

**ROCKY POINT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
November 29, 2004**

Meeting called to Order at 7:35 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Geraldine Thalen, President
Howard Gimple, Vice-President
Jane Bonner, Trustee
Michael Matera, Trustee
James J. Gerardi, Superintendent of Schools
Carla D'Ambrosio, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction
Steven Bilyk, Interim School Business Official
Irene Pedota, District Clerk

Joseph Sanseverino, Trustee – Arrived at 8:05 PM

Absent: None

Mrs. Thalen took an opportunity to update the community regarding the superintendent's search. She reminded everyone that at the last Board meeting in October, an announcement was made that the Board had begun working on the superintendent's search. As a result, a questionnaire was formulated and has been placed on the district's website. Mrs. Thalen encouraged everyone to participate in the survey, and she said that the Board hoped to receive input from as many community members as possible.

Mrs. Thalen opened the meeting to questions or comments from the audience.

- Representatives from the PTA - Karen Audette, Mary Wandle, and Charlene LaCascia – presented Board members with tokens of their appreciation for their dedication and service to the children of the community.
- Mrs. Audette also announced the PTA's donation to the middle school of an outdoor marquee.
- On behalf the students and staff at the middle school, Mr. Centamore accepted the PTA's gracious donation.
- Mrs. Thalen thanked the PTA for the donation and all they do for the children of Rocky Point.

There were no further questions or comments. Mrs. Thalen explained that there would be another opportunity for discussion at the end of the regular meeting before the Board moved to Executive Session.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Leonard Kies, Director of Athletics reported:

- The fall sports season was very successful. Forty-four varsity athletes and several coaches were recognized for their outstanding achievements. Also this year, a (first time ever) parade was incorporated in our Homecoming Weekend festivities.
- A college admissions workshop for athletes will be held on Thursday, December 2, 2004 at 7:00 PM in the high school cafeteria.
- Senior, Caitlin Naylor, has been named League V Girls' Soccer Player of the Year. Caitlin broke the school's record with 83 goals this season.
- The Athletic Department is looking forward to an exciting winter season.

William B. Caulfield, Principal – Rocky Point High School announced:

- Mr. Caulfield congratulated Mr. Poole who was named League VI Cross Country Coach of the Year
- The Guidance Department has been busy processing college applications. One hundred fifty applications were processed before Thanksgiving.
- PSAT results will arrive in two weeks and will be dispersed to students during their social studies classes. Students will spend a period with their counselors to review their scores.
- The Guidance Department will be hosting on-site college registrations again this year. Students have the opportunity to meet one-on-one with admissions counselors to determine admissions qualifications and scholarship information. Up-to-date information is available on the school's website.
- Members of the Interact Club collected eight boxes of clothing and shoes for students in Vero Beach, Florida who were hard hit by recent hurricanes. The Florida students expressed their appreciation with the thank-you banner that was displayed in the auditorium.
- The Marching Band performed at Hofstra University on October 25, 2004.
- Music students were treated to a performance of *Fiddler on the Roof* in New York City where they had the opportunity to participate in a workshop with professional actors.
- Mr. Caulfield congratulated French Hornist, Jessica Santiago, who will represent Rocky Point at this year's NYSSMA All-State Conference in Rochester from December 2 through December 4, 2004.
- The high school music program was designated one of one hundred finalists in the Grammy Signature Schools Program.
- The Marching Band will perform in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in New York City.
- The high school winter concert will be held on December 22, 2004 and auditions will begin soon for the spring musical production, *Bye Bye Birdie*.
- Mr. Caulfield introduced Mr. Christopher Brown, a member of the high school English Department, who presented senior, Maura Ricigliano, with the National Council of Teachers of English 2004 Achievement Award in Writing. Mr. Brown explained that Maura was one of 689 students nationwide and 7 from Suffolk County this year to receive the award. Mr. Brown congratulated Maura and her parents on her outstanding achievement.
- Mr. Caulfield announced that a trip to Disney World in Florida for members of the senior class has been proposed. The trip is planned for April 7 through April 11, 2004 and will cost approximately \$800 per student. He further explained that in order for the trip to occur, at least 50% of the senior class must turn in their deposits and permission slips by December 15, 2004.

Joseph C. Centamore, Principal – Rocky Point Middle School announced:

- Dr. Centamore honored middle school student, Stephanie Osmanski, with a certificate for her editorial that was published in *Newsday* on November 1, 2004.
- Dr. Centamore thanked high school technology teacher, Mr. Mark Moorman, and high school students Jeff Piccolo, Matt Doyle, and Josh Olson who constructed and donated a bench for the middle school's courtyard.
- Fifty-one eighth grade students were inducted in to the National Junior Honor Society in November. Dr. Centamore expressed his appreciation to Mrs. Fischer for all her hard work as National Junior Honor Society advisor, and he announced that next year, Ms. Quigley would be taking over.
- Dr. Centamore thanked Mrs. Vann, Mr. Settepani, and Ms. Loiacano for their work during the middle school's first poetry reading night. Forty-eight students from three grades attended to recite poetry.
- The student government dances and the Community Service Club donated 200 cans and 12 boxes of food to the Island Heart Food Pantry.
- Cookie dough orders may be picked up on December 7 and 8, 2004.
- Mock ELAs for seventh and eighth grade students will take place on December 7 and 8, 2004.

