

MINUTES
ROCKY POINT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
March 28, 2011

Mr. Nofi called the meeting to order at 6:09 PM.

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 6:10 PM Diane Burke made a motion and Kathleen Hegggers seconded to adjourn to Executive Session in order to meet with district counsel.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:05 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Nofi welcomed those in attendance to the meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. William B. Caulfield, Principal, Rocky Point High School

- On March 24th, the Rocky Point Friends of Music sponsored the “Sister Act Show” during an assembly for all middle and high school music students. Students were provided with the history of women in rock and roll music in correlation with pertinent events in history.
- School counselors are meeting individually with juniors and seniors and their families to discuss 2011-2012 course selections and post-secondary planning.
- Spring Fest is scheduled for Saturday, April 30th. Various sports home games will be played with many clubs participating in fund raising events.
- On Friday, March 25th, a fundraising talent show and Chinese Auction was sponsored by the Math Honor Society and the National Honor Society clubs,

together with the help of the Thespian Society. Almost six-thousand dollars was raised with all proceeds benefitting the McDonald family. Special thanks to Jenn Engellau, Holly Rizzi, Heather Catandella, Kevin Roode and all the students that participated for making it such a great expense.

- Mr. Caulfield recognized student-athlete Matthew Ross. Matthew was deemed an All-State Wrestler as he finished second in New York State at 145 pounds. Matthew will represent New York in a New York v. New Jersey All-Star Meet.
- Mr. Caulfield also congratulated student-athlete Matthew Dutton for his outstanding season as an independent swimmer. Matthew was recognized as All-State in the five hundred yard freestyle and he was the New York State Public School Champion in the one hundred yard butterfly.

Dr. Scott O'Brien, Principal, Rocky Point Middle School

- School spirit was celebrated by students and staff during Spirit Week.
- Singer/songwriter Jared Campbell and the "Blue Project," an interactive live concert, performed on March 9th. Through song, students learned about pursuing their passion and practical life lessons.
- The spring sports season begins today.
- Holocaust survivor, Mr. Werner Reich, will speak to the students on Friday, April 15th. Mr. Reich will share with students his experiences at Auschwitz in order to help them understand the importance of being a just person and doing the right thing. It is Mr. Reich's hope that he will make a positive impression on the students and help impact change. Thank you to Ms. Alemaghides for her efforts in bringing this guest speaker to the middle school.
- The Rocky Point Middle School will host Career Day on April 28th for the eighth grade students. Thirty guest speakers will share their experiences relating to their professions. Thank you to school counselors Patrick Panella, Courtney Honan and Janine Quigley for their efforts in organizing this event.
- The middle school drama production, *Aladdin, Jr.*, is currently in rehearsals. Performances are scheduled for April 8th and April 9th. A dress rehearsal for sixth grade middle school students and kindergarten students will be performed on April 7th at 10:00 AM.

Ms. Carol Tvelia, Principal, Joseph A. Edgar School

- The students thoroughly enjoyed the Broccoli Rob in-school field trip which encouraged healthy food choices with fruits and vegetables.
- Fourth graders will visit the Brookhaven National Laboratory during the next few weeks. Students will participate in hands-on activities as well as visit the museum.
- The first group of third graders received their chick eggs last week. The eggs should hatch during mid-April. The second group of third graders will receive their eggs upon their return to school following spring recess.
- On Thursdays during the month of March, fifth grade students were visited by Officer Fields in order to participate in the Police Smart program. Officer Fields also presented a one-time Internet Safety lesson to both third and fourth graders.
- More than one hundred students participated in the Late Bird Reading program, a six week intensive instruction program in preparation for the upcoming ELA

Assessment. Late Bird Math and Writing programs began this week and will conclude April 28th.

- The JAE spring musical, “Show Me the Money,” will be performed by Mr. Craig Knapp and the High Notes on both March 30th and March 31st.

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

- The elementary school participated in the annual Brookhaven National Lab’s Science Fair. The children completed their projects at home and displayed them in the FJC cafeteria on March 14th through the 16th. Mr. Gabriel, Coordinator of Science, presented students participating in the Science Fair with ribbons and certificates. Two students from each grade level were selected by a team of teachers as representatives of their grade level and school at the Brookhaven National Lab Science Fair on May 7th.
- The FJC Garden Club will begin for first graders on April 1st. The students will meet every other week on Friday mornings. Second graders will begin on April 8th. Club members will plant vegetables, create wildflower gardens and learn about plant science, nutrition and nature. The Garden Club is in need of donations of goods/services for the spring semester as the club has grown from forty to more than one hundred and fifty aspiring gardeners.
- Second grade chorus students are in rehearsals for their performance scheduled for June 7th. The second grade chorus currently has one hundred and forty five members.
- On Friday, March 25th, a Bucket-Filling Assembly on the topic of “fairness” was presented to first graders.
- The FJC Shared Decision Meeting will be held on March 30th at 8:45 a.m.
- The Frank J. Carasiti M & M Mentoring Program, under the direction of Dr. Herbert and Mrs. Adamski, nominated Mrs. Catherine Conner for an award from the Mentoring Partnership of Long Island. In honor of this award, a donation of one hundred dollars will be made in Mrs. Conner’s name to the M & M Mentoring Program.

