

MINUTES
ROCKY POINT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
June 23, 2008

Members Present:

Geraldine Thalen
Joseph Sanseverino
Edward Darcey (6:40 PM arrival)
Michael Matera
Margaret Smith

Also Present:

Carla L. D'Ambrosio, Ed.D.
Sherry J. Alessandro, Ed.D.
David Pearl, Esq.
Patricia Jones

At 6:33PM, a regular public meeting of the Board of Education was called to order in the social studies office of the Rocky Point High School by Mrs. Thalen.

Executive Session

At 6:35 PM, a motion was made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Michael Matera to convene to Executive Session to discuss particular personnel matters and negotiations.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

At 7:42 PM, a motion was made by Edward Darcy and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino to end Executive Session and re-convene to the regular public session in the high school auditorium.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

PUBLIC SESSION

Mrs. Thalen called the meeting to order at 7:44 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Geraldine Thalen, President
Joseph Sanseverino, Vice President
Edward Darcey, Trustee
Michael Matera, Trustee
Margaret Smith, Trustee
Carla L. D'Ambrosio, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
Sherry J. Alessandro, Ed.D., Asst. Supt. for HR/Administration
Michael W. Ivanoff, Assistant Supt. for Finance and Operations
Patricia Jones, District Clerk

Absent: None

Mrs. Thalen welcomed those in attendance to the meeting and announced that the board would recognize several groups during the meeting. Mrs. Thalen introduced Dr. D'Ambrosio.

PRESENTATION OF PLAQUES TO OUTGOING BOARD TRUSTEE, MICHAEL MATERA AND BOARD PRESIDENT, GERALDINE THALEN.

- Dr. D'Ambrosio announced that both Mrs. Thalen and Mr. Matera would be ending their terms in office at the end of the month. Dr. D'Ambrosio noted that during their tenure, the district continuously moved forward in academic achievement and technology integration into classroom instruction. Both Mrs. Thalen and Mr. Matera were instrumental in the creation of the Rocky Point Middle School and the realization of full-day kindergarten. Dr. D'Ambrosio commended Mrs. Thalen and Mr. Matera for upholding the mission of the New York State School Boards Association by making cost-effective, well-informed and educationally sound decisions, facilitating open communication with the entire community, and providing equal opportunity for educational excellence for all children. Dr. D'Ambrosio invited Mrs. Thalen and Mr. Matera to the podium in order to receive plaques in commemoration and acknowledgement of their many years of dedicated service to the Rocky Point Union Free School District.
- Mr. Sanseverino commented that Mr. Matera had a reputation for being the “fiscal conservative” during his tenure on the board. Mr. Sanseverino stressed Mr. Matera’s reputation as that of the conscience of board; one who always acted in the best interests of the students and the community as a whole. Mr. Matera led the movement to bring football to Rocky Point which ultimately led to the creation of the girls’ lacrosse team. Mr. Sanseverino recounted Mr. Matera’s achievements and accomplishments throughout his years of service, ultimately emphasizing that these accomplishments could not be measured. On a personal note, Mr. Sanseverino shared that he would miss Mr. Matera and proceeded to present him with a box of golf tees to enjoy in his retirement, as Mr. Matera is an avid golfer.
- Mr. Matera commented that this was the third time he was retiring as a board member, adding that it was an honor to serve. Mr. Matera thanked the community for its support and assistance throughout the years.
- Mr. Sanseverino reminisced about how Mrs. Thalen went about encouraging him to run for a seat on the school board and then immediately highlighted Mrs. Thalen’s many contributions during her tenure as both a trustee for one year and president for eight years, including her never-ending battles on both the local and state levels to ensure obtainment of all fair and equitable funding and programs for the students of Rocky Point Schools, the search for a new superintendent of schools, the implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act and the state testing mandates. Mr. Sanseverino stressed Mrs. Thalen’s dedication to education as a whole, and specifically, her dedication to the programs pertaining to the arts, music and English. Mr. Sanseverino acknowledged that Mrs. Thalen’s great insight would make her impossible to replace.

