

EAST ROCKAWAY UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

East Rockaway, New York

Meeting of the Board of Education

7:00 P.M., December 15, 2020

Preceded by Recognition of AP Scholars, Retiree Susan Glickman,  
an Elementary Reading/ELA Program: An Introduction to *WONDERS* Presentation,  
and a Public Forum  
Meeting Open to Public and Livestreamed

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Dominick Vulpis, Kristen O'Hagan, Peter McNally, Daniel DeMatteo, Joseph Kilgus, Superintendent Lisa J. Ruiz, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations, Jacqueline A. Scio; Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, Mona Hecht, District Clerk, Vitina Fazi (via remote)

Absent: None

1. Mr. Vulpis called the meeting to order at approximately 7:12 p.m. in the auditorium of the East Rockaway Jr./Sr. High School.
2. Mr. Peter McNally introduced Steven James, a 6<sup>th</sup> grade student at Centre Avenue School, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Ruiz welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting. She thanked everyone for coming out and began tonight's recognitions with honoring the AP Scholars. She then introduced Mr. Richard Schaffer, principal of the East Rockaway Jr./Sr. High School.

Mr. Schaffer welcomed everyone. He announced that during the 2019-2020 school year, despite COVID, students took on-line tests. Mr. Schaffer gave a brief overview of the different categories of AP Scholars. Although many were unable to attend tonight, he read the names of all the AP Scholars recipients. Those that attended were given certificates. All recipients will also be given certificates as well as certificates from the Nassau County Legislature. Ms. Ruiz congratulated all the students and their parents. She then introduced Ms. Mona Hecht who will conduct the Wonders literacy and reading presentation.

Ms. Hecht thanked Ms. Ruiz. Ms. Hecht reflected on how much we required from our teachers this year amid so many challenges and challenges continue to take place. She showed a Power Point which explained the new Wonders literacy and reading program, specifically how we got there, why we got there, and where the future will lead with the program. The District has been looking very carefully at our reading and literacy program over the last few years. This school year is different and implementing new resources has been difficult this year. She then went on

to describe the components of the program.

Ms. Hecht then introduced Centre Avenue School elementary teacher Kellie Hughes. Ms. Hughes continued with the presentation. She spoke about the difference between the Journeys program and Wonders program, the transition between the two; and described the digital platform. She detailed how the program is being implemented in the elementary schools.

Ms. Hecht then asked if there were any questions. She thanked all the teachers, some of whom had obstacles in connecting with their students remotely. However, we are seeing much success in the classrooms. Ms. Ruiz thanked Ms. Hecht for her presentation and sent “kudos” to all our teachers for stepping up during this difficult time.

Ms. Ruiz then introduced Ms. Calia Kelly, Centre Avenue Principal, who spoke about retiring teacher, Susan Glickman, who was not present. Ms. Kelly honored the career of Ms. Glickman who served the community for over 18 years. She congratulated her and wished her well in her retirement. Ms. Ruiz also wished her all the best and will be sending her a recognition award.

At 7:43 p.m. the presentations concluded. The Board continued with the public portion of the agenda.

### 3. Public Comments on Agenda Items

Mr. Vulpis stated that Board will be managing Board of Education email items this evening. If you have any questions regarding the agenda times, now is the time to contact the Board’s email. You will also have an opportunity at the public comments section to contact the Board.

There were no email comments.

### 4. Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Vulpis asked if there were any questions regarding the minutes below. There were none and Mr. Vulpis asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

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

A. November 17, 2020, 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 October 2020, monthly financial reports.

B. Correspondence – None at this time

## 6. Recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Vulpis asked if the trustees had any questions regarding Items A-P below. There were no questions. Mr. Vulpis then asked for a motion to approve Items A-P.

