

MINUTES
ROCKY POINT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
October 28, 2013

Mr. Nofi called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. in the auditorium of Rocky Point High School.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Absent: None

Mr. Nofi invited Dr. Ring to begin with the Superintendent's Report.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Ring introduced Marianne Van Duyne, CPA, from the accounting firm of R.S. Abrams.

Ms. Van Duyne presented meeting attendees with a summary of the 2012-2013 external audit report conducted by R.S. Abrams. Ms. Van Duyne noted the audits went smoothly and extended her gratitude to Mr. Hilton and his staff for their cooperation during the audits. Ms. Van Duyne announced the district received an "unmodified opinion" which is the highest level opinion offered. A review of controls confirmed the district implemented all recommendations previously issued. Ms. Van Duyne noted one minor area in need of review, capital assets, and confirmed that Mr. Hilton was in the process of addressing this matter. Upon completion of her report, Ms. Van Duyne asked if there were any questions from members of the Board or meeting attendees. There were no questions.

Dr. Ring thanked Ms. Van Duyne for her presentation and referred anyone interested in viewing the audit report documents to the district's website where the reports were readily available.

In honor of School Board Recognition Week, Dr. Ring shared the following remarks with those in attendance at the meeting:

Approximately 17,000 people reside within the borders of the Rocky Point Union Free School District. Of that number, approximately 12,000 individuals are over the age of 18 and 5,000 under 18. Through our school system we presently educate more than 3,400 children.

Although the population we educate is just 3,400, all 17,000 residents of our school district have a stake in our schools. While the responsibility to represent the interests of not just a few, but all 17,000 residents falls to each of us who are part of our school system, there are just five individuals from among the 17,000 who are elected to govern our school system. These five individuals are the members of our Board of Education.

Governor Cuomo has designated this week as School Board recognition week. This period of recognition is highly appropriate in consideration of the significant time and effort each member of our Board commits to serving the interests of the community and our students.

Although the governance role performed by the Board is complex, there are a few things that everyone should know:

First, members of the Board of Education are volunteers who, once elected, give freely of their time and expertise

Second, members of the Board of Education are individuals with diverse backgrounds who, upon joining the Board, must become adept in different areas such as curriculum, finance, facilities, transportation, and much more

Third, members of the Board of Education are elected officials who, like other elected officials, must review, understand and vote on issues in the best interest of all constituents, not just those who are the most powerful or most vocal.

Indeed, in the case of Rocky Point schools, our Board represents the interests of all 17,000 with diligence. For that and for the dedication to the role of Trustee, I am pleased to join in the statewide recognition of school boards by presenting the members of our Board of Education with plaques indicating our appreciation for all they do to make our schools and community better and stronger every day.

Following his remarks, Dr. Ring invited the trustees of the Board to the front of the auditorium for a presentation of plaques and a photograph.

Mr. John DeBenedetto, Principal, Rocky Point High School

- The Rocky Point Golden Eagle Marching Band, under the direction of Ms. Amy Schecher, gave an outstanding performance at the Annual *Newsday* Marching Band Festival at Hofstra University on October 17th.
- On October 2nd the Cheerleading squad held the annual Pack the Track event. Students, teachers, administrators, parents, and cheerleaders from neighboring school districts joined together to raise more than \$6,000 for the Hewlett House. Mr. DeBenedetto thanked everyone for their participation in the event and offered a special thank you to Coach Spallina for organizing the event.
- PSAT exams were administered on October 19th to approximately 225 sophomores and juniors.
- Twenty-seven students have been named AP scholars by the College Board as a result of their academic achievements on the Advance Placement exams held last spring. Students Evan Komorowski and Connor Sick were granted one of College Board's highest honors, AP Scholar with Distinction, for achieving a grade 3 or higher on five or more AP exams.
- The volleyball program hosted the "Dig Pink" event on Saturday, October 26th. Through ribbon sales and other fundraising events, the volleyball program raised close to \$7,000, the most money raised in Suffolk County over the last several years.
- Homecoming Weekend was exciting for the high school. The senior class won for "best float" and the community enjoyed the homecoming parade. Mr. DeBenedetto thanked Susann Crossan for her efforts in putting together the program.
- The first Powder Puff football game was held on October 10th and was a huge success. Mr. DeBenedetto extended his gratitude to the cheerleaders, Mrs. Anna Spallina, Mr. Eric Matwey and Mr. Chris Nentwich for their time and assistance with this event.
- Fall sports are winding down. Both the Varsity Field Hockey team and the Boys Varsity Soccer team will be in the playoffs. Both boys and girls Cross Country teams competed in the Divisional meet on October 22nd.
- October is National Bullying Prevention Month. To promote awareness to bullying, English classes will show a poetic video clip entitled *To This Day* by Shane Koyczan. The video sends the message that bullying has a far reaching and long lasting effect on our children.
- A celebration of National Red Ribbon Week, a national campaign to bring awareness to the dangers of drug use, is planned from October 28th through November 8th.
- Mr. DeBenedetto invited all to the high school auditorium on November 7th at 7 p.m. to a Drug Free Community Forum. The forum will include presentations regarding student data on drugs, prescription drug abuse, the heroin epidemic and a special presentation from Father Frank Pizzarelli. The forum will provide resources for parents to help combat the drug issue.