- Speaking for herself and the other members of the Board of Education, Mrs. Smith expressed her gratitude to both Mr. Matera and Mrs. Thalen and presented Mrs. Thalen with a bouquet of flowers on behalf of the board members.
- Mrs. Thalen thanked Mr. Sanseverino for his comments and stressed her belief that the Rocky Point Board of Education was made up of the best people imaginable. Mrs. Thalen assured the members of the audience that the board would continue to work in the best interests of all students of the Rocky Point School District.
- In closing, Dr. D'Ambrosio thanked both Mrs. Thalen and Mr. Matera for their dedicated service and long nights and wished them both well.

RECOGNITION OF VARSITY BOYS BASEBALL TEAM, VARSITY GIRLS LACROSSE TEAM AND VARSITY BOYS LACROSSE TEAM

- Mr. Len Kies announced that three teams would be recognized during the evening for their respective accomplishments.
- Mr. Kies recapped the Varsity Boys Baseball team's stats (League record: 14-4; overall record 17-7) and congratulated the team for earning the distinction of League VI champions. Mr. Kies also extended his congratulations to head coach, Andrew Aschettino. Each member of the team was called by name to the podium and presented with a plaque in acknowledgement of this great achievement.
- Mr. Kies honored the members of the Varsity Girls Lacrosse team and head coach, Dan Spallina. Mr. Kies noted the team's level of year-round dedication to the sport and its ability to flourish despite tremendous changes in coaching staff throughout the year. Mr. Kies stressed that this team was comprised of extremely talented and dedicated athletes as was documented by the fact that they were Class B champions for four consecutive years. Each member of the team was invited to the podium in order to receive an individual plaque and be recognized for her accomplishment.
- Mr. Kies introduced the Varsity Boys Lacrosse team as the 2008 Division II – Class B Suffolk County champions/Class B New York State champions. With a league record of 14-0 and overall record of 16-1, Mr. Kies offered his congratulations to this exceptional team and recognized Mr. Mike Bowler, head coach, for his thirty-years of commitment to the sport and the students of Rocky Point. Each team member was presented with a plaque to commemorate this championship season. Suffolk county legislator, 6th District, Mr. Dan Losquadro, congratulated all of the athletes and encouraged them to remember the feelings they were experiencing tonight so that they could continue to strive for success in their everyday academic and personal lives. Legislator Losquadro noted that the community will continue to expect great things from the student-athletes as they have demonstrated dedication and perseverance to accomplish their goals. Mr. Losquadro presented each member of the Varsity Boys Lacrosse team with a certificate of congratulations and a Proclamation to be added to the trophy case. Mr.

Losquadro extended his congratulations to coach Bowler and commended him for being named Coach of the Year.

RECOGNITION OF *TEENY AWARDS* NOMINEES AND WINNERS

- Dr. D'Ambrosio invited English teacher, Ms. Jennie Graziano, to the podium in order to recognize the nominated/winning students of the first annual Greater Port Jefferson-Northern Brookhaven Arts Council *Teeny Awards*. Ms. Graziano called to the podium Miss Sarah Bradley, winner for the lead actress in a drama for her role in *Steel Magnolias*, Miss Amanda Galasso, winner for supporting actress for her role in *Steel Magnolias*, and Laurie Phillips and Ashley Martin, joint winners for set design for *Steel Magnolias*. Mrs. Thalen extended congratulations on behalf of the Board of Education and acknowledged that the students and staff of Rocky Point Schools, once again, made us proud.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Mr. William Caulfield, Rocky Point High School principal, announced that he was very proud of the many accomplishments of the high school students throughout the 2007-2008 school year. Mr. Caulfield commented that the senior prom cruise was a rousing success and he congratulated the students for their outstanding decorum throughout the evening. Mr. Caulfield also made note of the unfortunate fact that members of the Varsity Lacrosse team were unable to attend the prom due to the last-minute scheduling conflict and acknowledged the sacrifices made by all those affected.
- Dr. Joseph Tanen Centamore, Rocky Point Middle School principal, extended his congratulations to all of the Rocky Point athletes for their dedication and commitment to their respective sports and also to the students recognized at the *Teeny Award* ceremony. Dr. Centamore commended Mrs. Danielle Donadoni and the students who were published in the American Library Poetry contest, Rachel King, Amanda Wells and Thomas Lettieri.
- Ms. Carol Tvelia, principal of the Joseph A. Edgar Intermediate School, congratulated all of those associated with the sports programs. Ms. Tvelia announced that the fifth grade moving up ceremony would take place on Wednesday, June 25th, 2008. Ms. Tvelia mentioned that as of the date of this meeting, twenty-six chicks had successfully hatched.
- Dr. Scott O'Brien, Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School principal, announced that the very first pre-kindergarten moving-up ceremony celebrated the accomplishments of thirty-six students as they prepare to enter kindergarten in the fall. Dr. O'Brien expressed his sincere thanks to the members of the Board of Education, administration, teachers, staff and parents for their support of all of the students of FJC.

