

EAST ROCKAWAY UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
East Rockaway, New York
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
7:00 P.M., October 25, 2016 – East Rockaway Jr. /Sr. High School
Preceded by a Salute to the Board of Education,
Recognition of Advance Placement Scholars and Super Masters,
a Youth Development Survey Presentation,
and a Public Forum

MINUTES

Present: Members of the Board of Education: Patti Nicoletti, Keith Gamache, Neil R. Schloth, Kristin Ochtera, Superintendent, Lisa J. Ruiz; Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations, Jacqueline A. Scrio, District Clerk, Vitina Fazi

Absent: John Giannotti, Jr.
John Piccarella

1. The meeting was called to order by Patti Nicoletti at 7:10 p.m. and Neil Schloth led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board President Patti Nicoletti turned the meeting over to the Superintendent. Ms. Ruiz welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting. Ms. Ruiz stated that tonight the community will be thanking and recognizing the Trustees of the Board of Education for their hard work, achievements and accomplishments. She stated that the Board of Education is the vital link between the community and the classroom. They oversee a budget of over \$38,000,000, 1,206 students, and a staff of over 300. Ms. Ruiz stated that she is honored to work with these school board trustees, and on behalf of the East Rockaway School District she gives her deepest appreciation for their dedication and the work they do every day.

Ms. Ruiz introduced Mr. James DeTommaso, who spoke in Mr. Spero's absence, and on behalf of the East Rockaway Jr. /Sr. High School. He thanked the Trustees for all they do for the school community. Mr. DeTommaso then introduced Mr. Schloen. Mr. Schloen introduced members of the Music Department, Ms. Silva, Ms. Weil, and Ms. Mihalek. The Music Department prepared a short student video musical presentation in honor of the Trustees. Students thanked the Trustees for supporting their program and spoke about opportunities the Board of Education helped make possible. Mr. Schloen then introduced members of the Art Department, Ms. Brody, Ms. Cabasso, and Ms. Hirten. The Trustees were presented with student made bowls and paintings. They thanked the Board for their continuous support and appreciation of the Arts. They reminded the audience of the upcoming "Empty Bowl Project" fundraiser on November 17th.

Mr. Schloen introduced Carol Sanders, ERTA President. Ms. Sanders spoke on behalf of the ERTA and expressed her appreciation for everything that the Board does for students and

staff. Ms. Sanders then introduced Mr. Dom Vulpis, President of the East Rockaway Administrators Association, who also thanked the Board of Education on behalf of his unit members. Mr. Vulpis presented all of the Trustees with a team hat.

Mr. DeTommaso introduced High School PTA Co-Presidents Cathy Tierney and Bridget Saporito who spoke on behalf of all the District PTA's. They thanked the Board of Education for all they do and for their continuous support of the school community. Ms. Tierney informed the audience that refreshments were being provided on behalf of the PTA's and invited everyone to attend during intermission.

Ms. Ruiz then introduced Mr. DeTommaso who spoke about the next student recognition. Forty-five (45) students were presented with a certificate for their achievement in the SuperMasters Program. The Program recognizes those students who achieved a 95 or above on one or more NYS Regents Examination. The students were called to the stage and presented with a certificate for their achievement in the SuperMasters Program.

Mr. DeTommaso then recognized the AP students. There are three AP categories recognized by the College Board. AP students are rated on a scale of 1-5 with 5 being the highest possible grade.

The first category is *AP Scholar*; these students scored 3 or higher on 3 or more AP exams. Mr. DeTommaso stated that we had twelve 2016 graduates along with five underclassmen achieve this recognition.

The next category is *AP Scholar with Honors*; these are students who received a score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams and scored 3 or higher on 4 or more of these exams. There was one 2016 graduate and three underclassmen who received this award.

The final category was *AP Scholar with Distinction*; these are students who received an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP exams and/or score 3 or higher on 5 or more of these exams. There were five 2016 graduates and one underclassman who received this honor. The students were called to the stage and presented with certificates. Ms. Ruiz thanked and congratulated all the students on receiving these distinctions.

