

EAST ROCKAWAY UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

East Rockaway, New York

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

East Rockaway Jr. / Sr. High School Auditorium

7:00 P.M., September 14, 2021

Preceded by Recognition of Rebeca Rodriguez, Erin Kennedy, and Sara Perrone
for the *Herald's* "Head of the Class Long Island Teacher Awards 2021"

and Recognition of Matthew Pollackov, Long Island Scholar Artist,

Introduction of New Staff and a Public Forum

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND LIVESTREAMED

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Members of the Board of Education: Kristen O'Hagan, Peter McNally, Dominick Vulpis, Daniel DeMatteo, Joseph Kilgus, Superintendent Lisa J. Ruiz, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations, Jacqueline A. Scio, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, James DeTommaso, District Clerk, Nereyda Amaya Moran.

1. The meeting was called to order by Kristen O'Hagan at 7:10 p.m.
2. Ms. O'Hagan introduced Rhame Avenue student Brigid Peknic, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. O'Hagan welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced superintendent of schools Ms. Lisa Ruiz. Ms. Ruiz. introduced Ms. Rebeca Rodriguez, Erin Kennedy and Sara Perrone for the Herald's "Head of the class Long Island Teacher Awards 2021" Mr. Schaeffer and Mr. Healy gave the awards to Mr. Rodriguez and Ms. Kennedy. Ms. Perrone was absent.

Ms. Ruiz introduced Mr. Pete Ceglio, who recognized Matthew Pollackov for the Long Island Scholar Artist Award.

Ms. Ruiz introduced all new teachers and welcomed all of our new staff and wished them a long and prosperous career in the District. The presentations concluded at 7:42 pm and the public portion of the agenda began.

3. Public Comments on Agenda Items

If you are viewing the livestream of tonight's meeting and you have questions regarding items on the agenda or other school related items, you can email them to boardofeducation@ersd.org This email will be monitored throughout the evening. Please be sure to include your full name and address. I also want to remind you that most concerns are appropriately addressed with your child's teacher and/or building principal. Other general district questions should be directed to Mrs. Ruiz, our Superintendent. Matters involving Curriculum and Instruction should be addressed to Mr. DeTommaso, and matters involving budget and facilities should be directed to Ms.

Scrio. If you need technological assistance or have issues with a device, please reach out to Mr. Fisk. Anyone who is attending in person, if you would like to make any comments, please complete a comment card.

There were no comments from the public on the agenda items.

4. Approval of Minutes

Mrs. O'Hagan asked if there were any questions regarding the minutes below. There were none and Mrs. O'Hagan asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Upon motion made by Peter McNally, seconded by Dominick Vulpis, all in favor AYE, opposed: NONE; abstained: NONE; the motion was unanimously passed, and the following minutes were approved:

A. August 25, 2021, Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

5. Acknowledgment of Monthly Reports and Correspondence

A. Receipt of Monthly Financial Reports: The board acknowledged receipt of the July 2021 monthly financial reports.

B. Correspondence- 2 items: 1 letter from a Rockville Centre resident concerned about the lights on the new field and the noise level of night games. Email regarding work sessions date/place.

6. Recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools

Mrs. O'Hagan asked if the trustees had any questions regarding Items A- N below. There were none and Mrs. O'Hagan asked for a motion to approve Items A- N below.

Upon motion made by Joseph Kilgus, seconded by Daniel DeMatteo, all in favor AYE, opposed: NONE; abstained: NONE; the motion was unanimously passed, and the following Items A- N, were approved on a consent agenda.

A. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent accept the following resignations:

1. Elizabeth David, substitute monitor, effective September 14, 2021.
2. Elizabeth David, substitute teacher aide, effective September 14, 2021
3. Elizabeth Kelly, substitute monitor, effective September 14, 2021
4. Dana Casas, teaching assistant, effective August 25, 2021
5. Celeste Magluilo, permanent substitute teacher, effective August 26, 2021
6. Alyssa Grunfelder, permanent substitute teacher, effective August 30, 2021

B. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, rescind the request of Janna Bonacorsi for a FMLA leave of absence from her Guidance Director position previously approved by the Board of Education at its July 20, 2021, meeting.