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

- A. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the resignation of Kristina Bruzzo, monitor, effective January 15, 2021.
- B. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve an extension of the medical leave of absence for Donna Smith from her special education teacher position, through January 19, 2021.
- C. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request of Kristie Galante for a FMLA leave of absence from her art teacher position, effective January 4, 2021.
- D. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the winter sports coaching schedule dated December 15, 2020.
- E. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the revised ERHS Club Advisor assignments for the 2020-2021 school year as more fully set forth on the schedule of club/advisor assignments at the stipend salaries established by the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for the 2020-2021 school year and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the charters.
- F. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve a change to the FMLA leave of absence of Alexandra Pietrantonio from her probationary science teacher position, to be effective November 23, 2020, through February 12, 2021.
- G. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve a change in the effective date of the appointment of Alexandra D'Amprisi as a short-term substitute science teacher, to be effective November 23, 2020, through February 12, 2021, at the per diem salary established by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for the 2020-2021 school year.
- H. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve a change to the FMLA leave of absence of Marissa Diamond from her elementary teacher position, to be effective November 18, 2020, through February 5, 2021.

- I. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve a change to the effective date of the appointment of Celeste Magluilo as a short-term substitute elementary teacher, to be effective November 17, 2020, through February 5, 2021, at the per diem salary established by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for the 2020-2021 school year.
- J. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve a change to the end date of Margaret Orgera as a short-term substitute elementary teacher through December 18, 2020.
- K. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the four-year probationary appointment of Kallen Maguire, to the position of elementary teacher, effective January 4, 2021 (tenure area: elementary; certification: professional), at the prorated MA30, Step 4, annual salary, established by the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for the 2020-2021 school year.
- L. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Andrew Kimble to the position of short-term substitute science teacher, effective January 4, 2021, through February 12, 2021, at the per diem salary established by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for the 2020-2021 school year.
- M. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Joie Candido to the position of short-term substitute art teacher, effective January 4, 2021, through February 12, 2021, at the per diem salary established by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for the 2020-2021 school year.
- N. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request of Carol Hernandez for a FMLA leave of absence from her clerical position, effective December 1, 2020, through January 31, 2021.
- O. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Nereyda Amaya-Moran, to the position of twelve (12) month Clerk-Typist I, Bilingual, effective January 11, 2021, at the prorated Step 1 annual salary established by the East Rockaway Secretaries Association Agreement for 12-month typist clerks for the 2020-2021 school year.
- P. 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. Symone Powell, substitute teacher aide, effective upon Civil Service approval
  - 2. Lauren Radburn, permanent substitute teacher, effective December 16, 2020
  - 3. Joie Candido, per diem substitute teacher, effective February 22, 2021

7. Other Items

Mr. Vulpis asked if the trustees had any questions regarding Items A-E below. There were no questions. Mr. Vulpis then asked for a motion to approve Items A-E.

Upon motion made by Peter McNally, seconded by Kristen O'Hagan, all in favor AYE, opposed: NONE; abstained: NONE; the motion was unanimously passed, and the following Items A-E were approved on a consent agenda.

A. Approve the revised Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for the 2020-2021 school year.

B. Approve the terms of the Side Letter Agreement dated December 3, 2020, between the Board of Education of the East Rockaway UFSD, and the East Rockaway Teachers Association (ERTA), and authorize the Superintendent to execute the Letter Agreement on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.

C. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts the revised Corrective Action Plan to the financial audit prepared by Nawrocki Smith, LLP, for the year ended June 30, 2019.

D. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts the revised Corrective Action Plan to the financial audit prepared by Nawrocki Smith, LLP, for the year ended June 30, 2020.

E. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts the Corrective Action Plan to the Extra-Classroom Activity Funds, Report of Examination 2020M-085 from the NYS Office of the Comptroller.

Mr. Vulpis asked if the trustees had any questions regarding Items F-H below. There were no questions. Mr. Vulpis then asked for a motion to approve Items F-H.

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

F. Approve the contract for Health and Welfare Services between the East Rockaway UFSD and the following school districts for health and welfare services for the 2020-2021 school year and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the agreement on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.

1. Baldwin UFSD
2. Hewlett-Woodmere School District
3. Island Park Public Schools
4. Lawrence UFSD
5. Long Beach Public Schools
6. Lynbrook UFSD
7. Malverne UFSD
8. New York City School District
9. Oceanside UFSD
10. Patchogue-Medford UFSD
11. Rockville Centre UFSD
12. Roosevelt UFSD
13. Valley Stream 13 UFSD
14. Valley Stream 24 UFSD
15. Valley Stream 30 UFSD
16. Valley Stream Central HS UFSD

G. Approve the terms of the Letter of Intent dated November 24, 2020, 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.

