

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

Mr. Nofi called the meeting to order at 7:38 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Michael Nofi, President
Diane Burke, Vice President
Edward Darcey, Trustee
Michael Ferrara, Trustee
John Lessler, Trustee
Carla L. D'Ambrosio Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
Michael F. Ring, Ed.D., Asst. Supt. for Finance and Operations
Anja Groth, Acting Assistant Superintendent for Instruction
Patricia Jones, District Clerk

Absent: None

Mr. Nofi welcomed those in attendance to the meeting and turned the meeting over to Dr. D'Ambrosio. Dr. D'Ambrosio invited Mr. Len Kies, Director of Health, Physical Education, Athletics and Intramurals, to the podium.

- Mr. Kies presented a comprehensive end-of-season sports report. Mr. Kies highlighted the accomplishments of the Varsity Wrestling Team and commended wrestlers S. Dutton, A. Volpe, and W. Coggins for their individual achievements. In addition, Mr. Kies congratulated the Varsity Cheerleading Team for earning 8th place in the National High School Cheerleading Championship held in Orlando, Florida and for earning the title of Long Island Champions during a competition at Suffolk Community College. Mr. Kies extended his sincere appreciation to those student-athletes and their coaches for the fundraising programs dedicated to the fight against breast cancer. The student-athletes raised more than \$5,000.00 for the American Cancer Society.
- Varsity Volleyball coach Cindy Krejci was recognized and honored, and in return, recognized and honored the Varsity Volleyball student-athletes for raising more than \$7,500 via the "Dig Pink" volleyball fundraiser on October 31, 2009. The proceeds from this program will aid in the research and prevention of breast cancer. Mr. Jon Tsavos, JV Volleyball coach, presented certificates to those JV Volleyball team members in appreciation and recognition of their involvement with the program.

Dr. D'Ambrosio thanked, congratulated, and extended her sincere appreciation to all those recognized for their philanthropic efforts. Dr. D'Ambrosio welcomed Mr. Gary Bixhorn, Chief Operating Officer of Eastern Suffolk BOCES, to the podium. Mr. Bixhorn

thanked the members of the board and members of the community, faculty and staff for their invaluable assistance in the superintendent search process. Mr. Bixhorn provided a PowerPoint presentation of the “The Roles and Responsibilities of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools.” Mr. Bixhorn acknowledged the district’s outstanding up-to-date maintenance of district documents, policies and bylaws thereby allowing easy access to these materials. Mr. Bixhorn thanked the district for the opportunity to work with the community, faculty and staff as the superintendent search continues and he expressed his confidence towards achieving a successful conclusion to the task at hand.

Mr. Nofi thanked Mr. Bixhorn for his presentation and noted that all feedback would be welcomed as it became available.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

SUSAN SULLIVAN, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, ROCKY POINT HIGH SCHOOL

- The production of Les Misérables will be presented on March 4th, 5th and 6th at 7:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium.
- Varsity and JV spring sports will begin on Monday, March 8th.
- The Rocky Point High School Band will participate in the Saint Patrick’s Parade on March 14th beginning at 1:00 P.M.
- The Chinese Auction and Variety Show will be held on March 19th at 6:30 P.M. The show is sponsored by the Math Honor Society, Thespian Society and the National Honor Society. Proceeds will benefit the Rocky Point Teachers’ Association “Kids in Need Fund.”
- Second quarter report cards were mailed home on Friday, February 12th.
- On March 13th, the SCMEA Division III Music Festival will be held at Sachem East High School. Students Brittany Bua, Zach Krase, Zack Riley and Megan Viglione have been selected to participate as chorus members; Lauren Mattarella has been selected to participate in the band and Mark Infranco has been selected to participate in the orchestra.
- Mr. Seth Meier, AP art teacher, congratulated student Lauren Belcastro for being awarded the “Artist of Excellence” award. Ms. Belcastro was unavailable to attend the meeting, however, Mr. Meier brought a sample of her award-winning work to be viewed by those in attendance.

SCOTT O’BRIEN, ED.D., PRINCIPAL, ROCKY POINT MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Middle School librarian, Cathy O’Connell, was recently announced as a winner of the 2009-2010 Mesttract Grant Award. Ms. O’Connell will receive a \$1,500 grant for her project entitled “*Listening for Language Arts Skills.*”
- The Middle School Author Day has been rescheduled for next month due to the snow day on February 10th.
- All 6th, 7th and 8th grade students participated in an assembly presentation by Detective Forrestdal of the Suffolk County Cyber Crimes unit on Friday, February 12th.

