

**MINUTES**  
**ROCKY POINT PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**December 19, 2016**

Mrs. Sullivan called the Meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the auditorium of Rocky Point High School.

Present: Susan Sullivan, President  
Scott Reh, Vice President (Arriving at 6:03pm)  
Melissa Brown, Trustee  
Sean Callahan, Trustee  
Edward Casswell, 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  
Kelly White, Assistant District Clerk

Absent: None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 6:01 pm, a motion was made by Sean Callahan and seconded by Melissa Brown to go into Executive Session in order to discuss confidential personnel matters pertaining to select employees and ongoing confidential legal matters.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:08 pm.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mrs. Sullivan announced that the Board was returning from Executive Session. She invited Dr. Ring up to the podium for a special recognition.

Dr. Ring wished all of the meeting attendees a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. He expressed his hopes for everyone to relax and enjoy their families over the Christmas break as we begin planning for the upcoming year.

Dr. Ring offered an update as to the progress of the Next STEP strategic plan update that was previously anticipated to be available by the end of the calendar year. He advised

that the draft has indeed been received and once it has been thoroughly reviewed it will be provided to the Board for potential action.

Dr. Ring announced that he would be the first of three speakers to share in recognizing an integral part of the Rocky Point School District for the last 30 years, Miss Pat Jones. Miss Jones, who is currently working as both the District Clerk and Administrative Assistant in the District Office will be retiring in January. Dr. Ring reflected on how Miss Jones has epitomized professionalism in the workplace. He continued to explain how she has been a self-starter, took pride in her independence, and above all else, would always get the job done.

Dr. Ring expressed his sincere gratitude for all of Miss Jones' hard work, dedication and contributions to Rocky Point School District. In closing, he stated that "her positions may be filled but she will never be replaced."

Dr. Ring invited Mrs. Wilson to the podium to speak on Miss Jones' behalf.

Mrs. Wilson stated how honored she was to know Miss Jones for so many years and to be able to work with her over the past seven. She commented that Miss Jones' colleagues also came out to show their support and express how proud they are to have had the opportunity to work with her. Mrs. Wilson explained that Miss Jones has built relationships with so many people over the years and will be terribly missed by all. She has worked in many buildings and departments including Human Resources, Special Education and Guidance to name a few. Mrs. Wilson referred to Miss Jones as our version of the Wikipedia as she knows everyone who is here, everyone who has left and everyone who is coming in.

Mrs. Wilson described Miss Jones as a lifelong learner. She stated how she went back to college while raising her children, how she has taken all possible tests, and learned technology as it developed. Mrs. Wilson expressed her happiness that Miss Jones will get to spend her time with her children and be able to attend her granddaughter's dance recitals.

Mrs. Wilson referred to Miss Jones as being courteous, conscientious and a wealth of knowledge. She went on to say how she is professional, the resident historian, the best editor and would always get the job done. Mrs. Wilson thanked Miss Jones for her dedication and expressed how much she will be missed.

Mrs. Wilson invited Mrs. Sullivan to the podium.

Mrs. Sullivan reflected on the many years she has known Miss Jones, remembering when they were neighbors. She expressed how deeply she will be missed as Miss Jones holds a key role in assisting her. Mrs. Sullivan described her as the ultimate professional and wished her the best in her retirement.

Miss Jones' years of service to the Rocky Point School District were affirmed with the presentation of a plaque while she stood alongside the members of the Board of Education and Administration.

Mrs. Sullivan opened the floor to questions and/or comments by meeting attendees. There were no questions/comments at this time.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The items listed below are presented as part of the Consent Agenda which can be adopted by the Board of Education under a single motion followed by a second and then a formal vote. The Consent Agenda items are listed below in their regular order within a group. Before an actual vote is taken, any Consent Agenda item may be removed by a Board member without a formal motion or second. If this occurs, the indicated resolution will be discussed during its regular order on the agenda and voted on individually.

#### **III-VIII CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

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

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education accepts the following agenda items as one item.

- III: Minutes** – Regular Meeting, November 21, 2016; Special Meeting, December 6, 2016
- IV Budget Transfer Summary** – November 2016
- V: Treasurer's Reports** – November 2016
- VI: Extra-Classroom Activity Account Treasurer's Report** – November 2016
- VII: Financials** – November 2016
- VIII: Internal Claims Audit Report** – November 2016

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

#### **IX DONATION OF KEURIG COFFEEMAKER**

Upon a motion made by Melissa Brown and seconded by Edward Casswell, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the donation of a Keurig 8-cup coffeemaker from Marje Harper, a Rocky Point Schools employee, valued at approximately \$90.00.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

#### **X DONATION FROM GREAT AMERICAN OPPORTUNITIES**

Upon a resolution made by Edward Casswell and seconded by Sean Callahan, 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 Great American Opportunities in the amount of \$37.20, as per the attached.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Rocky Point Union Free School District hereby approves the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to increase the general fund budget by \$37.20 as a result of the donation.