H. Approve the Special Education Services Contract with Hewlett Woodmere UFSD for special education services for two parentally placed students for the 2020-2021 school year and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.

Mr. Vulpis asked if the trustees had any questions regarding Items I-K below. There were no questions. Mr. Vulpis then asked for a motion to approve Items I-K.

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

I. Approve the Special Education Services Tuition Contract with Seaford UFSD, for special education services for one (1) student, Student I.D. No. 180008754 for the 2020-2021 school year and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the tuition agreement on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.

J. Approve the Letter of Agreement between the East Rockaway UFSD and ATC Testing and Screening Services, LLC, for COVID-19 testing services, and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the Letter Agreement on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.

K. Accept the following donations:

1. From Ohiopyle Prints, Inc., a check in the sum of \$221.54 for the East Rockaway Jr./Sr. High School
2. From Abbie Chessler and Brian Salsberg, a Cisco Access Point System, valued at \$1,500 for the East Rockaway School District

8. Mr. Vulpis asked if the trustees had any questions regarding the CSE and CPSE Recommendations. There were no questions. Mr. Vulpis then asked for a motion to approve the CSE and CPSE Recommendations.

Upon motion made by Joseph Kilgus, seconded by Kristen O'Hagan, all in favor AYE, opposed: NONE; abstained: NONE; the motion was unanimously passed, and the CSE and CPSE Recommendations were unanimously approved.

9. Budget Transfers

Mr. Vulpis asked if there were any questions regarding the following budget transfer. There were no questions and he asked for a motion to approve the following budget transfer.

Upon motion made by Peter McNally, seconded by Daniel DeMatteo, all in favor AYE, opposed: NONE; abstained: NONE; the following budget transfer was unanimously approved.

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

1. Transaction No. 21-0010

10. Policy Matters

- A. Policy Subcommittee Report

Kristen O'Hagan provided the following report:

The policy subcommittee met on Monday, December 7th.

**Policies for Adoption:**

**2120.3, School Board Elections, Poll Watchers**

This policy includes one small change to add additional poll watchers as per guidance from our school attorney.

**4770, 4770-R, Graduation**

This policy was reviewed to add weighting for college level courses.

### **5100 Student Attendance**

Language was added to reflect attendance during the pandemic which emphasizes the importance of student participation during remote learning and allows for various means for students to demonstrate their attendance through documented participation in online or virtual classes, completion of assignments, documentation of daily school activities and learning or correspondence via online platform, email and telephone.

### **2520 Board Member Training**

This policy mandates that every board member will complete at least one training per year which addresses topics pertinent to serving successfully as Board members.

We will continue to review the following policies:

1. 5500, 5500-R, Student Records
2. 0105, Equity, Inclusivity, and Diversity in Education
3. 9150, Non-Fraternization “New”
4. 6705, Federal Funds Purchasing
5. 0000, Mission Statement and Vision
6. 4000, Student Learning Standards and Instructional Guidelines
7. 4513, Library Materials Selection
8. 9420, Recruiting and Hiring
9. 9700, Professional Learning and Staff Development
- 10.4810, Teaching About Controversial Issues

### **B. For Adoption**

Mr. Vulpis asked if there were any questions regarding Item 10 B below. There were no questions. Mr. Vulpis asked for a motion to adopt the policies listed in Item B (For Adoption).

Upon motion made by Joseph Kilgus, seconded by Daniel DeMatteo, all in favor AYE, opposed: NONE; abstained: NONE; the following policies listed in Item B (1-4) were unanimously approved for adoption.

1. 2120.3, School Board Elections – Poll Watchers Policy
2. 4770, 4770-R, Graduation
3. 5100, Student Attendance
4. 2520, Board Member Training

### **C. For Review**

1. 5500, 5500-R, Student Records
2. 0105, Equity, Inclusivity, and Diversity in Education



3. 9150, Non-Fraternization “New”
4. 6705, Federal Funds Purchasing
5. 0000, Mission Statement and Vision
6. 4000, Student Learning Standards and Instructional Guidelines
7. 4513, Library Materials Selection
8. 9420, Recruiting and Hiring
9. 9700, Professional Learning and Staff Development
10. 4810, Teaching About Controversial Issues

## 11. Reports

### A. Superintendent’s Report

#### **COVID-19 Zoning**

In preparation for the possibility of Yellow Zone testing, we created a parent and staff survey to determine if we would have enough staff and students to meet the 20 percent threshold for COVID-19 testing. Our district would need to test approximately 260 people to meet the criteria for Yellow Zone quota for our schools to remain open. Based upon the survey, we have more than enough families and staff who would agree to testing.