Ms. Nicoletti thanked everyone for the gifts and words that were spoken tonight. She said the best gift of all were the student recognitions that were just announced. At 7:35 pm, Ms. Nicoletti adjourned the meeting for a brief intermission, and invited everyone to the Cafeteria for refreshments.

The meeting resumed at 8:10 pm. Ms. Ruiz stated that there was an additional student presentation. She then introduced Mr. Schloen. Mr. Schloen introduced Caitlin Cassini who was named first-place winner in the Long Island Arts Council at Freeport's annual poetry contest. Caitlin read her poem "Uneven Odds." Ms. Ruiz thanked her for coming to tonight's meeting.

Ms. Ruiz then introduced Ms. Laura Guggino-Hastings and Ms. Kristen Mednick, co-chairs of the East Rockaway School's Prevention Task Force. They presented the findings from the 2014-2015 Youth Development Survey. Ms. Guggino-Hastings spoke about the history of the Prevention Task Force. Ms. Kristen Mednick presented the results of the survey which compared East Rockaway results from 2010 to 2014, as well as to the results on the Nassau County level. Ms. Guggino-Hastings answered some audience questions and reminded everyone to attend the Task Force's next meeting on November 16, 2016. Ms. Ruiz thanked Ms. Guggino-Hastings and her committee members. She said the Committee is one of the most productive committees she has observed in the District. She thanked the Committee for an excellent presentation.

At 9:00 p.m. the meeting was turned over to Ms. Nicoletti who continued with the agenda. Ms. Nicoletti reminded the audience that there will be an opportunity to ask questions at the end of meeting as well as an opportunity to review tonight's agenda.

2. Upon motion made by Kristin Ochtera, and seconded by Keith Gamache, the following minutes were unanimously approved.
 - a. September 20, 2016 (Regular Meeting)
 - b. October 13, 2016 (Special Meeting)
3. Acknowledge Receipt of Financial Reports – July and August 2016
4. Correspondence – None
5. Hearing of Visitors on items in the Agenda – None
6. Action Agenda

Upon motion made by Neil Schloth, and seconded by Keith Gamache, the following Items 1 through 10 were unanimously approved on a consent agenda.

A. Personnel

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request of Ann Marie Kenny-Chapur for a child rearing leave of absence from her school psychologist position, effective October 26, 2016, through June 30, 2017.
2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve a change in the assignment of Edward Correll's part-time school psychologist position to leave replacement school psychologist, effective October 26, 2016, through June 30, 2017.
3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the revised Centre Avenue Club advisor assignments for the 2016-2017 school year.

4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the East Rockaway Jr. /Sr. High School Club Advisor assignments for the 2016-2017 school year.
5. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the winter sports coaching schedule dated October 25, 2016.
6. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Vanessa Julig, to the position of School Monitor Part-Time, effective upon Civil Service approval, at the hourly salary set forth in the East Rockaway Food Service and Monitor Union Contract for the 2016-2017 school year.
7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Denise Cipriano to the position of Lead Monitor, effective October 26, 2016, at the hourly salary set forth in the East Rockaway Food Service and Monitor Union Contract for the 2016-2017 school year.
8. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Dawn Grochmal 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 2016-2017 school year.
9. 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 for the 2016-2017 school year:
 - a. Loridanna Ippolito, substitute teacher, effective October 26, 2016
 - b. Samantha Aizer, substitute teacher, effective October 26, 2016
 - c. Joy Lipkin, substitute teacher, effective October 20, 2016
 - d. Michael Franza, athletic supervisor (day/evening), effective October 15, 2016
10. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the continuation of the “emergency, conditional” personnel appointment for the following individual pending receipt of notification of fingerprint clearance from the State of New York, Department of Education:
 - a. Joy Lipkin

B. Other Items

Ms. Nicoletti asked if there were any questions regarding Items 1 through 14 and continued with the agenda. Mr. Gamache questioned Item 15, and Ms. Ruiz responded.