BUDGET PRESENTATION

Dr. Ring presented an extensive PowerPoint overview of the 2011-2012 proposed budget. During the presentation, the following informational areas were discussed in detail:

Budget Goals; Addressing Critical Challenges and Corresponding Responses to Same; Enrollment Projections; Expenditure Summary; Sources of Revenue; Combined Wealth Ratio; Per Pupil Expenditures for Special Education and General Education; Future Funding Concerns; Impact of a Contingency Budget; Budget Summary; and Capital Reserve Fund Proposition.

Dr. Ring noted the entire presentation would be available for review on the school district website later in the evening.

Dr. Ring opened the floor to questions.

- Mrs. King asked for confirmation that currently there are no serious cuts to staff and/or programs under consideration. Dr. Ring advised that under the proposed budget, there were no serious cuts being considered at this time. Dr. Ring further commented teacher vacancies would not be filled unless a position is deemed critical.
- Ms. Jenny Andersson asked if changes in programs would be made under the proposed budget plan and, if so, what those changes might entail. Dr. Ring stressed his desire to keep in place the district's current programs. He noted the possibility of the reallocation and redeployment of teachers and resources due to the increase in staff requirements at the secondary level resulting from the implementation of the state mandated AIS program and the increased costs for other mandated services, pensions and other benefits. Dr. Ring also discussed in detail special education and the "C" class model, inclusion, resource room and learning lab components.
- Mr. Drew Martin thanked Dr. Ring and the Board of Education for preparing and presenting a responsible budget. Mr. Martin inquired about any preparations being considered in the event the budget is diminished. Dr. Ring disclosed there were shared planning processes in progress for the different possible scenarios.
- Mrs. Burke asked why possible changes in the ratio of inclusion classes were being considered if the presented budget plan allows the district to remain whole. Dr. Ring remarked various strategies are discussed and proposed from time to time, but no change to ratios, from currently experienced levels, is factored into the proposed budget.
- Ms. Ernestine Franco inquired if district employees would be asked to contribute more to their pension and health insurance plans. Dr. Ring related that such contributions were items covered under collective bargaining. Dr. Ring communicated contract negotiations would begin shortly and these issues, among others, would be open to discussion. Dr. Ring assured Ms. Franco the Board of Education will take a responsible position in this matter.
- Mrs. Heely noted the monies allocated to instructional salaries comprised a major portion of the budget. Mrs. Heely asked if a freezing of wages is being considered.. Dr. Ring noted the current negotiated agreement between the Rocky Point UFSD and the Rocky Point Teachers' Association will expire on June 30, 2011 and that contract negotiations had not yet begun.
- Dr. Pinkenburg asked for the percentage of students deemed to be failing and therefore requiring remedial and/or AIS services. Dr. Ring engaged in a detailed discussion defining the variables, i.e., grade to grade, assessment to assessment, and the need to agree upon the criteria that will ultimately be used to define success.
- Ms. Andersson asked for the particulars involved in AIS services. Mrs. Wilson reported existing teachers were being reallocated for the program and that finalized scheduling was still in the process of being completed.
- Mrs. King asked if the capital reserve project proposal was state "aidable." Dr. Ring responded affirmatively and explained the formula that would be used to attain the aid resulting in no cost in additional funds to district taxpayers.

- Dr. Pinkenburg asked if the AIS program was effective. Dr. Ring responded affirmatively and stated the program provided remediation for the specific problems being encountered by specific students. Dr. Ring added the AIS program is a “gap-closing” strategy that is state mandated because it works so well.

There were no further questions and/or comments pertaining to the budget presentation.

Mr. Nofi thanked Dr. Ring for his skills in putting together a responsible budget during a particularly difficult budget season.

Mr. Nofi reminded those in attendance there would be another opportunity to speak at the end of the business portion of the meeting.