Right now the testing plan that we have in place is to utilize our district school nurses, as well as an outside company that would come on site and accept health insurance for payment of the test. This plan will allow some flexibility for families and convenience for both families and staff. Parents would be allowed to accompany their children for testing if they so choose but we would not want parents entering the school building during the school day or to disturb a student’s schedule for them to be taken out of school for testing. Therefore, we would have late afternoon hours available for this purpose. Parents can also provide permission for their children to be tested during the school day without a parent present.

I would like to thank Mr. Barth and our school nurses for their support in planning for Yellow Zone testing and, in particular, thank our nurses for stepping up to administer the test. In both cases the test would be a less invasive nasal swab test. The Department of health would provide us with the test for the nurses to administer and that would be a rapid test.

The company we have contracted is ATC would be administering the PCR test and the results would take several days. Families and staff will also have the option of being tested privately and submit the results to the district.

Please be assured that all medical information including test results will be kept confidential. However, we will be required to submit the results including basic personal information data: name, address, age, and ethnicity to the Department of Health testing portal. That is a requirement of being identified as a Yellow Zone.

The State’s [Cluster Action Initiative](#) uses data and metrics to identify geographic areas as red,

orange and yellow zones, with yellow being a “precautionary” zone. Each zone has a set of restrictions to combat the spread of COVID within the cluster area:

### **YELLOW ZONE:**

Schools can remain open with 20% testing of in-person students and staff within two weeks of the designation.

Testing will no longer be required if test results are lower than the current seven-day positivity rate.

### **ORANGE ZONE:**

School buildings must close for at least four days.

In order to reopen, ALL students, faculty, and staff must test and only those who are negative will be allowed to return to campus.

Following reopening, schools will be required to provide weekly testing results of 25% of the combined student, faculty, and staff population.

### **RED ZONE:**

School buildings must close for at least four days.

In order to reopen, ALL students, faculty, and staff must test and only those who are negative will be allowed to return to campus.

Following reopening, schools will be required to provide weekly testing results of 25% of the combined student, faculty, and staff population.

### **Winter Sports – Cancelled**

The New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) has postponed the start of high-risk winter sports until authorization is granted from the NYS Department of Health. This is due to the increase in infection and hospitalization rates across the State. The New York State Department of Health has determined the following NYSPHSAA-endorsed sports to be high risk: basketball, boys lacrosse, competitive cheerleading, football, ice hockey, volleyball, and wrestling.

The cancellation of the Winter State Championships addresses membership concerns associated with increased travel, hotel accommodations, transportation logistics and the planning for meals. Furthermore, venue capacity limitations and social distancing restrictions make it increasingly difficult to ensure the safety of student-athletes, coaches, and families.

## **Achievement**

Special Education teachers and reading specialists are working with Literacy Consultant, Kerry Leo, to identify research-based literacy programs and/or approaches, to best meet the needs of our most vulnerable learners, based on their profiles as readers. This targeted approach will be beneficial in helping students to make significant gains.

The St. John's University Program has 26 East Rockaway students registered this semester. Twenty of the 32 juniors and seniors in Spanish 4H are registered for Spanish 1010C, and six of the 15 seniors in Spanish AP are registered for Spanish 2030C.

Seventy-three students received a "We Rock" award for the Fall 2020 semester at the December 9, 2020, PTA Meeting. The students are nominated by teachers and/or building staff for demonstrating the character traits of wisdom, empathy, respect, optimism, compassion, and kindness. All students received a certificate in their homeroom class or by mail if they are full remote.

Students in Math 8 AIS were awarded with certificates based on the goals set of completed i-Ready lessons. i-Ready is a digital diagnostic and prescriptive intervention system that students in middle school ELA and Math AIS engage with on a regular basis.