Mrs. Thalen opened the meeting to questions and/or comments from members of the audience.

- Reading from a prepared statement, fifth-grader Wayne Farley expressed his concern that only two tickets per family were allocated for the moving-up ceremony at JAE because it was being held indoors. Wayne expressed his dismay that his older sisters and brother would be unable to attend the ceremony and witness his graduation from JAE. Wayne questioned why the ceremony was not being held out-of-doors.
- Mrs. Thalen asked Dr. D'Ambrosio to respond to Master Farley's inquiry.
- Dr. D'Ambrosio explained that it was the district's goal to make certain the ceremony would run as smoothly as possible, keeping in mind the ever-changing weather conditions if it was held outside and the need to comply with all mandated fire codes for an inside ceremony.
- Mrs. Farley stated that past moving-up ceremonies were held out-of-doors and/or in the high school auditorium and requested that the location of the ceremony be reconsidered in order to accommodate more family members and friends per student. Dr. D'Ambrosio thanked Mrs. Farley for her comments.
- Reading from a prepared statement, Ms. Amy Aprile, chairperson of Relay for Life, expressed her gratitude to Dr. D'Ambrosio, the members of the Board of Education, staff members of Rocky Point Schools, Boy Scout Troop 244, Mr. Joe Spina's band and DJ Tim Harris, for their contributions in ensuring the success of the fundraiser. As of this date, monies raised totaled more than \$50,494. Ms. Aprile requested that the district commit to having the fundraiser again next year with the proposed date of same pre-set and publicized on the 2008-2009 school calendar.
- Ms. Johannesen thanked Dr. O'Brien and Dr. Herbert for providing the students of the Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School with a great foundation leading to educational success. Ms. Johannesen also thanked Dr. Centamore for providing the students with an all-around pleasant educational experience. Ms. Johannesen specifically thanked Mrs. Thalen for treating all parents and students with dignity and respect.
- Mrs. Patricia Sparks read from a prepared statement in which she recognized Melanie Santiago for her many years of dedicated service to the Friends of Music. Mrs. Sparks expressed her gratitude to Mrs. Thalen for her selfless donation of countless hours as both a member of the PTA and a trustee of the board of education and her tireless efforts on behalf of all students of the Rocky Point UFSD.
- Ms. Karen Audette thanked both Mrs. Thalen and Mr. Matera for their hard work and dedication throughout their years on the board.
- Mr. Matera remarked that the contributions of school board members reflect the ever-changing circumstances and needs of the community during the times in which they serve.
- Mrs. Thalen expressed her gratitude to all who offered their kind comments.

There were no further questions or comments.

MINUTES

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Minutes of the following Board of Education Meetings be accepted as presented: **Regular Meeting, May 20, 2008, Special Meeting, June 9, 2008.**

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

TREASURER’S REPORTS

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the Treasurer’s Reports for the month of April 2008 as presented.