- C. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, revise the request of Alisa Stegner for a FMLA leave of absence previously approved at the August 25, 2021, Board of Education meeting to be effective August 31, 2021, through November 24, 2021, and thereafter, approve a child rearing leave of absence effective November 25, 2021, through January 28, 2022.
- D. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request of Kelly Cabasso, for a 12-week FMLA leave of absence, from her art teacher position, effective December 13, 2021, through March 18, 2022.
- E. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the club advisor assignments more fully set forth on the 2021-2022 Club Advisor Schedule dated September 14, 2021, at the stipend salaries set forth in the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for the 2021-2022 school year.
- F. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Andrew Fenter to the position of short-term substitute family and consumer science teacher, effective August 31, 2021, through December 3, 2021, at the per diem salary established by the East Rockway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for short-term substitute teachers for the 2021-22 school year; and further approve the appointment of Andrew Fenter to the position of substitute teacher, effective December 6, 2021 through June 30, 2022, at the per diem salary established by the East Rockway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for per diem substitute teachers for the 2021-22 school year.
- G. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Amy Cesario to the position of short-term substitute school psychologist, effective September 15, 2021, through December 22, 2021, at the per diem salary established by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for the 2021-2022 school year and further approve her appointment as a Dignity Act Coordinator and Chairperson and school psychologist for CSE and CPSE committees, effective September 15, 2021, through December 22, 2021.
- H. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, effective September 15, 2021, through June 30, 2022, approve an increase in the part-time special education teacher assignment of Alexis Freudenberg to be .6 FTE and reduce her per diem substitute teacher position to .4 FTE.
- I. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Megan Donelan to the position of teacher aide, effective upon Civil Service approval, at the Step 1 hourly salary established by the East Rockaway Teacher Aides Association agreement for the 2021-2022 school year.
- J. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Mary Malone to the position of teacher aide, effective upon Civil Service approval, at the Step 1 hourly salary established by the East Rockaway Teacher Aides Association agreement for the 2021-2022 school year.

- K. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Antonino Rizzo to the position of teacher aide, effective upon Civil Service approval, at the Step 1 hourly salary established by the East Rockaway Teacher Aides Association agreement for the 2021-2022 school year.
- L. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Elizabeth David to the position of part-time monitor, effective September 15, 2021, at the Step 1 hourly salary set forth in the East Rockaway UFSD Monitor and Security Unit and UPSEU Collective Bargaining Agreement for the 2021-2022 school year.
- M. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Elizabeth Kelly to the position of school monitor, effective September 15, 2021, at the Step 1 hourly salary set forth in the East Rockaway UFSD Monitor and Security Unit and UPSEU Collective Bargaining Agreement for the 2021-2022 school year.
- N. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following temporary assignments at the salary approved by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for substitute workers:
 - 1. Amanda Cooney-Mazurek, substitute teacher aide, effective upon Civil Service approval.
 - 2. Debrah Vesce, substitute monitor, effective upon Civil Service approval.
 - 3. Renee Hedwig Macchio, substitute typist-clerk, effective upon Civil Service approval.

7. Other Items

Mrs. O'Hagan introduced Ms. Scrio who provided an update on a proposed expansion of work on the current Bond Project.

Ms. Scrio: Good evening, everyone. In the original Bond vote taken in November of 2019, the community approved eight projects to be completed in the school district. To date, we have bid out five of the eight projects. We're currently under budget by about four million dollars. The proposition on tonight's agenda will authorize the district to hold a special vote on November 15th to expand the ventilation work at both elementary schools at Rhame Avenue and Centre Avenue. The original bond included ventilation upgrades for the entire high school, in addition, the previously approved work included ventilation upgrades to several areas in each of the elementary buildings. The additional work will expand the ventilation upgrades to include the entire facility at both elementary buildings. At the conclusion of this work, all the facilities in the district will have upgraded ventilation. It's important to note that the proposition does not authorize the district to assume any additional debt, therefore there is no additional cost for the taxpayer. However, the proposition does authorize the use of two million dollars of fund balance should the projects exceed the balance in the original bond. On October 19th, which is our next board meeting, the district will conduct a Bond presentation, our construction manager and architect will both be present and will provide further information about the scope of the project. In addition, our bond council will also be present, he will explain the

proposition language and answer any questions the community may have. The district wants to make sure the community understands what they are being asked to vote on. I hope that you will all attend on October 19th.