MINUTES

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Minutes of the following Board of Education Meeting be accepted as presented: **February 28, 2011.**

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

TREASURER’S REPORTS

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the Treasurer’s Reports for the months of January and February 2011 as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

EXTRA-CLASSROOM ACTIVITY ACCOUNT TREASURER REPORT

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the Extra Classroom Activity Treasurer Report for the month of February 2011 as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

FINANCIAL REPORTS

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the Financial Reports for the month of February 2011 as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

BUDGET TRANSFER SUMMARY – FEBRUARY 2011

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke 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 February 2011 Budget Transfer Summary.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

INTERNAL CLAIMS AUDIT REPORT – FEBRUARY 2011

Upon a motion made by Kathleen Hegggers 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 February 2011 Internal Claims Audit Report.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

2009-2010 FEDERAL SINGLE AUDIT REPORT

Upon a motion made by Scott Reh 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 Federal Single Audit Report for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 2010, which has been submitted by our external auditors, Cullen & Danowski, LLP.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

2011-2012 BOCES COOPERATIVE BIDDING SERVICES PURCHASING CONTRACTS

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Rocky Point Union Free School District will enter into an agreement to participate in the BOCES Cooperative Bidding Services Purchasing Contracts for the 2011-2012 fiscal year on an “as needed” basis as per the following Joint Municipal Cooperative Bidding Program Resolution:

WHEREAS, various educational and municipal corporations located within the State of New York desire to bid jointly for generally needed services and standardized supply and equipment items; and

WHEREAS, the Rocky Point Union Free School District, an educational/municipal corporation (hereinafter the “Participant”) is desirous of selectively participating with other educational and/or municipal corporations in the State of New York in joint bidding in the areas mentioned above pursuant to General Municipal Law § 119-o and Education Law Section 1950; and

WHEREAS, the Participant is a municipality within the meaning of General Municipal Law §119-n and is eligible to participate in the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, First Supervisory District of Suffolk County (hereinafter Eastern Suffolk BOCES) Joint Municipal Cooperative Bidding Program (hereinafter the “Program”) in the areas mentioned above; and

WHEREAS, the Participant acknowledges receipt of the Program description inclusive of Eastern Suffolk BOCES’ standard bid packet and the general conditions relating to said Program; and

WHEREAS, with respect to all activities conducted by the Program, the Participant wishes to delegate to Eastern Suffolk BOCES the responsibility for drafting of bid specifications, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bids, tabulating bids, awarding the bids, and reporting the results to the Participant.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Participant hereby appoints Eastern Suffolk BOCES to represent it and to act as the lead agent in all matters related to the Program as described above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Participant hereby authorizes Eastern Suffolk BOCES to place all legal advertisements for any required cooperative bidding in *Newsday*, which is designated as the official newspaper for the Program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Participant Meeting shall be held annually consisting of a representative from each Program Participant. Notice of the meeting shall be given to each representative at least five (5) days prior to such meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an Advisory Committee will be formed consisting of five to ten representatives of Program participants for a term of three (3) years as authorized by General Municipal Law §119-o.2.j.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Agreement with the Participant shall be for a term of one (1) year as authorized by General Municipal Law §119-o.2.j.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Participant agrees to pay Eastern Suffolk BOCES an annual fee as determined annually by Eastern Suffolk BOCES to act as the lead agent for the Program.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

**SEQRA RESOLUTION – 2011-2012 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
ROCKY POINT HIGH SCHOOL SED #58-02-09-02-0-005-025
#58-02-09-02-0-005-026**

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke 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 approves the 2011/2012 Capital Improvement Program State Environment Quality Review Notice of Determination of Non-Significance as follows: **WHEREAS**, the Board of Education of the Rocky Point Union Free School District is the lead agency under the State Environmental Quality Review Process for the purpose of required determinations respecting the proposed Capital improvement Projects as follows:

District Wide

1. Installation of occupancy sensors
2. Replacement of VAT flooring. Installation of new VCT flooring. Removal of Thermal Systems Insulations (TSI) as determined by the district.
3. Toilet reconstruction & handicapped accessibility.

Rocky Point High School

1. Replacement of remaining sections of existing single-ply rubber roofing & steel modifications, with a new built-up roof system (25 year warranty)
2. Installation of new lightning protection
3. Removal of existing asbestos ceiling tiles within existing ceiling grid system. Existing grid & lighting to remain. Install new ceiling tile.

WHEREAS, in 1995, amendments were made to the SEQRA Regulation (Part 617) to classify projects, which will be excluded from the requirements for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (Type II Actions). The projects mentioned above are now classified as Type II Actions as determined by 6NYCRR§617.5 and

WHEREAS, these projects fall under the following categories:

- A. Routine Maintenance and Repair 6NYCRR§617.5. (c)(1): maintenance or repair involving no substantial change in an existing facility.
- B. Replace or Rehabilitation 6NYCRR§617.5 (c)(2): replacement or rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind, on the same site, unless the work exceeds a threshold for a Type I action in 6NYCRR§617.4.
- C. 6NYCRR§617.5(c)(8): Routine activities of educational institutions, including expansion of existing facilities by less than 10,000 square feet of gross floor area and school closings, but not changes in use related to such closings.