All in favor - Motion carried 5-0

EXTRA-CLASSROOM ACTIVITY ACCOUNT TREASURER REPORT

Upon a motion made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Edward Darcey, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the Extra-Classroom Activity Treasurer Reports for the month of April 2008 as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Upon a motion made by Edward Darcey and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the Financial Reports for the month of April 2008 as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

BUDGET TRANSFER SUMMARY – APRIL 2008

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the April 2008 Budget Transfer Summary Report, as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RESERVE FUND TRANSFER

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the transfer of the not-to-exceed amount for the reserve funds as specified.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Thalen asked that the amount of the transfer be read aloud. Mr. Matera stated that the insurance portion of the reserve fund transfer was \$750,000 and the workers' compensation portion of the reserve fund transfer was also \$750,000 for a total amount of \$1,500,000. There was no further discussion.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN – FEDERAL SINGLE AUDIT

Upon a motion made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Edward Darcey, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the Corrective Action Plan for the Federal Single Audit as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

EXTERNAL AUDITOR CONTRACT – FISCAL YEAR DATE CORRECTION

Upon a motion made by Edward Darcey and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education awards the External Audit contract for the 2007-2008 fiscal year to Coughlin Foundotos Cullen & Danowski, LLP, at a fee of \$45,600.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

EXCEL BOND PROJECT – CLERK OF THE WORKS APPOINTMENT

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education appoints Conor Construction Consultant, Inc., 5 Deerfield Drive, Lake Grove, NY 11775, as Clerk of the Works at a rate of \$65.00 per hour, not to exceed \$30,000.00

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Thalen asked if there was an “end date” on this contract. Mr. Ivanoff responded that the end date would be upon the completion of Phase 1 of the project. There was no further discussion.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

TAN BORROWING FOR THE 2008-2009 FISCAL YEAR

Upon a motion made by Michael Matera and seconded by Margaret Smith, 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:

Tax Anticipation Note Resolution, dated June 23, 2008, authorizing the issuance of not-to-exceed \$10,000,000 Tax Anticipation Notes of the Rocky Point Union Free School District, in the Town of Brookhaven, County of Suffolk, State of New York, in anticipation of the collection of real estate taxes to be levied in and for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Thalen asked if the Tax Anticipation Notes had gone out as of the date of the meeting. Mr. Ivanoff advised Mrs. Thalen that they had not and the target date was July or August. There was no further discussion.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

REFUNDING OF OUTSTANDING BONDS OF ROCKY POINT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Upon a motion made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Edward Darcey, 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:

Resolution of the Rocky Point Union Free School District, New York, adopted June 23, 2008, ratifying the selection of Commercial Capital Markets, Inc. to serve as the underwriter in connection with the refunding of certain outstanding bonds of the school district.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

SOUND BEACH MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

Upon a motion made by Edward Darcey and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino, 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 \$500.00 scholarship from Sound Beach Music.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Thalen thanked the owners of Sound Beach Music for their generous donation. There was no further discussion.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE WITH OTHER DISTRICTS IN

NASSAU/SUFFOLK COUNTIES IN THE JOINT BIDDING ON FOOD AND FOOD SERVICE SUPPLIES FOR THE 2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR

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

WHEREAS, it is the plan of a number of public school districts in Nassau/Suffolk counties, New York, to bid jointly on Food and Food Service Supplies for the 2008-2009 school year.

WHEREAS, ROCKY POINT SCHOOL DISTRICT, desires to participate with other districts in Nassau/Suffolk counties in the joint bidding of the commodities mentioned above as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-0 and,

WHEREAS, ROCKY POINT SCHOOL DISTRICT, wishes to appoint a committee to assume the responsibility for drafting of specification, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bids, reporting the results to the boards of education and making recommendations thereon; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the **ROCKY POINT SCHOOL DISTRICT**, hereby appoints Long Island School Food Service Director's Association Cooperative Bid Committee to represent it in all matters related above, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that **ROCKY POINT SCHOOL DISTRICT'S** Board of Education authorize the above-mentioned committee to represent it in all matters leading up to the entering into a contract for the purchase of the above-mentioned commodities, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that **ROCKY POINT SCHOOL DISTRICT'S** Board of Education agrees to assume its equitable share of the costs of the cooperative bidding, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that **ROCKY POINT SCHOOL DISTRICT'S** Board of Education agrees to (1) abide by majority decisions of the participating districts on quality standards; (2) that unless all bids are rejected, it will award contracts according to the recommendations of the committee; (3) that after award of contract(s) it will conduct all negotiations directly with the successful bidder(s).