Mrs. O'Hagan asked if the trustees had any questions regarding Item A below. There were none and Mrs. O'Hagan asked for a motion to approve Item A.

Upon motion made by Peter McNally, seconded by Dominick Vulpis, all in favor AYE, opposed: NONE; abstained: NONE; the motion was unanimously passed, and the following Item A was unanimously approved.

A. Approve the following resolution:

RESOLUTION OF THE EAST ROCKAWAY UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT, NEW YORK, ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 14, 2021, CALLING A SPECIAL DISTRICT MEETING TO AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF MONEYS FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES AND THE LEVY OF A TAX THEREFOR.

RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE EAST ROCKAWAY UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT, IN THE COUNTY OF NASSAU, NEW YORK AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. A Special District Meeting of the qualified voters of the East Rockaway Union Free School District, in the County of Nassau, New York (the "District"), shall be held within the District, on Monday, November 15, 2021 at 6:30 o'clock A.M. (Prevailing Time) in the East Rockaway Jr./Sr. High School, 443 Ocean Avenue, East Rockaway, New York, as provided in the Notice calling said Special District Meeting hereinafter substantially prescribed. The voting at such Special District Meeting shall be by voting machine or paper ballot, as provided by the Education Law, and the polls shall remain open from 6:30 o'clock A.M. to 9:30 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) on said day and as much longer as may be necessary to enable the voters, then present, to cast their votes.

Section 2. The business to be acted upon at said Special District Meeting shall be as stated in the Notice thereof, and the District Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause the Notice of said Special District Meeting to be published in the "*Oceanside, Rockville Centre, East Rockaway Tribune*" and "*The Lynbrook East Rockaway Herald*," two newspapers each having a general circulation in the District, such publications to be made four (4) times within the seven (7) weeks next preceding such Special District Meeting, the first publications to be at least forty-five (45) days prior to the date of said Special District Meeting.

Section 3. Said Notice of Special District Meeting shall be substantially in the following form.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL DISTRICT MEETING OF THE EAST ROCKAWAY UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT, IN THE COUNTY OF NASSAU, NEW

YORK

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District, in the County of Nassau, New York, has adopted a resolution on September 14, 2021, authorizing a Special District Meeting of the qualified voters of said School District to be held on Monday, November 15, 2021, from 6:30 o'clock A.M. to 9:30 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) in the East Rockaway Jr./Sr. High School, 443 Ocean Avenue, East Rockaway, New York, for the purpose of voting upon the following Proposition:

PROPOSITION:

WHEREAS, the voters of East Rockaway Union Free School District, in the County of Nassau, New York (the "District") have heretofore on November 14, 2019, approved the expenditure of not to exceed \$27,708,336 for various building and site improvements; and thereafter the Board of Education (the "Board") authorized the issuance of not to exceed \$21,508,336 bonds and the levy of a tax in installments to pay said bonds and the interest thereon to pay a portion of such cost; and

WHEREAS, the Board has now determined that the cost of such improvements will be accomplished at a reduced cost, resulting in an unneeded balance of \$4,000,000 of the bonds heretofore authorized; and

WHEREAS, the Board has now further determined that it is necessary and desirable to undertake building heating and ventilation system improvements at the Rhame Avenue Elementary School and Centre Avenue Elementary School, at the estimated maximum cost of not to exceed \$6,000,000, and to appropriate said amount from the proceeds of the aforesaid \$4,000,000 bonds and \$2,000,000 of funds on hand.

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED:

(a) That the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District, in the County of Nassau, New York (the "District"), is hereby authorized to undertake building heating and ventilation system improvements at the Rhame Avenue Elementary School and Centre Avenue Elementary School (the "Project") substantially as described in a report/plan prepared for the District by John A. Grillo, Architects (the "Report"), which Report is on file and available for public inspection at the office of the District Clerk, including the original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus and ancillary or related site, demolition and other work required in connection therewith; and to expend therefor, including preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto and to the financing thereof, an amount not to exceed the estimated total cost of \$6,000,000; provided that the costs of the components of the Project as set forth in the Report may be reallocated among such components if the Board of Education shall determine that such reallocation is in the best interests of the District;

(b) that \$2,000,000 of available fund balance from the District's 2020-2021 fiscal year is

hereby authorized to be expended to pay a portion of the cost of the Project, and such expenditure is hereby approved, and

(c) that the balance of the cost of the Project shall be financed by the issuance of \$4,000,000 bonds heretofore authorized and the tax heretofore voted, such tax to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts as shall be determined by said Board of Education to pay the principal of and interest on said bonds as the same shall become due and payable.