THEREFORE, as the lead agency for the SEQRA determination, all the above referenced projects fall under Categories “A” or “B” above. The procedure for Type II Actions, with regard to the SEQRA Process for Capital Projects noted above is “No additional Required Action under 6NYCRR§617.5(a).”

Following the reading of this resolution, Ms. Burke offered a synopsis of same in announcing the capital projects referred to in the resolution do not require SEQRA approval.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND PROPOSITION

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

RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ROCKY POINT UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT, IN THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, NEW YORK AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. At the Annual District Meeting and Election of the qualified voters of Rocky Point Union Free School District, in the county of Suffolk, New York (the “District”), to be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2011, a Proposition in substantially the form as hereinafter set forth shall be submitted to the qualified voters of said District. Said Proposition shall appear in the Notice of Annual District Meeting and Election, and the District Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to include such Proposition in said Notice by inserting therein the following paragraph:

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the following Proposition shall be submitted to the qualified voters at the Annual District Meeting and Election:

PROPOSITION

YES

NO

Shall the Board of Education be authorized to (i) construct various district-wide Building improvements, as and where needed, including construction and/or reconstruction of roofing systems, at the estimated maximum cost of \$1,587,000; asbestos abatement, at the estimated maximum cost of \$1,170,000; lavatory reconstruction, at the estimated maximum cost of \$153,000; installation of occupancy sensors at the estimated maximum cost of \$71,000; and the installation of lightning protection devices at the estimated maximum cost of \$12,000, provided that the estimated costs of the purposes set forth above may be reallocated among such components if it shall be determined to be in the best interest of the District, and (ii) to expend therefore a total amount not to exceed \$2,993,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund heretofore established following approval of a proposition by the voters of the School District on May 19, 2009?

Such Proposition shall appear on the ballot labels to be inserted in the voting machines used for voting at said Annual District Meeting and Election in substantially the foregoing form.

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

SCHOOL DISTRICT POINT OF DISPENSING SITES MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Upon a motion made by Scott Reh 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 authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute the School District Point of Dispensing Sites Memorandum of Understanding between the Rocky Point Union Free School District and the Suffolk County Division of Public Health, as per the attached.

Mr. Nofi confirmed with Dr. Ring that said resolution pertained to the county's ability to utilize school district facilities and assets, when necessary, in order to act as a mass dispensing site(s) in the event of a public health emergency, for the distribution of medicine to the public.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

ADOPTION OF NEXT STEP FIVE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

Upon a motion made by John Lessler 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 adopts the Next STEP five year strategic plan as heretofore submitted.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Mr. Nofi expressed his gratitude to Dr. Ring for the creation and implementation of the Next STEP Plan noting its ultimate goal was to reach the achievement of higher academic performance for the students of Rocky Point Schools. In turn, Dr. Ring thanked the more than one hundred action planning committee participants involved during the several months-long process in developing this strategic plan which is a living document that will continue to change over time.

NEXTGEN DONATION

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke 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 donated items from NEXTGEN, valued at approximately \$3,550.00, as per the attached list.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

DONATED ITEMS

Upon a motion made by Kathleen Hegggers 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 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 Scott Reh 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 votes to arrange for appropriate services pursuant to the recommendations of Schedule 3-28-11-A and Schedule 3-28-11-B.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:40 PM, Diane Burke made a motion and Kathleen Hegggers seconded in order to enter into Executive Session to discuss a decision pertaining to a specific personnel matter.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

The Board returned to Open Session as 8:54 PM.

AMENDMENT TO EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the First Amended and Restated Employment Agreement, dated March 28, 2011, between the Board of Education of the Rocky Point Union Free School District and Dr. Michael F. Ring, Superintendent of Schools.

Motion carried 4-1

PERSONNEL

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke 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.

- Ms. Heely requested clarification of the Amendment to Employment Agreement item on the agenda. In response, Mr. Nofi stated term modifications were made to Dr. Ring's contract that involved both give and take items, i.e., Dr. Ring would forego an increase in salary for the next nine months in exchange for a modification to the benefits structure and other compensations of the agreement. Mr. Nofi advised the amendments to the employment agreement would result in a net reduction of the expense to the district.

There were no further questions and/or comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke and seconded by Kathleen Heggens, the Board of Education adjourned the meeting at 8:56 PM.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Jones
District Clerk