

MINUTES
ROCKY POINT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
July 28, 2022

Ms. Ward called the meeting called to order at 4:25 p.m. in the auditorium of Rocky Point High School.

Present: Jessica Ward, President
 Michael Lisa, Vice President
 Susan Sullivan, Trustee
 Erin Walsh, Trustee
 Scott O'Brien, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
 Susann Crossan, Assistant Superintendent
 Kelly White, District Clerk

Absent: Edward Casswell, Trustee
 Christopher Van Cott, Assistant Superintendent for Business

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 4:25 p.m. a motion was made by Susan Sullivan, and seconded by Michael Lisa, to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

The Board returned to public session at 5:03 p.m.

Ms. Ward reminded the meeting attendees of the public comment procedure.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. O'Brien announced that the Summer Programs are up and running and going well.

Ms. Ward opened the floor to questions/comments regarding the agenda.

There were no questions/comments.

Ms. Ward congratulated the following employees on their appointments:

- Ms. Brooke Friedman – FJC Special Education
- Ms. Alexa Proffit – FJC Elementary Teacher
- Ms. Brittany Reh – JAE Elementary Teacher
- Mr. Anthony DeVito – FJC Elementary Teacher
- Mr. Jonathon Rufa – Director of Health, PE, Athletics and Intramurals

III Rocky Point PTA Donation for Graduation Flowers (HS)

Upon a motion made by Michael Lisa, 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 \$300.00 donation from the Rocky Point PTA, as per the attached.

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 \$300.00 as a result of the donation from the Rocky Point PTA.

Be it **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the following budget codes be adjusted to reflect that increase:

A2020500030000 \$ 300.00

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

IV Special Education Summer 2022 Contract-Center Moriches UFSD

Upon a motion made by Erin Walsh, and seconded by Michael Lisa, 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 Center Moriches Union Free School District for special education students' participation in the Center Moriches 2022 Summer Special Education Program as required under applicable Individual Educational Programs, applicable law, and/or District Policy.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

V Special Education Tuition Contract 2022-23 SY– Miller Place UFSD

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves a tuition contract with the Miller Place Union Free School District whereby the Rocky Point Union Free School District shall provide requested special education instruction services to Miller Place resident student(s) for the 2022-23 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board to execute said 2022-23 tuition contract, as attached.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

**VI Adoption and Review/Re-Adoption of Board of Education Policy
Numbers 3410, 5220, 5410, 5681 and 7110 (Second Reading)**

Upon a motion made by Erin Walsh, and seconded by Michael Lisa, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education adopts and reviews/re-adopts the following policies (second reading):

- 3410 Code of Conduct on School Property
- 5220 District Investments
- 5410 Purchasing
- 5681 School Safety Plans
- 7110 Rocky Point School District's Comprehensive Attendance Plan

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

**VII Memorandum of Agreement between the Board of Education and the
Rocky Point Teachers' Association**

Upon a motion made by Michael Lisa, 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 District and the Rocky Point Teachers' Association for the purpose of adding three (3) clubs that shall become part of Schedule B of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Rocky Point Union Free School District and the Rocky Point Teachers' Association effective July I, 2022 as per the attached.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

VIII Modification to the Employment Agreement

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the Third Amended and Restated Employment Agreement, dated July 28, 2022, between the Board of Education of the Rocky Point Union Free School District and Mrs. Susann Crossan, Assistant Superintendent.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

IX Personnel

Upon a motion made by Erin Walsh, and seconded by Michael Lisa, 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 4-0

X New Business

Ms. Ward inquired of the trustees if there was any new business they wished to discuss.

There was no new business at this time.

Ms. Ward once again opened the floor to questions/comments.

- Ms. Villafane shared her disappointment regarding the BOE change in practice that book donations are no longer being accepted. Ms. Ward explained the Board of Education's reasoning that the District Librarians, in addition to being the experts in the field, are responsible for and have a procedure in place for adding books to their libraries based on an approved list. She added that the Board collaborated and agreed on this decision. Ms. Walsh commented that some of the books in question were already included in the book selection and stressed that there was no intent to remove any DEI materials from the school libraries.
- Ms. Ruberto stated that she agreed that it is not the place of the Board of Education to decide what books should be included in the school libraries but asked for details on the current policy on the review process. Ms. Ward stated that a policy exists only in reference to general donations rule which state the Board of Education can use discretion and that there is no policy specifying book donations.
- Ms. Franco asked why the change in book donations was not voted upon. Dr. O'Brien reiterated that the decision was a change in practice and that there is no current policy specifying rules of book donations, therefore a resolution was not needed. Ms. Ward added that it was decided within Executive Session and those communications do not get published.
- Ms. Curtin brought forth concerns for additional security personnel being needed in each school building in preparation for any potential threats to school safety.
- Miss Villafane asked for clarification between book donations and other types of donations. Ms. Ward explained that each household has their own standards of what types of books are acceptable for their own children and the Board will not be making those decisions.
- Ms. Sarlo stated that an outstanding DEI curriculum is already in place in Rocky Point schools. She expressed her agreement that it is not the Board's decision to determine which book donations would be acceptable as there are larger issues that the Board of Education needs to focus on.

There were no further questions/comments.

XI Adjournment

At 5:37 p.m. a motion was made by Erin Walsh, and seconded by Michael Lisa to adjourn the meeting.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly White
District Clerk