Upon motion made by Kristin Ochtera, and seconded by Neil Schloth, the following Items

1 through 19 were unanimously approved on a consent agenda

1. Approve the terms of the Letter of Agreement dated October 25, 2016, between the Board of Education of the East Rockaway UFSD, and the East Rockaway Teachers Association for the employment of a tenured school psychologist currently on a child rearing leave of absence to return to work for the period October 26, 2016, through June 30, 2017, on a part-time (.5 FTE), per diem basis; and authorize the Superintendent to execute the Letter Agreement on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
2. Approve the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for the 2016-2017 school year.
3. Approve the following employment agreements for the 2016-2017 school year and authorize the Superintendent to execute the agreements on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education:
 - a. John Piccarella, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Technology
 - b. Laura Hastings, Director of Pupil Personnel Services
 - c. Anthony Quercia, Director of Facilities
 - d. Debra Muller, District Treasurer
 - e. Tina Fazi, Secretary to the Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations and District Clerk
 - f. Mary Volino, Secretary to the Superintendent of Schools and the Board of Education
4. Approve the members of the Professional Development Team pursuant to policy 9700, Staff Development.

John Piccarella, Co-Chairperson
Rachele Banducci
Jessica Beufve
Debra Ferrato
Jacqueline Purtee
Danielle Schatzle
Joseph Spero
Ann Smyth

Laura Guggino-Hastings, Co-Chairperson
Melinda Best
Annette Dubiel
Meridyth Hansen
Ashley Tener
Petra Schoen
Susan Glickman
ToniAnn Donald

5. Approve the terms of the Consultant Services Contract with Shari Berman for the District Musical *SHREK* leading up to and including the public performances, and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the Contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
6. Approve the Booking Agreement between the East Rockaway UFSD and Brooks Harper Enterprises for the East Rockaway Jr. /Sr. High School Career Week presentation on

- January 9, 2017, and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the Agreement on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
7. Approve the Flexible Compensation Agreement with Brown & Brown of New York, Inc. d/b/a Fitzharris & Company for the 2017 calendar year and authorize the President of the East Rockaway Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
 8. Approve the Disclosure Form with the East Rockaway UFSD and Nassau County Department of Human Services, Office of Mental Health, Chemical Dependency and Developmental Disabilities Services, for chemical dependency services, for the period January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2016, and authorize the President of the East Rockaway Board of Education to execute the Disclosure Form on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
 9. Approve the East Rockaway UFSD Special Education Plan, (District Policies, Practices and Procedures for Assuring Appropriate Educational Services and Due Process in Evaluation and Placement of Students with Disabilities) for the period September 1, 2016, through August 31, 2018.
 10. Approve the Special Education Services Contract with Carle Place UFSD for special education services for one (1) student, Student ID No.180005295, for the 2016-2017 school year and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the resulting tuition agreement on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
 11. Approve the Emergency Contract with Veterans Transportation Co., Inc. for (1) one student attending The Village School in Great Neck, and authorize the Superintendent and President of the Board of Education to execute the resulting contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
 12. Approve the Emergency Contract with First Student Inc. for (1) one East Rockaway student attending East Rockaway High School, and authorize the Superintendent and President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
 13. Approve the Contract with School Aid Specialists and the East Rockaway UFSD for capital and special education state reporting services, and authorize the Superintendent and President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
 14. Accept a kindergarten Curriculum Enhancement donation from the Rhame Avenue School PTA in the amount of \$200.
 15. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that, in accordance with the provisions of New York State Education Law §3012-c and Subpart 30-2 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District (“District”) hereby certifies the following individuals as qualified lead evaluators:

Nicholas Taylor
April Frances

The District hereby authorizes the above-listed individuals to conduct and/or complete the annual professional performance reviews of classroom teachers within the District.

16. Approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the East Rockaway Union Free School District has determined that a previously donated electric baby grand piano is obsolete, in need of repair and cannot be salvaged or utilized effectively or economically by the District, and thus is of no further use; and

WHEREAS, the Wyandanch Union Free School District has proposed to pick up and accept said piano at no cost to the District; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the District to donate said surplus property to the Wyandanch Union Free School District in accordance with Board Policy No. 6900.

17. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts the internal controls audit prepared by Nawrocki Smith LLP, for the year ended June 30, 2016.

18. Approve the award of the bid for 2016/2017 Capital Improvement Program bid, SED No. 28-02-19-03-0-002-013, Rhame Avenue Elementary School, Window Replacement, Phase II, Contract No. 1 to Arrow Steel Windows, as the lowest responsible bidder and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the resulting contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.

19. Approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the **EAST ROCKAWAY UFSD** is the lead agency under the State Environmental Quality Review Process for the purpose of required determinations respecting the proposed Capital Improvement Projects as follows:

EAST ROCKAWAY JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL

Installation of New:

1. Exterior Flood Doors
2. Exterior Flood Planks
3. Interior Floor Hatches
4. Sump Pumps
5. Backflow Preventers
6. Generator (75kw) & Elevated Concrete Pad to provide backup to sump pumps only
7. Interior & Exterior Protective Coatings (Masonry)
8. Anchor Existing Aboveground Fuel Oil Tank

RHAME AVENUE ELEMENTARY

1. Generator (30kw) & Elevated Concrete Pad to provide backup to sump pumps only
2. Sump Pumps
3. Backflow Preventers
4. Flood Planks @ all Exterior Door Locations
5. Replacement of an existing 1st Floor Unit Ventilators. New UV's will be ceiling hung.
Existing grade level fresh air intakes will be sealed. New openings will be installed at ceiling height.
6. Installation of Exterior Masonry Sealant/Waterproofing

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION BUILDING

1. Exterior Flood Doors & Planks
2. Interior Floor Hatches
3. Sump Pumps – tied into generator at the High School
4. Interior & Exterior Protective Coatings (Masonry)

WHEREAS, in 1995, amendments were made to the SEQRA Regulation (Part 617) to classify projects, which will be excluded from the requirements for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (Type II Actions). The projects mentioned above are now classified as Type II Actions as determined by 6NYCRR§617.5 and

WHEREAS, these projects fall under the following categories:

- A. Maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in an existing structure of facility;
- B. Replacement, Rehabilitation or Reconstruction of a structure or 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 of this Part;

THEREFORE, as the lead agency for the SEQRA determination, all the above referenced projects fall under Categories “A” or “B” above. The procedure for Type II Actions, with regard to the SEQRA Process for Capital Projects noted above is “No

Additional Required Action under 6NYCRR§617.5(a)”.

C. Budget Transfers - None

D. Upon motion made by Keith Gamache, and seconded by Kristin Ochtera, the CSE Recommendations were unanimously approved.

E. Upon motion made by Keith Gamache, and seconded by Kristin Ochtera, the CPSE Recommendations were unanimously approved.

7. Ms. Ruiz spoke about the history of the policy being adopted. She thanked the Board of Education for supporting this policy.

Upon motion made by Kristin Ochtera, and seconded by Neil Schloth, the following Policy was approved for adoption.

Policy Matters

1. For Adoption

a. 8121.1, 8121.1-R - Opioid Overdose Prevention and Regulation

8. Good and Welfare

a. Condolences to Frank Cuttitta and family on the passing of his father, Francis Martin Cuttitta

b. Condolences to Mary Arapas and family on the passing of her mother, Anna Califano

c. Condolences to retired teacher Helen McNally, on the passing of her husband, Peter McNally

d. Condolences to Fran Cloud and family on the passing of her mother, Estelle DiMartino

e. Condolences to Valerie (Buscema) Parasmio on the passing of her grandmother, Carmela Buscema

f. Condolences to Edward Correll and family on the passing of his brother, Douglas William Correll

g. Condolences to Ann Marie Chapur-Kenny, on the passing of her mother-in-law, Betty Chapur

9. Superintendent’s Report

Achievement

This month several teachers at Centre Avenue participated in the first cycle of literacy training. The focus was on helping students use strategies to build their academic vocabulary. Thinking Maps are utilized as tools to help students with this skill. Teachers have been working hard to plan lessons using these new tools and are eager to implement them in the classroom.

Students in all grades are currently working on their narrative writing pieces. They will be taken

through the formal writing process of brainstorming, creating a rough draft, making revisions and edits, conferencing with the teacher, and publishing a final draft.

Dr. Chris Parker visited Centre Avenue on October 13, 2016, to work with all the interventionists in the building. He conducted walk-throughs and sat with each interventionist individually to debrief and talk about best practices when working with diverse learners.