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

- Spirit Week was celebrated from October 7th through October 11th. Students participated in Twin Day, Crazy Socks Day, Sports Day and Rocky Point Schools Colors Pride Day. Students of the middle school also participated in Homecoming and the High School Homecoming Parade on October 12th.
- The PTA hosted the first middle school Book Fair of the year. The PTA also hosted an assembly during lunch periods to introduce middle school students to the Eagle card fundraiser. Dr. O'Brien extended his gratitude to the PTA and all parent volunteers for their support of these events.
- The first middle school dance is scheduled this week. The Student Council, under the direction of Mr. Connelly, will sponsor a fall dance to be held on Friday, November 8th, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. for sixth graders, and from 5:00 p.m. to 7 p.m. for seventh and eighth grade students.
- Students learned about the newly adopted PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) program during a kickoff event. In accordance with the acronym PRIDE – Participation, Respect, Integrity, Diversity and Excellence - the students learned how to showcase their positive behaviors in a number of situations and settings. PBIS shifts the emphasis on punishing poor behavior to rewarding those who demonstrate good behaviors. Dr. O'Brien thanked the teachers, staff, and community for their assistance, participation and support of this project.

Ms. Linda Towlen, Principal, Joseph A. Edgar School

- Ms. Towlen thanked Mrs. Lopez, Mrs. Craig, Mrs. Maggio and Mrs. Celentano for organizing the making of the banner for the Homecoming Parade and for supporting the students that joined in the parade. Ms. Towlen also thanked the students and parents for their participation and support.
- Family Folk Dancing was held on October 23rd. Ms. Towlen thanked Mr. Knapp for his contributions to this event and all of the students and parents who participated.
- During the “Invite a Veteran to School Day” veterans joined in to speak with the students about their experiences, what they learned, and what they felt about being a veteran. Ms. Towlen thanked Mr. Yashowitz, the Student Council, Mrs. Varriale and Mr. Knapp for organizing the event. Ms. Towlen also extended her gratitude to all of the veterans for sharing their stories.
- The Veterans Day celebration is scheduled for November 8th in the old gym.
- The PTA Book Fair is scheduled for this week. Ms. Towlen thanked the PTA and all of the parent volunteers for their assistance during the event and for assisting with Picture Days held earlier this month.
- The annual Book Character Dress-Up Day is scheduled for October 31st. Students may come to school dressed as their favorite book character.
- In support of UNICEF, fourth grade students will create baby scarecrows to be displayed in the fourth grade hallways. All students may vote for their favorite scarecrow by dropping spare change into the UNICEF box in front of each of their selected scarecrows. Through the years, JAE has raised over \$25,000 for UNICEF and has been named an Ambassador School by UNICEF. Ms. Towlen

extended her gratitude to all the fourth grade teachers for making this such a great event.

- School will be open on Tuesday, November 5th, Election Day, for all staff and students.
- Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled on November 25th for a full day of conferences. School will not be in session for students on this day. Parent-teacher conferences are also scheduled for a half day on November 26th for afternoon and evening conferences. Students will attend school for a half day on November 26th.