Such Proposition shall appear on the ballots used for voting at said Special District Meeting in substantially the following condensed form:

PROPOSITION:

YES

NO

RESOLVED:

(a) That the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District, in the County of Nassau, New York is hereby authorized to undertake building heating and ventilation system improvements at the Rhame Avenue Elementary School and Centre Avenue Elementary School, substantially as described in a report/plan by John A. Grillo, Architects, and to expend therefor an amount not to exceed \$6,000,000; (b) that \$2,000,000 of available fund balance from the District's 2020-2021 fiscal year is hereby authorized to be expended to pay a portion of such cost, and such expenditure is hereby approved, and (c) that the balance of the cost shall be financed by the issuance of \$4,000,000 bonds heretofore authorized and the tax heretofore voted, such tax to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts as shall be determined by said Board of Education to pay the principal of and interest on said bonds as the same shall become due and payable.

The voting will be conducted by ballot on voting machines or paper ballot as provided in the Education Law and the polls will remain open from 6:30 o'clock A.M. to 9:30 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) and as much longer as may be necessary to enable the voters then present to cast their ballots.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the vote shall be held in accordance with the Rules for the Conduct of Meetings and Elections adopted by the Board of Education.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that pursuant to Education Law §2014, personal registration of voters is required for the Special District Meeting, and no person shall be entitled to vote at the Special District Meeting whose name does not appear on the register of the District. Registration of the qualified voters of the District for said Special District Meeting is permitted in the District Clerk's Office, from 8:00 o'clock A.M. to 3:30 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time), Monday through Friday, up to and including Wednesday, November 10, 2021. The register for the Special District Meeting will be prepared and filed in the District Clerk's Office and will be open for

inspection by any qualified voter from 8:00 o'clock A.M. to 3:30 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) on each of the five days prior to the day of the vote, except Sunday, November 14, 2021 and from 8:00 o'clock A.M. to 11:00 o'clock A.M. (Prevailing Time) on Saturday, November 13, 2021, by advance appointment only; and at each polling place on the day of the vote.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE the register of the qualified voters of said District prepared for the Annual District Meeting and Election held on May 18, 2021, shall be used by said Board of Registration as the basis for the preparation of the register for said Special District Meeting to be held on November 15, 2021.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the register shall include: (1) all qualified voters of the District who shall personally present themselves for registration; and (2) all previously qualified voters of the District who shall have been previously registered for any annual or special District meeting or election and who shall have voted at any annual or special District meeting or election held or conducted at any time within four calendar years (2018-2021) prior to preparation of said register; and (3) voters permanently registered with the Board of Elections of Nassau County.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that applications for absentee ballots are to be completed on a form prescribed by the state board of elections and may be obtained by visiting the New York State Education Department's Website at (<http://www.counsel.nysed.gov/common/counsel/files/absentee-ballot-application-and-instructions-english.pdf>, <http://www.counsel.nysed.gov/common/counsel/files/absentee-ballot-application-and-instructions-spanish.pdf>), or by contacting the District Clerk by email at namayamoran@ersd.org or telephone at (516) 887-8300 Ext. 1-433 from 8:00 o'clock A.M. to 3:30 P.M. o'clock (Prevailing Time), Monday through Friday, except holidays. If the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, the completed application must be received by the District Clerk no later than November 8, 2021. If the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter at the office of the District Clerk, the completed application must be received by the District Clerk no later than November 12, 2021. A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued will be available in the office of the District Clerk from 8:00 o'clock A.M. to 3:30 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) on each of the five (5) days prior to the day of the vote, except Sunday, November 14, 2021, and from 8:00 o'clock A.M. to 11:00 o'clock A.M. on Saturday, November 13, 2021, by advance appointment only.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that pursuant to Education Law §2018-d, any person serving in the military, including spouses and dependents, may register to vote at the Special District Meeting to be held on November 15, 2021. A military voter who is a qualified voter of the District may obtain a registration form by contacting the District Clerk by telephone (516-887-8300, Ext. 1-433), facsimile (516-887-1802), email (namayamoran@ersd.org) mail (443 Ocean Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518), or in person (during regular office hours or between the hours of 8:00 o'clock A.M. and 3:00 o'clock P.M.). A military voter who is duly registered may apply for a military ballot by requesting an application from the District by also contacting the District Clerk. Completed applications must be personally delivered or mailed to the District Clerk and received no later than 5:00 o'clock P.M. on October 20, 2021. Military ballots must be