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Thalen explained that the Rocky Point UFSD joined the consortium in order to obtain the lowest possible rates for food and food service supplies and that this resolution was in the best interests of the district. There was no further discussion.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

HEALTH SERVICE CONTRACTS

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the Board President to enter into an agreement for health services for the 2007-08 school year with the following districts:

Hauppauge Public Schools
Smithtown Central School District

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

COSMETOLOGY STUDENT INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT

Upon a motion made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Edward Darcey, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the contract between Rocky Point Schools and graduated student Angelina Daisy to attend the Rocky Point High School Cosmetology program for the 2008/2009 school year in order to complete the program at a cost to the student of \$2,000.00.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

NON-RESIDENT TUITION – SUMMER SCHOOL TUITION CONTRACT

Upon a motion made by Edward Darcey and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the tuition rate of \$350.00 per summer school class, and \$50.00 for Regents exams only, for non-residential students who wish to enroll in the 2008 summer school program

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

2008-2009 DISTRICT-WIDE PRINTING CONTRACT EXTENSION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education renews the agreement with Save-On Printing for the 2008-2009 fiscal year, per the one-year extension clause.

All in Favor – Motion carried 5-0

2008-2009 IN-CAR DRIVER ED CONTRACT EXTENSION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education renews the agreement with All-Suffolk Auto School for the 2008-2009 fiscal year at a rate of \$250.00 per student.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Thalen asked Mrs. Gilbert if the district was being granted the same rate as in the past; a rate without a “gas clause.” Mrs. Gilbert advised that All-Suffolk had extended the base contract rate of \$225.00 per student; however, there would be a fuel surcharge of \$25.00 per student for a total of \$250.00 per student. There was no further discussion.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

SURPLUS TEXTBOOKS

Upon a motion made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Edward Darcey, 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 textbooks per the attached schedule.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Thalen asked Mrs. Smith to read aloud the information contained on the Surplus Textbook Disposal sheet. Mrs. Smith complied with Mrs. Thalen’s directive and explained that the books represented were outdated English and social studies textbooks dated from 1997 through 2004. There was no further discussion

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

SURPLUS ITEMS

Upon a motion made by Edward Darcey and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino, 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 equipment per the attached schedule.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Thalen asked for a general description of the items being surplused and was advised that the items consisted of Dell model 150 computers with monitors. There was no further discussion.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

SETTLEMENT OF PENDING ARBITRATION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the settlement terms agreed to at the arbitration between the Rocky Point Union Free School District and the School- Related Professional Association, brought on behalf of Michael Hanson, in the amount of \$3,500.00.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

SETTLEMENT OF PENDING ARBITRATION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the settlement terms agreed to at the arbitration between the Rocky Point Union Free School District and the Rocky Point Teachers' Association brought on behalf of the teachers in the 2007 Summer Jump Start Program as follows:

Mark Yashowitz	\$100.00
Suzanne Varbero	\$100.00
Kim Smokler	\$100.00
Mara Lopez	\$100.00
Donna Hurst-Hepburn	\$100.00
Thomas Short	\$100.00
Jaimie Sardegna	\$100.00
Jennifer Koster	\$100.00

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS: SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT MEMBERS

Upon a motion made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Edward Darcey, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointments of Julie Holter and Michael S. Kern as Parent Members to the Committee on Special Education/Committee on Pre-School Special Education (in accordance with the Commissioner's Regulations, Part 200 and the provisions of the Education Law, Section 4402).