Teachers at Rhame and Centre Avenue have been involved in “Thinking Maps Training” and “Literacy Training” as part of our plan for continued professional growth this year. These tools will help our students reach higher levels of creative and critical thinking. Other focus areas for this year include “Vocabulary Acquisition,” “Text Structure,” and “Author’s Craft” which are part of the Literacy Training that select teachers will be receiving. Our collective goal is for both schools to have “Teacher Leaders” that are trained in these areas to support their colleagues which in turn will enhance classroom instruction and result in an improvement in student achievement.

The AVID site team met to continue their implementation and collaborated on the skill work being done in the College and Career elective, specifically by sharing exemplars of “Cornell Notes.” They have also emphasized the importance of oral communication skills by teaching students how to introduce themselves to adults in the building with eye contact and a hand shake.

Tonight we celebrated the accomplishment of 45 students who achieved the distinction of being SuperMasters. This distinction is given to those who scored a 95 or higher on a Regents or FLACs exam last June. We also acknowledged 26 students who were recognized by the College Board as AP scholars based on last year’s AP exam administration including 5 AP scholars with distinction, 4 scholars with honor, and 17 scholars.

Innovation

Students in Grades 3 through 6 at Centre Avenue closed out their first unit of coding in the STEAM program. They started by creating algorithms to move a character through a maze. Then they converted movements into symbolic instruction and created programs to complete tasks. On the computers, students solved puzzles by dragging and dropping algorithms, wrote programs to get a character successfully through a maze and “debugged” or fixed programs that did not achieve the desired result. Both teachers and students immensely enjoyed their STEAM activities.

Sixth grade students at Rhame have been showcasing their knowledge of technology by using “google maps” to help teach first graders about our local community. Throughout a unit of study in first grade about local neighborhoods, the boys and girls have been working collaboratively using their tablets to conduct research and present their findings.

The tablet initiative is underway in Grades 9 and 10. Teachers will be collaborating on November 8th (Election Day) to continue their work on this initiative.

The AVID site team will be meeting with Pam Liebing, our coach and support for a check in on the program.

Connection

On Saturday, October 15th Centre Avenue's PTA sponsored Family Fun Day. There were many local vendors present and various activities for the children, including music with a DJ, a pumpkin patch with decorating station, a book stand with free books, sand art, and several carnival games. It was wonderful to see the great turn out by both families from the community and staff. A fun day was had by all!

Students at Rhame Avenue Participated in a "Read Across the Globe" event last week and each classroom had a special person read a story to them that was connected to Hispanic Heritage Month. Over 10,000 people came together across 26 countries to read to over 350,000 children on the same day. It was an exciting event to be a part of and an important opportunity for our students to make important connections with the culture and heritage of the Hispanic communities around the world through storytelling.

All students in Grades 7, 8, 9, and 12 participated in National Unity Day by watching "*We Are Marshall*" and participating in student-led break-out sessions that touched upon the importance of perseverance and resilience in the face of adversity. Our students responded well and were able to connect with their peers and staff.

Students in advisory are working on anti-bullying activities in support of Red Ribbon Week.

On October 20, 2016, Don Murray, former East Rockaway graduate (Class of '46) and Hollywood actor, attended a preview screening of "*Don Murray: Unsung Hero.*" After the screening, Mr. Murray answered audience questions. It was an exciting night for the community and the school.

On October 19, 2016, the Incorporated Village of East Rockaway sponsored a Cultural Arts Council Art Walk on the waterfront. Our students displayed and sold their art work. Our very own Trustee Keith Gamache also displayed his art work. The Village plans to expand this event to the week before Memorial Day and we hope to support and participate in it once again.

Opportunity:

The students in extracurricular clubs at Centre Avenue are busy planning their events for the month of October. Students in Grades 4-6 in Kiwanis Kids Club are organizing a "Treats for Troops" drive, which is sponsored by Operation Gratitude. All donated Halloween candy will be collected and sent over to our troops. Grade 5 and 6 students in Student Council are helping to support Red Ribbon week from October 24th to October 28th. Red Ribbon week promotes being drug free and making healthy choices.