received by 5:00 o'clock P.M. on November 15, 2021, if signed and dated by the military voter and one witness thereto with a date which is not later than the day before the Special District Meeting, or not later than the close of the polls on November 15, 2021, if postmarked or endorsed by an agency of the United States government. A military voter may designate a preference to receive a military voter registration form, military ballot application or military ballot by mail, facsimile or electronic mail in the request for such registration, ballot application, or ballot.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Board shall convene a special meeting thereof within twenty-four hours after the filing with the District Clerk of a written report of the results of the ballot, in the East Rockaway Jr./Sr. High School for the purpose of examining and tabulating said reports of the result of the ballot and declaring the result of the ballot; that the Board hereby designates itself to be a set of poll clerks to cast and canvass ballots pursuant to Education Law, §2019-a, subdivision 2b at said special meeting of the Board.

Only qualified voters who are duly registered will be permitted to vote.

BY THE ORDER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dated: September 14, 2021

Nereyda Amaya-Moran
District Clerk

Section 4. The vote upon the Proposition to be submitted to the qualified voters shall be by paper or machine ballots, and the District Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to have the necessary ballots prepared, in form corresponding as nearly as may be with the requirements of the Education Law.

Section 5. The proceeds of the bonds referred to in the Proposition set forth in Section 3 hereof, and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of said bonds, may be applied to reimburse the District for expenditures made for the purpose or purposes for which said bonds are authorized to be expended. The foregoing statement of intent with respect to reimbursement is made in conformity with Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2 of the United States Treasury Department.

Section 6. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Mrs. O'Hagan asked if the trustees had any questions regarding Items B-D below. There were none and Mrs. O'Hagan asked for a motion to approve Items B-D below.

Upon motion made by Peter McNally, and seconded by Dominick Vulpis, all in favor AYE, opposed: NONE; abstained: NONE; the motion was unanimously passed, and the following Items B-D were unanimously approved on a consent agenda.

B. Approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the East Rockaway UFSD School District desires to replace the existing heating and ventilation systems at Rhame Avenue Elementary School and Centre Avenue Elementary School (hereinafter the “Projects”); and

WHEREAS, said Projects are subject to classification under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

WHEREAS, maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in an existing structure or facility are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQRA Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c)(1)); and

WHEREAS, replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or a facility, in kind, on the same site, including upgrading buildings to meet building or fire codes, unless such action meets or exceeds any of the thresholds in section 617.4 are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQRA Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5 (c)(2); and

WHEREAS, the SEQRA Regulations declare Type II Actions to be actions that have no significant impact on the environment and require no further review under SEQRA; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, as the only involved agency, has examined all information related to the Projects and has determined that the Projects are classified as a Type II Action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(1) and (2) of the SEQRA Regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby declares itself Lead Agency in connection with the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, after a review of the proposed action, hereby declares that the Projects are Type II Actions, which requires no further review under SEQRA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby shall forward an official copy of this Resolution to the New York State Education Department together with a copy of the correspondence from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in connection with its request for approval of the listed project from the New York State Education Department.

C. Approve the terms of the Letter of Intent dated September 1, 2021, with Nassau BOCES for a 48-month lease for three (3) Xerox multi-task copy machines and authorize the Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations to execute the Letter of Intent on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.

- D. Approve the Special Education Services Contract with Hicksville UFSD for special education services for one parentally placed student for the 2021-2022 school year and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.

8. Approval of CSE and CPSE Recommendations

Mrs. O'Hagan asked if the trustees had any questions regarding the CSE and CPSE Recommendations. There were no questions. Mrs. O'Hagan then asked for a motion to approve the CSE and CPSE Recommendations.

Upon motion made by Joseph Kilgus, and seconded by Daniel DeMatteo, and unanimously passed, the CSE and CPSE Recommendations were approved.

9. Budget Transfers

Mrs. O'Hagan asked if the trustees had any questions regarding the following budget transfers. There were no questions. Mrs. O'Hagan then asked for a motion to approve the budget transfers.