Mrs. Virginia Kelly-Gibbons, Principal, Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School

- Character Education officially began this month with two school-wide assemblies. On October 25th Mrs. Adamski and Dr. Herbert presented the six pillars of character and read *Have you Filled a Bucket Today?* by Carol McCloud.
- Mrs. Kelly-Gibbons offered her thanks to the PTA for smooth-running picture days and Mrs. Spallina for inviting FJC students to participate in Pack the Track.
- Students from FJC carried the Cereal Box banner as they marched in the Rocky Point Homecoming Parade. Mrs. Kelly-Gibbons acknowledged Mr. West for his creation of the banner which is now on display in the FJC lobby.
- During a visit from the Rocky Point and Sound Beach Fire Departments, kindergarten students learned about Stop, Drop and Roll and took a tour of a fire truck.
- First grade students visited the FJC pumpkin patch today in order to pick a pumpkin. The students will be doing pumpkin math, pumpkin observations and pumpkin writings. Mrs. Kelly-Gibbons extended her gratitude to the PTA for their assistance and support of this yearly project.
- The annual Storybook/Harvest Parade will be held on October 31st. Members of the high school band will provide marching music as the children march around the high school track. Children may choose to dress up as farmers, scarecrows or other harvest-themed inspirations. In conjunction with the storybook theme, students may wear costumes of their favorite storybook characters. Children are asked to carry the book from which their character originated as they march in the parade.
- Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled for November 25th and November 26th.

Following the completion of the building reports, Dr. Ring encouraged parents and community members to attend the Drug Free Community Forum on November 7th at 7 p.m. in the Rocky Point High School auditorium noting it will serve as a good opportunity for all parents, as well as students in grades six through twelve, to obtain information about this serious problem.

Mr. Nofi thanked everyone for their reports.

Mr. Nofi opened the floor to questions and/or comments pertaining to agenda items.

- Following Mr. John Shackelford's comments praising Dr. O'Brien for a job well done at the middle school, Mr. Shackelford expressed his desire to have the Board "dump" the Common Core standards as soon as possible.
- Mrs. McCauley expressed her dissatisfaction with the Board's expected acceptance and approval of Policy 1510 as presented at this evening's meeting. Noting that she is in agreement with some of the points of Policy 1510, Mrs. McCauley urged the Board to reconsider their adoption of the policy and to make only amendments to the policy based upon community input.
- Several meeting attendees asked how they could address the board on specific matters of concern not on the meeting agenda. Mr. Nofi advised that the purpose of the first public comment session was to address agenda items only and the second public comment session was for agenda items and other items of concern. Mr. Nofi also advised of other methods available to community residents to contact board trustees, i.e., e-mail and in writing.
- With regard to Mr. Nofi's comments of other methods available to contact the Board, Mr. Sean Callahan remarked e-mails to the Board were not answered. Mr. Nofi explained the challenges facing the Board in responding to individual e-mails as the Board must speak as a unit.
- Multiple community residents voiced their frustration and irritation with the negative restrictions they perceive Policy 1510 places upon communication between the Board and community members. Mrs. Franco stated her belief that only negative comments are censored and not positive comments as those made by a meeting attendee citing his approval of a district administrator by name.
- Mrs. Dimino expressed her general satisfaction with the contract settlement between the district and the Rocky Point Teachers' Association. Mrs. Dimino stated her dissatisfaction with the percentage differences in the amount of contractual raises teachers were granted in comparison to administrators. Mrs. Dimino also expressed her opinions in support of the termination of Common Core high stake testing, the Race to the Top initiative and the two percent tax cap. Referencing work sessions other boards of education regularly schedule and open to the public, Mrs. Dimino inquired about the scheduling of any work sessions held by the Rocky Point Board of Education.

There were no further questions or comments.

MINUTES

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Minutes of the following Board of Education meeting be accepted as presented: **Regular Meeting, September 30, 2013.**

Referencing her absence from the September 30, 2013 meeting, Mrs. Burke abstained, indicating that she was doing so due to her absence from the September 30, 2013 meeting.

Motion carried 4-0

TREASURER'S REPORTS

Upon a motion made by Susan Sullivan 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 month of September 2013 as presented.

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's Report for the month of September 2013 as presented.

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 September 2013 as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

BUDGET TRANSFER SUMMARY – SEPTEMBER 2013

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the September 2013 Budget Transfer Summary Report.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

SURPLUS TEXTBOOKS/MAGAZINES

Upon a motion made by Susan Sullivan 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 approves for surplus the attached list of magazines.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

INTERNAL CLAIMS AUDIT REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2013

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 September 2013 Internal Claims Audit Report.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

2012-2013 INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

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 accepts the Independent Auditors Report with accompanying statements and schedules for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 2013, which have been submitted by our external auditors, R.S. Abrams.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

2012-2013 INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT ON EXTRA-CLASSROOM ACTIVITY FUNDS

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the Independent Auditors Report on Extra-Classroom Activity Funds with accompanying statements and schedules for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 2013, which have been submitted by our external auditors, R.S. Abrams.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

2012-2013 INDEPENDENT AUDIT CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