Two East Rockaway High School seniors committed to college athletic programs: Anthony Piazza signed with Western Connecticut State University to play baseball and Leo Guarino signed with Wake Forest University to play Division 1 Soccer! Go Rocks!

## **Innovation**

Rhame and Centre teachers in Grades K-3 will be receiving one-on-one coaching with our Instructional Technology Specialist, Petra Schoen, to provide them with training on the Google Classroom platform which is new for them this year. She will be working in their classrooms to support them with this new learning while they are teaching. She continues to provide all teachers with tips on how to integrate the use of new technology tools used during our full remote period in the Spring, such as Jamboard, to help them to manage their virtual and in-person classroom instruction.

East Rockaway High School's Science Research Teachers took part in the "University in the High School Program's Annual Science Research Workshop" via zoom on December 4th. The webinar began with opening remarks about changes to the UHS program followed by discussions on how to teach science research during these unique times. There was discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of having digital portfolios and lab notebooks. The afternoon was an open forum where Science Research teachers from around the tri-state area discussed what has been working well this year, and what has been challenging. Science Research teachers were also invited to join a "Slack" group, which is a platform for teachers to

share resources with one another.

In AP Physics, students engaged in cooperating learning activities that challenged them to be the remote teacher where they had to share their own screen and lead their classmates through the steps necessary to solve problems. Students utilized Kami, a PDF editing tool, to livestream their work and Google Meet to explain the steps to their classmates.

### **Connection**

Rhame and Centre students raised funds and gifts for children in need during the holiday season. They hosted a toy drive for the Little St. Nick's Foundation to provide new coloring books, crayons, and stuffed animals to children in local hospitals. Students also decorated paper mittens and donated funds for the Mitten Tree to provide much needed items for our school community and families who are in need during the winter months.

Working with Senator Kaminsky's office, AVID Students and Key Club Members, under the direction of Ms. Isik and Mr. Caputo, respectively, sponsored a Thanksgiving Food Drive. More than \$800 in gift cards and 46 boxes of food was collected and distributed to charities in Long Beach for distribution to families in need.

Our Key Club and Builder's Club is working on another food drive and coat drive to help those in need during this holiday season. Additionally, our National Junior Honor Society is holding a toy drive to benefit Toys for Tots. All three of these efforts have been very successful!

Nineteen Alumni from the Class of 2020 presented virtually about their experience in high school and transition to college. All students in grades 9-12 were invited to listen to what they shared. Our guidance department and assistant principals lead the panel discussions and asked questions based on the grade of the audience.

At East Rockaway High School, several teachers and support staff are completing outreach efforts to our full virtual learners. Teachers and support staff contact several full virtual students a day to check-in on how they are doing with coursework, as well as to check in on how they are doing socially and emotionally. They provide suggestions to full virtual students with where to go to get further support as needed, to help them continue to feel connected to the school community.

Students in Advisory completed Kindness Memes that adorn the hallways with messages of care and concern for our fellow ROCKS. They are now competing in a charade challenge for a necessary and fun break from screen time.

On December 11, Athletic Director, David Barth presented at the National Athletic Directors conference to over 200 athletic directors from across the country and Canada. Mr. Barth presented on "How to build an appropriate Culture in Your Athletic Department," and shared many of the great things that our coaches and teams are doing in East Rockaway.

Counselors presented in 10th and 11th grade classes to explain PSAT results. All students logged in to College Board to access their score summary report. Additionally, counselors shared information about Barry Tech programs and the upcoming virtual Taste of Tech tour.

East Rockaway High School's Art Department will be posting a virtual Art Show the week of December 14, 2020. The display will include many works of art from the very successful College Portfolio Night held last month, as well as artwork from students in all classes.

East Rockaway High School's music department will be posting small ensemble recordings to ring in the holidays. The collection will be posted throughout the week of December 14, 2020.

### **Opportunity**

Rhame Avenue School's kindergarten students modified their annual "Balloons over Rhame" by recording the annual parade to be shared with the community. Students in all three classes explored the book "Balloons Over Broadway: The True Story of the Puppeteer of the Macy's Parade" and constructed their own life size puppets for the parade.

Centre Avenue School students in primary grades are working with a social worker every Friday in order to engage in emotion regulation and how to build better friendships using the Second Step Program.

