

MINUTES
ROCKY POINT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
November 22, 2010

Mr. Nofi called the meeting to order at 6:05 P.M.

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

Absent: None

Executive Session

At 6:07 P.M. Diane Burke made a motion and John Lessler seconded to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss particular personnel matters.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:14 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Nofi welcomed those in attendance to the meeting. Mr. Nofi announced that in the district's continued efforts to "go green," the Board of Education will utilize school-district laptop computers in place of book binders at monthly meetings thus eliminating the need for large amounts of paper. Mr. Nofi explained that the board members would review materials provided to them via thumb drives and following each board meeting the laptops would be returned for use in the school district.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Ring announced during Superintendent's Conference Day, November 2, 2010, instructional staff members participated in workshops focusing upon students with disabilities. Noting the present population of Rocky Point students with disabilities is comprised of approximately one out of six students, Dr. Ring outlined the need for new approaches to differentiated instruction for this student populace. Dr. Ring extended his gratitude to Ms. Anja Groth, Director of Instruction, for her efforts and leadership in

coordinating the conference day program. Dr. Ring also recognized Ms. Groth and her fellow team members for their efforts pertaining to the key elements involved in the Next S.T.E.P. program, the long-range plan for improving academic achievement levels. Dr. Ring reported particulars concerning this program are available on the district's website by following the links to "*Soaring – the Official Newsletter of the Rocky Point Union Free School District*."

William B. Caulfield, Principal, Rocky Point High School

- On November 9th, a special Veterans Day Assembly was held at the high school. Guest speakers and veterans Hank Sipila and Buddy Gengler addressed the assembly. The Suffolk County Police Department Bagpipe Band and other notable invited guests performed and participated in this day of remembrance along with Rocky Point High School vocalists and band members.
- Report cards were mailed home on Friday, November 19th.
- The Rocky Point High School will participate in the district's annual Emergency Drill on November 23rd and will dismiss students one-half hour earlier than usual.
- On December 14th and 15th, representatives from the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department will provide a Simulated Drunk Driver program. Students will drive golf carts while wearing special glasses that will emulate the effects of driving under the influence.
- Mr. Caulfield extended his best wishes to all for a Happy Thanksgiving holiday.

Scott O'Brien, Ed.D., Principal, Rocky Point Middle School

- Those who participated in the Rocky Point Idol semi-finals did a great job.
- The Student Council sponsored a well-attended fall dance on November 12th from 3 P.M. to 5 P.M. for sixth graders only and from 4:30 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. for 7th and 8th graders.
- The second and third segments of a three-part Police Smart Assembly series were attended by all middle school students.
- The scheduled November Astronomy Night was unfortunately rained out. A December date will be announced on the district's website. Ms. Audra Hallock and other teachers from the Rocky Point science department look forward to seeing you at the newly scheduled event.
- Students and staff members of the Rocky Point Middle School collected approximately 1,200 items of food to support the local community during the month of November.
- A new club, *Best Buddies*, has been established in order to promote one-to-one friendships and to provide opportunities for socialization and leadership development for those with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. More information is available on the international organization's website, www.bestbuddies.org.
- Congratulations to the 8th grade boys soccer team and coach Dave Falcone, recipients of the Suffolk County Soccer Officials Junior High Sportsmanship Award. This award is presented to only one middle school in the county. Members of the team will be individually recognized at next month's Board of Education meeting.

- Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Carol Tvelia, Principal, Joseph A. Edgar School

- Best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving.
- Thanks to faculty/staff members. Twenty-five boxes of canned goods were donated to the St. Anselm's food drive.
- On November 10th, seventy-five veterans were honored at the 13th Annual Veterans Day Assembly. Special thanks to Laure Varriale, Mark Yashowitz and Craig Knapp for their dedication to this special program. In thanks for their recognition, the veterans presented the Joseph A. Edgar School with a POW/MIA flag to be proudly displayed at the school.
- The October Baby Scarecrow/Trick or Treat for UNICEF program was a huge success. More than \$1,000 dollars was raised for UNICEF during this event.
- An RtI grant, written last year by Maria Dorr and Ms. Tvelia, was awarded to Rocky Point Schools. Only one of eighteen districts in the state was awarded this prestigious grant and Rocky Point was one of only two awarded on Long Island. The grant has been extended from one year to five years, resulting in a monetary award of approximately \$500,000.00. Ms. Tvelia explained in detail the RtI Program and outlined its different tiers and monetary elements. As a result of being awarded this grant, the Joseph A. Edgar School has been able to restructure its reading services for students.