Upon a motion made by Susan Sullivan 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 Independent Audit Corrective Action Plan responding to Current Year Comments from the district's external auditors, R.S. Abrams, dated October 15, 2013.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

CONTRACT FOR RESIDENTIAL PLACEMENT – OUR LADY OF PEACE ACADEMY AT MONTFORT THERAPEUTIC RESIDENCE

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 President of the Board of Education to enter into a contract with Our Lady of Peace Academy at Montfort Therapeutic Residence for educational services for a student as required under applicable Individual Educational Programs, applicable law, and/or district policy.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

SHOREHAM-WADING RIVER CSD 2013-2014 CONTRACT

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 authorizes the President of the Board of Education to enter into a contract with Shoreham-Wading River Central School District for special education students instructional services for the 2013-2014 school year as required under applicable Individual Educational Programs, applicable law, and/or district policy.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

SPECIAL EDUCATION 2013-2014 CONTRACT – RIVERHEAD CSD

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke and seconded by Susan Sullivan, 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 enter into a contract with Riverhead Central School District for nonpublic or parochial school special education student services for the 2013-2014 school year as required under applicable Individual Educational Programs, applicable law and/or district policy.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

SPECIAL EDUCATION 2013-2014 CONTRACT – THE THERAPY SPOT

Upon a motion made by Susan Sullivan 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 District to utilize The Therapy Spot for Pediatric and Adult Speech, Physical, Occupational Therapy, PLLC for a special education student's PT services for the 2013-2014 school year as required under applicable Individual Educational Programs, applicable law and/or district policy.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

SPECIAL EDUCATION 2013-2014 CONTRACT – APPLIED BEHAVIORAL ANALYSIS (ABA) SERVICES

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 President of the Board of Education to enter into a contract with New York Therapy Placement Services, Inc. as an additional provider of Autism/ABA services for the 2013-2014 school year as required under applicable Individual Educational Programs, applicable law and/or district policy.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

CLEARY SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF 2013-2014 CONTRACT

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 authorizes the President of the Board of Education to enter into a contract with Cleary School for the Deaf for special education students instructional services for the 2013-2014 school year as required under applicable Individual Educational Programs, applicable law and/or district policy.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

REVIEW, REVISION AND RE-ADOPTION OF BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICIES (*FIRST READING*)

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby moves the re-adoption (*First Reading*) of Board of Education Policy Numbers: 3110, 3140, 3150, 3160, 3210, 3230, 3240, 3250, 3260, 5661, 5672, 5684, 6130, 6220, 6510, 7210, 7222, 7241, 7520, 7521, 7530, 7540 and 8280.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Prior to reading the following resolution, Susan Sullivan informed meeting attendees that the trustees were provided with information regarding meeting parliamentary procedures from approximately twenty school districts. Mrs. Sullivan announced that the information provided by said districts revealed these districts incorporate similar types of restrictions during school board meetings. Mrs. Sullivan further announced that although she would vote in favor of the second reading of the resolution to review, revise and re-adopt Policy 1510, it should be noted that policies are reviewed, revised and re-adopted on a regular basis and that Policy 1510 could and certainly would be revisited by the Board of Education at a later date as circumstances may warrant.

SECOND READING: REVIEW, REVISION AND RE-ADOPTION OF BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY NUMBER 1510 - REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS AND RULES (QUORUM AND PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE)

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby moves the re-adoption of Board of Education Policy Number 1510 (*Second Reading*) – Regular Board Meetings and Rules (Quorum and Parliamentary Procedure).

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RECOGNITION OF THE ROCKY POINT ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB AS A SCHOOL AND STUDENT SUPPORT ORGANIZATION

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education wishes to recognize the Rocky Point Athletic Booster Club as a school and student support organization and grants permission for them to use the name Rocky Point Athletic Booster Club.