- The PTA Book Fair will run from December 8 through 10, 2004 during the school day and there will be evening hours on December 8, 2004. Students will participate in a challenge based on the number of books they read.
- Winter concerts will be held on December 8 and 16, 2004.

Carol Tvelia, Principal – Joseph A. Edgar School announced:

- Parent-teacher conferences for first report cards were held on November 22, 23 and 24, 2004.
- On November 5, 2004, assemblies were held to honor veterans and members of the armed forces who are currently serving in Iraq.
- Fifth grade students will take New York State Assessment in Social Studies on November 17 and 18, 2004.
- Fourth and fifth grade students will be participating in a brand new peer mediation program. Training will take place on December 1 and 2, 2004. Once training is completed, students will be responsible for mediating problems on the playground.
- The JAE winter concert for third, fourth, and fifth grade students will be held on December 14, 2004.
- The JAE play will take place on December 15 and 21, 2004.
- Fourth grade students will visit the Suffolk County Farm during the month of December.
- Special education students will be going to see the movie, *The Polar Express* on December 1, 2004.

Paul Read, Principal – Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School announced:

- Mr. Read announced that the Parent Resource Room is now open. He explained that parents were given information during parent-teacher conferences and over 165 parents have since visited the resource room and have signed out books.
- Students will be participating in several field trips this month, including visits to the Magic Toy Shop and the Gateway Theater in Patchogue.
- Mr. Read thanked the PTA for all they do for the students at FJC.

Mrs. Thalen thanked everyone for his or her reports.

MINUTES

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Minutes of the following Board of Education Meeting be accepted as presented: **Regular Meeting, October 25, 2004**. All in favor – Motion carried 4-0.

TREASURER’S REPORTS

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the Treasurer’s Reports for the month of **October 2004** as presented. All in favor – Motion carried 4-0.

EXTRA-CLASSROOM ACTIVITY ACCOUNT TREASURER REPORT

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the Extra Classroom Activity Treasurer Report for the month of **October 2004** as presented. All in favor – Motion carried 4-0.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the Financial Reports for the month of **October 2004** as presented. All in favor – Motion carried 4-0.

SURPLUS ITEMS

Upon a motion made by Howard Gimple 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 approve for surplus the following attached list. All in favor – Motion carried 4-0.

COMMITTEES ON SPECIAL EDUCATION/PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Upon a motion made by Jane Bonner 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 11-29-04-A and 11-29-04-B. All in favor – Motion carried 4-0.

PERSONNEL

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accept the attached Personnel changes. All in favor – Motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Sanseverino arrived at 8:05 PM.

Mrs. Thalen asked if there were any questions or comments before the Board moved to Executive Session:

- Mrs. Karen Audette congratulated Ms. Millette for the high school's recent pocket theater production of *The Crucible*. She also took the opportunity to thank Mr. Levine for all his hard work.
- Mrs. Audette explained that the Shared Decision Team recently spent time looking into the feasibility of instituting a nine-period day at the high school. She understands that the district has decided not to move forward with the proposal due to a lack of funds. Mrs. Audette asked if the proposal could be put before the community at the next budget vote. She added that 90% of Suffolk County high schools currently operate with a nine-period day and some even have ten periods.
- Mrs. Audette congratulated the middle school on their first Poetry Night. She said that the event was well attended and everyone had a wonderful time.

There were no further questions or comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:07 PM, a motion was made by Joseph Sanseverino and seconded by Howard Gimple for the Board of Education to go into executive session to discuss particular personnel matters. All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Irene Pedota
District Clerk

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:48 PM.

RESOLUTION FOR A DISTRICT EMPLOYEE TO REPORT FOR AN EXAMINATION

Upon a motion made by Michael Matera 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 approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, a certain employee made known to the Board of Education has recently exhibited unusual behavior in the discharge of his/her duties as a member of the teaching staff of the Rocky Point Union Free School District;
and

WHEREAS, such behavior has raised issues with respect to this employee's mental condition;

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

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that this employee is directed to report for examination to determine his/her mental capacity to perform the duties required of such employee, the same examination to be performed by Dr. Randall Solomon on or before December 21, 2005 or any adjourned date. All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:49 PM a motion was made by Jane Bonner and seconded by Howard Gimple for the Board of Education to adjourn the meeting. All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

James J. Gerardi
Superintendent of Schools