Upon motion made by Peter McNally, seconded by Dominick Vulpis, all in favor AYE, opposed: NONE; abstained: NONE; the motion was unanimously passed, and the following budget transfers were unanimously approved.

- A. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following budget transfer:

- 1. Transaction No. 22-003
- 2. Transaction No. 22-004

10. Policy Matters

- A. Policy Subcommittee Report- Mr. McNally provided the following report: The subcommittee did not meet last month. A new date is still to be determined. We will continue to review policies listed in item C.

- B. For Adoption

- C. For Review

- 1. 0115, 0115-R, Student Harassment and Bullying Prevention and Intervention
- 2. 4710, Grading Systems
- 3. 8130, School Safety Plans and Teams
- 4. 9150, Non-Fraternization "New"
- 5. 6705, Federal Funds Purchasing
- 6. 8413, Transportation for Non-Public Schools

11. Reports

A. Superintendent's Report:

We had a successful opening of the school on September 2nd. We are so excited to see all of our students and teachers back in school. Although we have had a few positive COVID-19 cases reported, we are doing well. Students are compliant and seem to have readjusted well to school. The first days of school have been spent engaging students with various Social Emotional activities to reacclimate students, especially those who were fully remote last year back to school.

We have also begun collecting vaccination data from our staff and we will begin testing as required this Friday. We will also be offering the opportunity for students to be tested through Advanced Cardiovascular Diagnostics, a medical testing service, this Friday. A ConnectEd message will go home tomorrow with the details. ACD will accept insurance and for any student who does not have insurance testing will be provided through The CARES Act.

Achievement: Centre and Rhame teachers participated in rich professional learning during Superintendent's Conference Day. Learning was centered around Thinking Maps, our Wonders Literacy Program, and ways in which teachers can create a classroom environment that is designed for learning. Thinking Maps have been in frequent use throughout the Jr./Sr. High School. During Superintendent's Conference Days, staff worked together to map positive practices from last year that they would like to carry over to this year and how they have used maps in each department in the past. Students in Geometry used double bubble maps to get to know one another. Students in Algebra 2 used tree maps to analyze the class participation rubric and discussed how to be successful in class. Circle maps were used to brainstorm critical issues in America and classroom values in English classes and enduring issues in Global. Finally, the administration team has used thinking maps for various building level procedures and for meeting agendas. We are pleased to report that 68% of the class of 2021 graduated with an advanced Regents diploma. That is an increase of 15% over the past 4 years. Additionally, the number of students attending a 4 year college has increased by 18% over that same time period. Finally, the 30 students achieved an AP Scholar designation last year, which represents a 60% increase since 2019.

Innovation: Centre and Rhame 5th and 6th graders engaged in student centered projects using 1:1 devices to learn about famous mathematicians, create thinking maps, and build virtual Science lab coats. Both computer labs in Centre and Rhame will be receiving an upgrade to accommodate the rich learning that our teachers provide.

The Scholarship Student Attendance and Visitor Management system was rolled out at the Jr./Sr. High School. All students use their school issued ID card to scan in each morning and scan out if they leave the building during the day. The visitor management system cross checks an official form of picture identification against various databases to further ensure the safety of everyone in the building. The roll out has been a success!

Opportunity: Centre and Rhame students engaged in interactive opening activities where they used Thinking Maps to explore ways to promote classroom community, review prior

learning, explore their uniqueness, and capture the emotions that they felt while coming back to school. Several new college courses have kicked off with the start of the new school year. In total, we added 6 new courses across 5 departments for the 2021-2022 school year and we are pleased to say that enrollment for all of the courses is strong.

Connection: Centre and Rhame students worked with our PTA and summer rec to design traffic signs to increase awareness when driving through the neighborhood. These signs will be posted around the perimeter of each school. Centre and Rhame held a virtual Welcome Back Tea and Meet and Greet to welcome all new families to our respective schools with our PTA. During the 2020-2021, a total of \$3,055 was collected and donated by the ERHS staff to various charities as part of its monthly Jean's Days. Since its inception in 2003, East Rockaway High School has donated \$59,135! It is a noble and wonderful activity and we thank all of our teachers for their support.

Now, Ms. Scio will provide an update on the Bond projects and more detailed information will be provided on the next monthly meeting.