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

COMMITTEES ON SPECIAL EDUCATION/PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Upon a motion made by Edward Darcey and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino, 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 6-23-08A and Schedule 6-23-08- B.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RESOLUTION TO EXTEND CURRENT EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT TERMS OF CONFIDENTIAL EMPLOYEES

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

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the current terms and conditions as set forth in the employment agreements of confidential employees, namely: Mary Berretta, Gregory Hilton, Debra Hoffman, Patricia Jones, Elena Lynch-Dobert, Jill Marolla, Richard Mondello, Joseph Nowaski and Irene

Rosener, due to expire on June 30th, 2008, shall remain in full force and effect until superseded by successor employment agreements.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

PERSONNEL

Upon a motion made by Michael Matera and seconded by Margaret Smith, 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.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Thalen announced the resignation of Mr. Michael Ivanoff, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations. Mrs. Thalen advised Mr. Ivanoff was leaving Rocky Point for employment with another school district. Mrs. Thalen thanked Mr. Ivanoff for his dedication, integrity and efforts to ensure that the Rocky Point UFSD maintained the highest standards for fiscal and professional accreditation.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RESOLUTION TO SET THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL DATE

Upon a motion made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Edward Darcey, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that Wednesday, July 2, 2008, is set as the date for the Board of Education Annual Organizational Meeting. Furthermore, the meeting will take place in the Rocky Point High School Auditorium at 7:30 PM.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Mrs. Thalen opened the floor to questions and/or comments.

- Mr. Marcelo Idrovo stated that there was a class action suit against the company currently employed by the district, New York Insulation, Inc., for non-payment of prevailing wages and overall unfair labor practices. Mr. Idrovo asked that the district be aware of this company's reputation for not paying overtime to its employees and its involvement in other unfair labor practices.
- Mrs. Thalen responded to Mr. Idrovo's concerns by stating that the district was cognizant of his concerns and that the clerk of the works would oversee the situation, together with Mr. Dick Mondello, to ensure all work was being performed in a proper manner. Mrs. Thalen invited Mr. Guido, district architect, to address Mr. Idrovo's concerns.
- Mr. Guido explained that the asbestos removal job was open to bid and the company ultimately employed by the district, New York Insulation, Inc., was fairly and properly awarded the bid. Mr. Guido assured Mr. Idrovo, and those in attendance at the meeting, that a complete and thorough background check was performed on New York Insulation, Inc. In addition, all allegations against the

company were thoroughly investigated, and a pre-qualification letter was submitted on behalf of the company. Furthermore, Mr. Guido assured those in attendance that there was no reason to disqualify the company awarded the bid; all reference checks of said company were fine and there were no “notations” against the company on file.

- Mr. Farley questioned the logic behind hiring the lowest bidder of a project only to require the employment/paid salary of a clerk of the works to oversee the work being performed.
- Mr. Guido explained that the clerk of the works was hired to oversee and/or supervise all work being performed during the summer months and not only the work being completed by New York Insulation, Inc.
- Mr. Idrovo stated that he was aware that the Housing Authority had banned New York Insulation, Inc. from working.
- Mr. Guido informed Mr. Idrovo that he had spoken directly with the Housing Authority and that was not the case.
- Mrs. Thalen thanked Mr. Idrovo for his comments and assured him that the school board and the school district would be “ever vigilant” concerning all work performed at the schools and particularly the work conducted by New York Insulation, Inc. Mrs. Thalen assured Mr. Idrovo that the board would not allow anything improper to occur on its watch.
- Mr. Farley asked if the school district always hires the lowest bidder for any and/or all projects. Mr. Farley also inquired as to who is responsible for making the final employment decision.
- Mr. Guido explained that extensive research and reference checks were done prior to procuring a company to complete a job. Mr. Guido assured Mr. Farley that the company in question was pre-approved by the New York City School Construction Authority following a 400 point check system.
- Mrs. Thalen indicated that the district and the board were aware of the allegations surrounding the bid-awarded company and assured all that no irregularities would be permitted and/or condoned.

There were no further questions or comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:10 PM, a motion was made by Joseph Sanseverino and seconded by Edward Darcey 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 10:50 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:55 PM, a motion was made by Michael Matera and seconded by Margaret Smith to adjourn the meeting.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

Carla L. D'Ambrosio, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