Kenneth Crawford, Acting Principal, Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School

- The Harvest Day Parade was a great success. Special thanks to Mr. Spina and Mr. Mancini for setting up the PA system; Ms. Jennifer Golding for organizing the parade; and Ms. Amy Schecher and the Rocky Point High School Band for performing at the event.
- The FJC Elementary School is hosting its annual food drive. Donations will be sorted, boxed and delivered to local food pantries.
- The "Warm and Fuzzy Drive" will be held during the month of December. This drive provides a chance to collect warm items for neighbors who may be in need during the winter season.
- Congratulations to second grade teacher, Catherine Ladani. Ms. Ladani has been named a 2010-2011 Dowling College/News 12 Long Island Educator of the Month.
- The FJC Second Grade Chorus Winter Concert will be presented on Tuesday, December 7th, in the high school auditorium at 7:00 P.M.
- FJC will participate in the district's Emergency Drill on Tuesday, November 23rd. All students will be dismissed one-half hour earlier than usual.
- Mr. Crawford read a letter of gratitude and appreciation he received from a parent in commendation of a Bucket Filling Assembly the parent and her child attended and the subsequent repercussions of the themes addressed during the assembly.
- Mr. Crawford, on behalf of the faculty and staff of the Frank J. Carasiti School, extended his best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving holiday.

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

- Dr. Christopher Pinkenburg requested confirmation of a rumor concerning the reported dismissal of a substitute teacher. Dr. Ring advised that he was unable to comment as it pertained to a personnel matter and personnel matters were not discussed in a public forum. Dr. Ring disclosed that it was at the discretion of a building principal as to whom he or she preferred to be called in to substitute in his/her building and that the Board of Education was responsible for adding and/or deleting individuals to/from the district-wide approved substitute roster. Dr. Ring stated that to his knowledge, the teacher in question was presently active on the district-wide substitute roster.

There were no further questions or comments.

MINUTES

Upon a motion made by John Lessler and seconded by Scott Reh, 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, 2010.**

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

TREASURER’S 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 Treasurer’s Report for the month of September 2010 as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

EXTRA-CLASSROOM ACTIVITY ACCOUNT TREASURER 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 Extra-Classroom Activity Treasurer Report for the month of September 2010 as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

FINANCIAL REPORTS

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the Financial Reports for the month of September 2010 as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

BUDGET TRANSFER SUMMARY – OCTOBER 2010

Upon a motion made by John Lessler 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 October 2010 Budget Transfer Summary.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

INTERNAL CLAIMS AUDIT REPORT – OCTOBER 2010

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 accepts the October 2010 Internal Claims Audit Report.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

BID #11-15 ON-CALL SERVICES FOR SNOW REMOVAL

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 awards Bid #11-15 On-Call Services for Snow Removal to Gallino & Sons, the lowest responsible bidder, as per the attached.

Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Nofi requested confirmation from Dr. Ring that on-call snow removal services would be utilized only if accumulated amounts of snow greater than seven inches fell, due to the inability of the district's on-hand equipment to clear large amounts of snow in a timely fashion. Dr. Ring provided his confirmation of the facts as presented.
- Mr. Nofi made mention of the familiarity of the Gallino name within the community and confirmed Gallino & Sons was awarded the bid as the lowest responsible bidder in accordance with the bid procedure in place by the district. Dr. Ring pointed out that the ownership of Gallino & Sons is related to Mrs. Evelyn Gallino, an employee in the building and grounds department. He explained this information was being shared solely for the purpose of full disclosure. Dr. Ring reported relatives of employees are not precluded from contracting with the district simply because they are related.

There was no further discussion.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

ADOPTION OF BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY NUMBER 7619

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby moves the adoption of Board of Education Policy 7619, “Use of Time Out Rooms” - first reading.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RTI GRANT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Upon a motion made by John Lessler 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 Superintendent of Schools to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between the Rocky Point Union Free School District and the New York State Response to Intervention Technical Assistance Center for the purpose of designing and implementing a high-quality RtI process at the Joseph A. Edgar Intermediate School.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Memorandum of Agreement between the Board of Education and the Rocky Point School-Related Professional Association

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 execute a Memorandum of Agreement between the District and the Rocky Point School-Related Professional Association for the purpose of adding the Civil Service title of Secretarial Assistant that shall become part of the recognition clause of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Rocky Point Union Free School District and the Rocky Point School-Related Professional Association effective November 22, 2010, as per the attached.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

DONATION – TARGET

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 and accepts the donation from Target in the amount of \$197.78.

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 \$197.78 as a result of the donation from Target.

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

A 2110 500 01 0000 (FJC) \$197.78

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

DONATED ITEMS

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the donated items as per the attached list.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

COMMITTEES ON SPECIAL EDUCATION/PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Upon a motion made by John Lessler 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 votes to arrange for appropriate services pursuant to the recommendations of Schedule 11-22-10-A and Schedule 11-22-10- B.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

PERSONNEL

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 accepts the attached Personnel changes.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Mr. Nofi invited anyone with questions and/or comments to come forward.

- Dr. Pinkenburg inquired whether the district currently participates in the use of time out rooms. Dr. Ring responded current district policy number 7640, references policy number 7619 which presently does not exist. In order to remedy this, the district will adopt policy number 7619 to be in compliance with the Commissioner's Regulations and use of time out rooms. Dr. Ring announced draft policy number 7619 will be posted to the district's website prior to final adoption by the Board of Education, for public review.

There were no further questions or comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:45 PM Diane Burke made a motion and John Lessler seconded 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 9:05 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion made by John Lessler and seconded by Kathleen Heggers, the Board of Education adjourned the meeting at 9:06 P.M.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

Michael F. Ring
Superintendent of Schools