Ms. Scio: Of the five bond projects bid out to date, three of them took place over this summer. We had two of the projects at Centre Avenue. The masonry work has been substantially completed. This consisted of extensive masonry repair and waterproofing throughout the entire building. A punch list of items that need to be addressed has been developed by the District and Park East Construction, our construction manager. The contractor, Chase Renovation, is on site this evening completing the punch list items and we are hopeful that the project will be completed by the end of the week.

The HVAC system at Centre Avenue has been installed. Unfortunately, the switch gear needed to power up the new HVAC service has been delayed. Once received, it is estimated that it will take 3-4 days to install. During the installation, the building will be without power. To avoid interference with school, this will need to be scheduled during a recess period. The current service is still operational, and the building has power and ventilation. We will not be able to use the newly installed air conditioning units until the new service is in place. However, the window air conditioners were all left in place so the classrooms will have air conditioning during the beginning of the school year.

The third project was the High School Athletic Fields. Early in the summer we were notified of a delay in receiving the necessary electrical supplies needed to power the lights, scoreboard, and sound systems. Unfortunately, there continues to be a shortage in supplies and materials due to both the pandemic and the recent storms in the south. Today, we were notified the delivery of the synthetic turf material has been further delayed to mid-October. Once we receive delivery it will take approximately three weeks for installation. Unfortunately, based on the delayed delivery of the turf material we will not be able to have any fall sports, including the homecoming game on the complex. We hope to have the completion date before the winter months. We do apologize and we will keep you posted as we know more.

Ms. Ruiz thanked Ms. Scio for her report. We're forming a committee to inaugurate the field; but probably will be delayed. However, we're inviting many stakeholders to engage with us and

offer their suggestions for how we should inaugurate the field and hold a ribbon cutting for the field. More information will be shared in the near future. We all look forward to a great school year and returning to almost all of our activities and events, our clubs, our athletics, etc. Thank you to our teachers, staff, custodians, administrators, and all our support staff for everything that they do to keep our kids safe and to keep everyone in school and everything running smoothly and as normal as we can. We all hope that the pandemic eases and ends soon. We are proud to work with such a dedicated team including the Board of Education!

12. Good and Welfare

- A. Condolences to Karin Cooney and family on the passing of her father, Theodore J. Jurkiewicz, on September 1, 2021.
- B. Congratulations to Kristen Pisano and family on the arrival of her son, Wesley James, on September 2, 2021.

13. Public Comments

Please be reminded that the meeting is livestreamed and being recorded. I encourage residents to contact the board at boardofeducation@ersd.org and to contact your child's teacher or appropriate administrator with any concerns. At this time if you have a comment, please complete the form prior to speaking.

Public comments: None

14. Board Member Comments:

Mr. McNally: Congratulations to the teachers who received the Herald's award. They absolutely deserve the award and are outstanding teachers. Welcome to all new teachers and Mr. Gregory too. We are happy to have Mr. DeTommaso back with us. Congratulations to Matthew Pollackov; for his impressing artwork. He is talented and humble. Great job!

Mr. Vulpis: Congratulations to the teachers who received the Herald's Head of the Class Long Island Teacher Awards! Well, done! Thanks to Ms. Scio and Ms, Ruiz, for the newly adopted resolution. It is hard to keep things in order due to Covid, but you did it! Best of luck to the new teachers and administrators.

Mr. Kilgus: Welcome to all the new staff members to the East Rockaway School District. Also, welcome back to Mr. DeTommaso! This past Saturday, mark the 20th anniversary of September 11, on that day we lost a "rock", and I would like to take a second to remember Andrew Stern and all the people we lost. They are gone but never forgotten.

Mr. DeMatteo: Congratulations to the new teachers and staff.

Ms. O'Hagan: Welcome to all new staff member to East Rockaway School District,

welcome back to Mr. DeTommaso! Congratulations to Ms. Rodriguez, Ms. Kennedy and Ms. Perrone for receiving the Herald's Head of the Class Long Island Teacher Awards. Also, would like to recognize Madeline Mistretta and Sofia Valdebenito who opened the village at the September 11 memorial ceremony. Thank you for representing the district!

15. Upon motion made by Peter McNally, and seconded by Joseph Kilgus, and passed unanimously, the public meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nereyda Amaya-Moran
District Clerk