- 6th and 7th grade students will have the opportunity to listen to Holocaust survivor Marion Blumenthal Lazan on Tuesday, February 23rd. Ms. Lazan's presentation will include her own personal experience as part of her novel *Four Perfect Pebbles*.
- 8th grade students will have the opportunity to participate in another assembly presentation related to the Holocaust on March 24th. Mr. Eddie Weinstein will be sharing his experiences that will include his escape from Treblinka. Dr. O'Brien thanked both Mrs. Alemaghides and Mrs. Perreca for their efforts in bringing the guest speakers to the Rocky Point Middle School.

CAROL TVELIA, PRINCIPAL, JOSEPH A. EDGAR SCHOOL

- Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled for March 15th through March 17th.
- The Jump Rope for the Heart event has been rescheduled for February 25th.
- On February 25th, a clown from the Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Circus will demonstrate how to change from a man into a clown during the physical education classes "circus acts." Ms. Tvelia announced that there will be other surprises, as well, during this demonstration.
- Ms. Laurie Varriale was recognized for her work with fifth grade students concerning the recycling of water bottles.
- The annual Senior Citizen Breakfast will be held on March 12th from 8 A.M. to 10 A.M.
- The spring musical, *Go West*, will be held on March 24th and March 25th.
- Mr. Ken Krapf and his fourth grade students attended the Stony Brook University Medical Center exhibit of prehistoric fossils from Madagascar. Ms. Tvelia announced that students from the Joseph A. Edgar School largely funded the construction of a school on Madagascar, aptly named the Rocky Point School, via annual read-a-thons held at JAE.

Mr. Nofi invited audience attendees to the microphone with any questions and/or comments.

- Mrs. Noto thanked Mr. Nofi for the PowerPoint presentation. As a result of the presentation and its information concerning policy, Mrs. Noto asked what should be done if a member of a department did not know policy or follow policy that was in place. Dr. D'Ambrosio stated that the administration should be notified and spoken to directly. Mr. Nofi advised that if a question concerning policy could not be addressed on the department level and/or the administrative level, the parent should take his/her concerns to the next level as the Board of Education would like to be aware of such a situation and have the opportunity to address it accordingly. Dr. D'Ambrosio added that all faculty and administrators have access to the current policy book. Mr. Nofi stressed that a department member's purported ignorance of an adopted school policy is not an excuse for the policy to be ignored.
- Mr. Jerry Vessichio remarked that Rocky Point did not provide pole vault mats at home matches of the Boys and Girls Varsity Track Teams. As a result, the Rocky Point teams begin the matches at a loss of 9-0. Mr. Nofi asked Mr.

Vessichio if he had spoken with the coaches and/or Mr. Kies concerning this matter. Mr. Vessichio responded that he had brought this matter to Mr. Kies attention and was advised that the cost of the mats was too expensive and that the district did not have the proper facilities to store such mats. Dr. D'Ambrosio invited Mr. Vessichio to leave his contact information with the district clerk so that he could be contacted by Mr. Kies directly concerning this matter.

- Mr. Friscia asked Mr. Nofi what the next step would be in the superintendent search process and if all stakeholders would continue to be included in future proceedings. Mr. Nofi responded that community input had been received and would be utilized as the process continues. Mrs. Burke reminded Mr. Friscia that an invitation for input concerning the search process was extended to all groups at the beginning of the process and that the members of the Board of Education would now continue with the search.

There were no further questions or comments.

MINUTES

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Minutes of the following Board of Education Meeting be accepted as presented: **Regular Meeting, January 25, 2010.**

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the Treasurer's Report for the month of December 2009 as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

EXTRA-CLASSROOM ACTIVITY ACCOUNT TREASURER REPORT

Upon a motion made by Michael Ferrara 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 January 2010 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 January 2010 as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

BUDGET TRANSFER SUMMARY – JANUARY 2010

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke 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 January 2010 Budget Transfer Summary.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

INTERNAL CLAIMS AUDIT REPORT

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the January 2010 Internal Claims Audit Report.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

BOND ISSUE RELATED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND EXCEL AID PROJECT – PHASE 1A – CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 (KEM CONSTRUCTION CORP)

Upon a motion made by Michael Ferrara 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 and approves the attached change order reference to bond issue related projects, and authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute said change.

