Sullivan inquired of the trustees if there was any new business they wished to discuss.

There was no new business.

Mrs. Sullivan thanked Mr. Callahan for his seven years of hard work as a dedicated member of the Board of Education.

Once again Mrs. Sullivan invited the meeting attendees for questions/comments.

- Miss Luce pointed out the gender biased nature of the dress code.
- Miss Myla spoke about the unfair restrictions of the school dress code.
- Mr. LaMacchia reiterated the previous comments about the school dress code.
- Miss Gianna shared her feelings regarding the school dress code.
- Miss Kalesis expressed her concerns regarding the dress code.
- Ms. Walsh disclosed her disappointment in reference to the district's lack of opposition to the mask mandate and urged the Board to provide the community with information on where they stand on the matter.
- Ms. Pousson reiterated the feeling of disappointment regarding the lack of a stance on mask mandates.
- Ms. Ruberto shared that she felt it would be inappropriate for the Board members to provide their individual feelings regarding mask mandates and commended them for following the science.
- Ms. Borella spoke about current lawsuits to combat the mandates. She also mentioned a survey of the community to determine if virtual and in-person options for open houses should be provided.
- Dr. Pinkenburg inquired as to number of quarantined individuals due to positive cases within the district. Dr. O'Brien advised there were none. Dr. Pinkenburg attributed this to mask mandates.
- Ms. Olivo suggested that the community should've been polled regarding their stance on mask mandates to allow the Board of Education to act in support of the majority of the community.
- Ms. Franco spoke in support of the mask mandate.

- Ms. Pinkenburg recommended that the Board review the current dress code policies.
- Ms. Kelly expressed her support of the mask mandate. She also asked that a virtual learning plan be provided.
- Mr. Contes noted the abnormalities of wearing a mask all day. He advocated for choice.
- Miss Colleen shared that she chose home schooling as a result of the mask mandate. She inquired about the guidelines of what will allow for the mandate to be removed.
- Mr. Walsh reflected on the negative effects of long-term mask wearing and the uncertainty of when it will come to an end.
- Miss Uliano supported the mask mandate and shared her concerns that minors cannot get the vaccine without parental consent.
- Mr. Pousson spoke regarding the inconsistent nature of COVID protocols.
- Miss Quinn affirmed her support of the mask mandate.

There were no further questions/comments.

XVIII ADJOURNMENT

At 7:55 p.m. a motion was made by Jessica Ward, and seconded by Ed Casswell, to adjourn the meeting.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly White
District Clerk