FURTHERMORE, the Board of Education recognizes that the Rocky Point Athletic Booster Club will actively fundraise to enhance the quality of the extracurricular program for the Rocky Point Union Free School District.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RESOLUTION REGARDING APPROPRIATE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMON CORE STANDARDS AND OVERRELIANCE ON STANDARDIZED ASSESSMENTS

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

WHEREAS, all students deserve a quality public education focused on developing creative, critical thinkers who are ready for college and careers; and

WHEREAS, significant reductions in fiscal support, in real terms, at both the state and federal levels have resulted in the redirection of critical resources from instructional programs to mandated matters of compliance; and

WHEREAS, while the implementation of the Common Core standards will ultimately benefit all students and the learning community in general, the State's continued movement toward reliance on standardized testing as the primary determinate of student, teacher, principal and school instructional efficacy is eroding instructional time, narrowing the curriculum and marginalizing the rich, innovative and inquiry-based instruction necessary for the development of well-rounded citizens; and

WHEREAS, there has been a hurried reliance upon the Common Core standards in the development of state assessments despite the fact that necessary instructional resources have not been provided to schools and, therefore, students have not been exposed to these standards for a sufficient portion of their school experience; and

WHEREAS, with the full knowledge that research recommends the use of multiple measures to gauge student performance as well as teacher and principal effectiveness, the State's growing reliance on standardized testing is adversely affecting students across all spectrums and the morale of our educators and is unnecessarily diverting scarce resources; and

WHEREAS, it is time for elected and appointed officials at both the state and federal levels to rationalize the use of standardized tests so that they may contribute to improving outcomes for all students; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that we, the Board of Education of the Rocky Point Union Free School District, call upon Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, State Education Department Commissioner John B. King, United States Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and other policymakers to provide the necessary time and resources to allow for the proper implementation of the Common Core standards and, further, to reduce the overreliance on standardized testing in public schools.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

APPROVAL OF A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ROCKY POINT UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE ROCKY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke and seconded by Susan Sullivan, 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 Board of Education of the Rocky Point Union Free School District and the Rocky Point Teachers' Association to further define the ICARE/SHARP language.

All in favor Motion carried 5-0

APPROVAL OF A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ROCKY POINT UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE ROCKY POINT SCHOOL-RELATED PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Upon a motion made by Susan Sullivan 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 President of the Board of Education to execute a Memorandum of Agreement between the Board of Education and the Rocky Point School-Related Professional Association for the purpose of permitting a one-time payment for outstanding vacation days for sixteen (16) unit members.

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 10-28-13-A and Schedule 10-28-13- B.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

PERSONNEL

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 accepts the attached Personnel changes.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Mr. Nofi introduced and welcomed to Rocky Point Schools incoming Instructional Mathematics Coordinator PreK-12, Mr. Timothy Sigerson, and wished him well.

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

- Erica Watson thanked the Board for granting the request she made during the September meeting to post a Summary Agenda of the Board of Education's full meeting agenda on the district's website. Following a description of a Homework Help program in session on Thursdays from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the North Shore Public Library, Ms. Watson asked the Board to consider the feasibility of transporting Rocky Point students interested in attending this program by school bus to the library.
- Mrs. Gilbert, Mr. Hoffman and Mrs. Heely requested additional and specific information concerning the recognition of the Rocky Point Booster Club as a school and student support organization. Dr. Ring responded in detail to those inquiries made by these meeting attendees.
- Mrs. Dimino again addressed the issue of Common Core testing and the protocol parents should follow if they did not want their children to participate in this testing.
- Multiple community residents continued to express their ongoing disappointment and disagreement with the adoption and implementation of Policy 1510. Mrs. Burke expressed her agreement with Mrs. Sullivan's comments concerning revisiting and revising Policy 1510 upon determination of whether or not it is or is not working. In response to comments made that the implementation of Policy 1510 would negatively impact the recognition by name of student achievements, Mr. Lessler clarified that recognitions would continue to be made during the Superintendent's Report portion of Board meetings.
- Referencing the inclusion of a student representative on the school boards of several surrounding school districts and expressing their endorsement of this policy, Mr. Hoffman and Ms. Andersson both inquired as to the possibility of including a student liaison at Rocky Point. Mr. Nofi responded that having a student representative on the Board had been discussed in the past but as yet has not come to fruition.
- Ms. Jenny Andersson reported a noticeable lack of attendance at SERC functions and meetings and extended an invitation to board trustees to stop in to listen and hear what is being discussed at the Special Education Resource Committee meetings.

There were no further questions or comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:18 p.m. Diane Burke made a motion and Susan Sullivan seconded to go into Executive Session to discuss a particular student matter.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

The Board returned to open session at 9:34 p.m.

APPEAL OF STUDENT SUSPENSION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that after careful consideration of Board Policy and review of the record and appeal of the suspension of a student made known to the Board, the Board of Education hereby upholds the disciplinary decision of the Rocky Point High School principal in the suspension of said student.

All in favor - Motion carried 5-0

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion made by John Lessler and seconded by Susan Sullivan, the Board of Education adjourned the meeting at 9:36 p.m.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Jones
District Clerk