Mr. Nofi explained that an allowance in the amount of \$5,000.00 was included in the contract documents for unforeseen conditions in this ongoing capital improvement project and that the entire allowance was being returned to the district.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

ADOPTION OF THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL CALENDAR

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education adopts the 2010-2011 school calendar as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

BUDGET VOTE AND TRUSTEE ELECTION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Annual Budget Vote and Trustee Election in the Rocky Point School District, Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, New York be held on Tuesday, May 18, 2010 from 7:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M., and be it further

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT PURSUANT TO Section 2017 of the Education Law, a Public Hearing for the purpose of discussion of the expenditure of funds and the budgeting thereof be held at 7:30 PM on May 11, 2010 at the Rocky Point High School, Rocky Point, New York and be it further

BE IT RESOLVED, that Legal Notice of the Public Hearing, as required by law be published in the *NORTH SHORE SUN* on April 9, April 16, April 30, May 7, and in *THE VILLAGE BEACON RECORD* on April 8, April 15, April 29, May 6 and be it further

BE IT RESOLVED, the Legal Notice of the Annual Budget Vote and Trustee Election, as required by law, be published in the *NORTH SHORE SUN* on April 9, April 16, April 30, and May 7, and in *THE VILLAGE BEACON RECORD* on April 8, April 15, April 29, May 6 and be it further

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following school is hereby designated as polling place:

Polling and Registration Place: Rocky Point High School Gymnasium

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, in addition to the legal publication in four editions of each of the two above-mentioned newspapers, will send a notice with all information relative to the date and time of election to all residents and taxpayers within the District, and be it further

BE IT RESOLVED, that the residents of the Rocky Point School District may register to vote for School District Elections at the office of the District Clerk between the hours of 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM on any day that the office is open, and in the evening on May 11, 2010 until 9:00 PM. However, such registration will not take place less than five (5) days preceding any School District Election, and be it further

BE IT RESOLVED, that the District Clerk be authorized to appoint the necessary Personnel to function as Election Inspectors, and be it further

BE IT RESOLVED, that the final tally of votes shall be held at the Rocky Point High School, 82 Rocky Point-Yaphank Road, Rocky Point, New York at 9:00 PM on the evening of the election as soon thereafter as the election inspectors can supply the necessary information.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON AND VOTE WORKERS FOR BUDGET HEARING/VOTE/ELECTION (BUDGET HEARING MAY 11, 2010/BUDGET VOTE-ELECTION MAY 18, 2010); BOARD OF REGISTRATION; CHIEF

INSPECTOR; POLL CLERKS; TELLERS; AND SUBSTITUTE TELLERS AND POLL CLERKS.

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoints the following persons as Chairperson of the Budget Hearing/Budget Vote/Election; Board of Registration; Chief Inspector; Poll Clerks; Tellers and Substitute Tellers and Poll Clerks. The hourly rate for the Board of Registration and vote workers will be \$10.00.

Douglas Haeffner	Chief Inspector
Richard Salerno	Chairperson, Budget Hearing/Budget Vote/Election
Dorothy Tis	Substitute Chief Inspector/Board of Registration/Teller
Maureen Strauss	Substitute Chief Inspector/Board of Registration/Teller
Maria Messinetti	Board of Registration/Teller/poll clerk
Debra Spina	Board of Registration/Teller/poll clerk
Debbie O'Neill	Board of Registration/Teller
Rose Sanchez	Poll Clerk/Teller Machine #1
Mary Vecchio	Poll Clerk/Teller Machine #1
Elizabeth Manger	Poll Clerk/Teller Machine #1
Arlene Heck	Poll Clerk/Teller Machine #2
Wendy Guthy	Poll Clerk/Teller Machine #2
Maria Kurz	Poll Clerk/Teller Machine #2
Jeanne Sinacore	Poll Clerk/Teller Machine #3
Loretta Reiter	Poll Clerk/Teller Machine #3
Marjorie Sokolski	Poll Clerk/Teller Machine #3
Susan Blake	Teller/Poll Clerk
Virginia Sanseverino	Teller/Poll Clerk
Debra McCarville	Teller/Poll Clerk
Ann Marie Reynen	Teller/Poll Clerk
Linda Apicella	Teller/Poll Clerk
Patricia Carr	Teller/Poll Clerk
Joyce Butler	Teller/Poll Clerk
Jean Poveromo	Teller/Poll Clerk
Kerry Calace	Teller/Poll Clerk

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

TITLE IX COMPLAINT OFFICER

Upon a motion made by Michael Ferrara 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 approves the appointment of William Caulfield as an additional Title IX Complaint Officer for the 2009-2010 school year.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBER: SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT MEMBER

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 approves the appointment of Laurie Maxwell as a Parent Member to the Committee on Special Education/Committee on Preschool 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 RECOMMENDATIONS

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke 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 votes to arrange for appropriate services pursuant to the recommendations of Schedule 2-22-10-A and 2-22-10-B.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

PERSONNEL

Upon a motion made by Edward Darcey and seconded by Michael Ferrara, 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 opened the floor to questions and/or comments from meeting attendees.

There were no further questions and/or comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:40 P.M. Diane Burke made a motion and Edward Darcey 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 9:20 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:25 P.M. a motion was made by Diane Burke and seconded by Edward Darcey to adjourn the meeting.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

Carla L. D'Ambrosio
Superintendent of Schools