The Rhame Avenue Kiwanis Kids Club recently held a school-wide fundraiser to "Whip" Pediatric Cancer. The students collected donations in an effort to fill the school lobby with "Hearts of Gold" that resembled a collective opportunity for everyone to join together in support. The entire Rhame Avenue School held an assembly to learn more about Pediatric Cancer and participated in dancing

to the “Whip-it-Nae-Nae” song which was the theme behind this event taking place across the entire country. Our K-Kids did such an outstanding job promoting this event that we raised almost \$300 dollars and were featured in this last week’s East Rockaway Herald.

The PSAT exam was administered to all 10th and 11th grade students this past week. This initiative provides all of our students with this important opportunity necessary for the college admissions process. While some schools opt to give it to students on a voluntary basis on Saturday, we thank the Board for supporting our effort to be inclusive.

More than 50 college representatives have visited the College and Career Counseling center in the months of September and October in order to provide students with valuable information and support.

Over 40 students attended the visit to Marist College this past week. These visits provide students with a hands-on experience of visiting a campus and connecting with college representatives.

The Guidance Department conducted an information session on college testing as well as Financial Aid to better equip families with valuable information and insight.

The art teachers brought students to the Heckscher Museum on a field trip. Students were able to see works on display and gave our students the opportunity for a museum visit.

10. Privilege of the Floor – None

11. Board Member Comments

Keith Gamache: Mr. Gamache thanked everyone for participating in Board Recognition Night. He said, while this is his third year on the Board, tonight’s recognition was by far the most touching he has experienced and was starting to well up a little. Everyone has gone the extra mile in their tributes to the Board. He took this opportunity to remind everyone of the upcoming East Rockaway Education Foundation Dinner Dance. He invited everyone to attend as the honorees this year will be Scott Gerken and Kristin Ochtera. It is going to be a great evening honoring them, and at the same time, helping a wonderful organization that continues to support programs in our schools. He thanked everyone for staying so late.

Neil Schloth: Mr. Schloth joined with Mr. Gamache in his comments in thanking everyone who honored the Board this evening and how much it means to him to continue working with the community. This is his ninth year as a Board member and he thanked everyone involved for helping the District reach “higher and higher” in light of the limited resources we have. He believes the most important thing is working together and listening to one another. With all the attention given to the presidential candidates in next month’s election, Mr. Schloth reminded everyone that there are local elections taking place. Much is at stake and he asked all to do their research and homework when voting. He wished everyone a good month.

Kristin Ochtera: Ms. Ochtera “piggybacked” on the comments of her fellow trustees. She

expressed her appreciation for the camaraderie and spirit shared between the Board members. Ms. Ochtera spoke about the adoption of tonight's Opioid Prevention Policy which could be considered controversial in many places. She thanked her fellow Trustees for being forward thinking and also thanked the Prevention Task Force. It is an important opportunity to stand as a District and shed light on something that is not a pleasant topic. She is very proud of the team and the fact that the community came together to support an initiative that is not pretty. Ms. Ochtera spoke about the Cultural Arts Council Art Walk sponsored by the Village. She thanked the Village for allowing our students to participate and showcase their artwork. She "shed some light" on what Mr. Schloth does for our community and thanked him for his volunteer service with the East Rockaway Fire Department. He is also instrumental in coordinating the open house, student field trips, and advocating fire safety and prevention. Ms. Ochtera also wished him good luck when he represents East Rockaway at the NYSSBA Conference in Rochester.

Patti Nicoletti: Ms. Nicoletti said that with Fall being her favorite season, along with it comes going back to school, and has now added to her list of favorites, Board of Education Appreciation Night. She thanked the students, administration and the PTA's for their gratitude. She reminded the audience that the Board does its best to support your ideas and plans and thanked them for bringing them to the Board. She thanked the PTA's for the refreshments. She wished everyone a Happy Halloween and looks forward to seeing everyone in November.

Ms. Ruiz invited everyone to join them on November 17th for the Empty Bowls fundraising. She'll be making tortilla soup!

12. Upon motion made by Kristin Ochtera, and seconded by Keith Gamache, and passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m. to executive session to discuss matters of personnel.

Respectfully submitted,

Vitina Fazi
District Clerk