Representatives from fifty-five different colleges met with our students this fall to review academic programs, updates to the college admissions landscape, and create personal connections with our students. All visits were virtual, and students were able to log on from home, if they chose. The visits were also open to parents, if they were able to join.

Students across all AP and Regents level courses were given workbooks to help students prepare for upcoming exams and to add additional support and materials for students in the hybrid and full remote learning model.

Our National Honor Society students are working on service-learning projects in place of community service hours, which have been made difficult to complete due to the pandemic. Students will work individually or with peers to propose a project, execute the project and present their completed projects in the Spring. We are looking forward to sharing what they have accomplished later in the year.

Ms. Ruiz wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, happy and healthy new year. There is relief on the horizon for the new year.

## 12. Good and Welfare

- A. Congratulations to Brianna and Peter Ostrander on the arrival of their son, Peter Anthony Ostrander III on November 15, 2020

- B. Congratulations to Marissa Diamond and family on the arrival of her son Hayes Everett Diamond, born on November 17, 2020
- C. Congratulations to Lexi Pietrantonio and family on the arrival of their daughter, Isla Rose, born November 22, 2020
- D. Condolences to Kevin Fuller and family on the passing of his mother, Marie Fuller, on November 15, 2020

### 13. Public Comments

Mr. Vulpis stated that the Board did not receive any email comments this evening. Please direct your comments to [boe@esrd.org](mailto:boe@esrd.org) and we will get back to you on those comments.

### 14. Board Member Comments

Joseph Kilgus: Mr. Kilgus congratulated Ms. Glickman on her retirement and wished her the best of luck. He also wished everyone a Happy Hanukah, Merry Christmas and most importantly, a happy and healthy new year. Hopefully, we all get back to a normal way of life. Happy holidays to everyone!

Daniel DeMatteo: Mr. DeMatteo wished everyone “happy holidays.” In times like these we have to remember a smile goes a long way. Be kind, inspire someone, and lend a helping hand. Happy Holidays to all!

Peter McNally: Mr. McNally wished everyone a happy holiday season. Even though it may be a little different, he hopes everyone gets to enjoy it. Remember it’s about spending time with family and friends. Happy Holidays!

Kristen O’Hagan: Congratulations to the AP Scholars honored this evening and to Susan Glickman on your retirement. Thank you to Mrs. Hecht and Ms. Hughes for your introduction to Wonders Presentation. This is clearly an engaging program and it is my hope that the students continue to thrive as readers, writers, and thinkers with the continued implementation of Wonders. I wish everyone a wonderful holiday season and a Happy, Healthy New Year! I hope everyone enjoys a much-deserved relaxing break. Thank you.

Dominick Vulpis: Tonight’s presentation was an example of how the District, teachers, and students continue to move in an upward fashion. It is a great feeling to know everything is coming together.

Ms. Ruiz has done a terrific job explaining what will need to be done if the District enters the Cluster Action Initiative and is required to perform zone testing. More importantly, she did a great job in moving the District forward as it has been very difficult to plan for something that is

still developing. Every day she gets bits and pieces of information on what needs to be done. Our nursing staff will become the front line for the District. As we continue to battle COVID, and with the vaccine coming, I am confident we will continue to move forward.

Mr. Vulpis thanked Ms. Glickman for her years of service in the district and wished her well in retirement. There was an additional retiree this evening not on the agenda that Mr. Vulpis also congratulated. May the road rise to meet you in your future and congratulated them both.

As a retired teacher in the District, Mr. Vulpis received an email from Fran Kohn, also a retired teacher. Even when a teacher retires, they continue to give. Mrs. Kohn is asking all retired teachers to gather up and collect as many gift cards as they possibly can. The gift cards will be donated to the District's students and families who are in need. The lesson continues even after our teachers retire. He thanked Mrs. Kohn and all the retired teachers for their generosity and holiday spirit. He wished everyone a Happy Hanukah, Merry Christmas and thanked everyone for doing what they do.

15. Mr. Vulpis asked for a motion to adjourn. Upon motion made by Peter McNally, seconded by Joseph Kilgus, and passed unanimously, the public meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vitina Fazi  
District Clerk