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

A 2110 500 02 0000            \$37.20

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Mrs. Sullivan thanked Great American Opportunities for their donation.

## **XI                    SURPLUS EQUIPMENT**

Upon a resolution made by Sean Callahan 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 following list of equipment.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

## **XII                    APPROVAL OF A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ROCKY POINT SCHOOL-RELATED PROFESSIONALS' ASSOCIATION**

Upon a motion made by Scott Reh and seconded by Melissa Brown, 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 Professionals' Association for the purpose of permitting a one-time transfer of twenty (20) sick days between unit member Carolyn Doyle and specific unit members on or before January 3, 2017.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

### **XIII                    CONTRACTS RENEWAL RESOLUTION**

Upon a motion made by Melissa Brown and seconded by Edward Casswell, the following resolution was offered:

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education elects not to permit the current Agreements by and between the District and, respectively, Deborah De Luca, Susan Wilson and Gregory Hilton to automatically renew for an additional year upon the expiration of their current terms (June 30, 2018); and, accordingly, as per the terms of the Agreements' provisions the Board determines to "suspend" the automatic renewal proviso set forth in Paragraph 1; and, it is

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution/determination is to be conveyed to the three employees by Board President Sullivan by way of her personal delivery of a conformed copy of this approved Resolution to them in order that there can be no misunderstanding as to the Board's election not to allow the subject renewal of the current Agreements to automatically occur as of July 1, 2018.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

### **XIV                    AMENDMENT OF EDUCATION LAW SECTION 3031- REASONS FOR DENIAL OF TENURE**

Upon a resolution made by Sean Callahan and seconded by Scott Reh, the following resolution was offered:

**WHEREAS**, the decision of the Hon. Robelini on the matter of DeBenedetto vs. Rocky Point UFSD dated October 31, 2016 determined that the Education Law Section 3031 reasons denying the Petitioner tenure need to be amended to encompass reference to APPR rationales under the terms of an Education Law Section 3012 c;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Board President Sullivan is authorized to forward to the petitioner and his counsel the attached amended correspondence setting forth the reasons supporting the Board of Education's reasons, as amended, for the denial of tenure to the probationary building administrator; and it is

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a final determination on the matter of the administrator's tenure status will be rendered at the Board of Education's regular January 2017 meeting to be conducted on January 9, 2017.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0  
1 abstention – Mr. Casswell

### **XV                    PERSONNEL**

Upon a motion made by Scott Reh and seconded by Melissa Brown, 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

## **XVI NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Sullivan inquired of the trustees if there was any new business they wished to discuss.

Mr. Callahan raised the question as to the current status of the RFP with the Architectural Service.

Dr. Ring communicated that it was currently in process. He stated that the Purchasing Agent has obtained RFP templates and the draft RFP is expected to be reviewed in the near future.

There was no other new business.

Mrs. Sullivan extended her congratulations to Ms. Jessica Schnall, who was among the attendees, on receiving tenure.

Mrs. Sullivan once again invited the meeting attendees to come forth with any questions/comments.

- Ms. Carman addressed the panel and referenced her inquiry from the November BOE meeting regarding the overpayment made to the 10 month staff.. She inquired as to the number of employees who were affected. Mr. Hilton stated that there were approximately fifty employees involved who received, on average, an overpayment of approximately \$50 per person.
- Ms. Carman commented as to the way the holiday pay was worded in the contract. Mr. Hilton advised that she would need to address this issue with her Union representative. He further explained that the Business office can only interpret what is already written and that they do not come up with the wording.
- Ms. Carman communicated her concerns regarding the policy involving using accrued time if out of work due to injury. Mr. Callahan inquired if there was a specific incident that Ms. Carman was citing, which she confirmed. He advised her that her Union Representative would be able to assist her as these personal matters are not permitted to be discussed in a public forum.

There were no further questions/comments.

**XVII            ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a resolution made by Edward Casswell and seconded by Sean Callahan, the Board of Education adjourned the meeting at 7:33 pm.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly White  
Assistant District Clerk