

EAST ROCKAWAY UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
East Rockaway, New York
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
7:00 P.M., June 16, 2015 – East Rockaway Jr. /Sr. High School
Including Recognition of Scholar Athletic Varsity Teams,
Recognition of Valedictorian Diana Sharkey and Salutatorian Courtney Jackson,
Recognition of Retirees, PTA Installation Ceremony, and a Public Forum

MINUTES

Present: Members of the Board of Education: Kristin Ochtera, Patricia Nicoletti, Neil R. Schloth, John Giannotti, Jr., Keith Gamache, Superintendent, Lisa J. Ruiz; Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations and Deputy District Clerk, James P. Robinson; John Piccarella, Director of Curriculum & Technology; staff members and members of the community

Absent: District Clerk, Denise Lobascio

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by John Giannotti, Jr.

Board President, Kristin Ochtera, turned the meeting over to Superintendent for Presentations

Mr. Vulpis: Athletic Awards

Ms. Ruiz: Introduction of Retirees

Mr. Silk: Thanked retirees, Ms. Treglia and Ms. Gunther

Mr. Spero: Thanked retirees, Ms. Russell, Ms. Sievers and Ms. Zappa

Mr. Spero: Presented the Valedictorian and Salutatorian

Ms. Ruiz: Introduced new PTA Officer Inductees

Thanked Ms. Volino for her efforts in organizing this event

Administered oath of office to PTA Officers

Board President, Kristin Ochtera, announced the Board would commence with the meeting.

2. Upon motion by John Giannotti, Jr., seconded by Patricia Nicoletti, Agenda Items No. 2.1, the Minutes of May 19, 2015; and Agenda Item No. 2.2, the Minutes of May 26, 2015; and Agenda Item No. 2.3, the Minutes of June 9, 2015, were unanimously approved.
3. Acknowledge Receipt of Financial Reports

Board President, Kristin Ochtera, introduced Dr. Colvin.

Dr. Colvin reported on the FEMA Hazards Mitigation Plan for ERHS and Rhame Avenue School.

Dr. Colvin reviewed details of her memo and status of ongoing discussions with FEMA.

Dr. Colvin discussed the need for a Board resolution to move forward.

4. Correspondence – Three

5. Action Agenda

Board President, Kristin Ochtera, turned the floor over to Superintendent Ruiz

A. Personnel

Upon motion by Neil R. Schloth, seconded by John Giannotti, Jr., the following Personnel Items Nos. 5. A.1 through 5.A.11, were unanimously approved:

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept, with regret, the resignation of Virginia (Ginny) Sievers, for the purpose of retirement, from her English teacher position, effective July 1, 2015.
2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept, with regret, the resignation of Maria Treglia, for the purpose of retirement, from her senior stenographer (10-month) secretarial position, effective July 1, 2015.
3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the following resignations:
 - a. Sara Licklider-Perrone, junior high cheerleading coach, effective June 1, 2015.
 - b. Jeanne Paige, part-time speech language teacher, effective June 30, 2015
 - c. Kelli E. Hughes, probationary teaching assistant position, and junior varsity girls soccer coaching position, effective June 30, 2015
 - d. Robert Hennessy, food service helper, seasonal cleaner, effective June 15, 2015
4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve an extension of the child rearing leave of absence for Jennifer Moore from her English teacher position, effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.
5. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following temporary summer assignment, effective July 6, 2015, through August 14, 2015, at the salary approved by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for the 2015-2016 school year:

Nicole Winters, substitute teacher aide

6. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the three-year probationary appointment of Briar Falvo to the position of English teacher, (tenure area: English; certification status: initial), effective September 1, 2015, through August 31, 2018, at the BA, Step Entry annual salary set forth by the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for the 2015-2016 school year.
7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Alexandra M. Mendyk to the position of leave replacement science teacher, effective September 1, 2015, through January 29, 2016, at the prorated BA, Step 1 annual salary set forth by the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for the 2015-2016 school year.
8. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the appointment of Stephen Raimondi to the position of part-time (.7 FTE) social studies teacher, effective September 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016, at the prorated BA, Step 1 annual salary set forth by the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for the 2015-2016 school year; and further approve the appointment of Stephen Raimondi to the position of part-time (.167) teaching assistant, effective September 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016, at the prorated Step 1 annual salary set forth in the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for teaching assistants for the 2015-2016 school year.
9. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the fall coaching assignments more fully set forth on the 2015-2016 Fall Coaching Schedule at the stipended salary set forth in the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for the 2015-2016 school year.
10. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the three-year probationary appointment of Diana Collins to the position of special education teacher, (tenure area: special education; certification status: pending), effective September 1, 2015, through August 31, 2018, at the MA, Step Entry, annual salary set forth in the East Rockaway Teachers Association contract for the 2015-2016 school year.
11. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following temporary assignment(s) at the salary approved by the East Rockaway Board of Education on the Non-Contractual Salary Schedule for substitute workers for the 2014-2015 school year:

- a. Nicole Winters, substitute teacher aide, effective June 17, 2015
[additional staff]

Board President, Kristin Ochtera, asked if there were questions regarding the agenda items before moving forward. – No questions.

B. Other Items

Upon motion by Keith Gamache, seconded by Patricia Nicoletti, the following Other Items Nos. 5.B.1 through 5.B.10, were unanimously approved:

1. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the East Rockaway School District hereby abolishes two (2) positions in the teaching assistant tenure area, effective June 30, 2015. The Superintendent is directed to notify the affected staff members of this action.
2. Approve the Special Education Services Contract with SCO Family of Services, for special education services for one (1) student, Student ID No. 180006250, for the 2015-2016 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.
3. Approve the consultation services contract with Robert L. Jarvis, Ph.D. for professional development for district administrators, “Increasing Our Effectiveness as a District and School Leaders: Leading for Excellence Through Equity” on June 29, 2015, and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the East Rockaway Board of Education.
4. Declare obsolete for the purpose of disposal, the books set forth on the Textbook Removal Form, dated June 16, 2015.
5. Approve the purchase of the following textbook:

Wilson, Dilulio, Bose. American Government, Institutions and Policies, AP edition; Stamford, CT, Cengage Learning, 2015

6. Approve the agreement with Nassau BOCES Department of Regional Schools for the East Rockaway Alternative High School Program (ALPSS) for the 2015-2016 school year 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 following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District approves the following school-sponsored field trip:

TO: Austria, Germany & Switzerland
WHEN: Departing: April 21, 2016; Returning: April 30, 2016
WHO: East Rockaway Jr/Sr High School Students; Adult Chaperons (6:1 traveler)
COST: No cost to the East Rockaway UFSD
TOUR: EF Educational Tours

8. Approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the proposed 2015-2016 budget for school purposes in the total amount of Thirty Seven Million, Nine Hundred Ninety-Four Thousand Eight Hundred Four Dollars (\$37,994,804.00) be adopted, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District authorizes the expenditure of said sum during the ensuing school year, and the necessary taxes upon the taxable property of the school district to meet said expenditures after first deducting the monies available from state aid and other sources.

9. Approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District has heretofore duly established the following reserves:

- a. Capital Reserve for Building Improvements and Repairs II
- b. Capital Reserve for Technology II
- c. Unemployment Insurance Reserve
- d. Employee Benefits Accrued Liability Reserve (EBALR)
- e. Reserve for Employee Retirement System (ERS)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District authorize the Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations to fund the reserves and assign amounts from the unappropriated fund balance as follows:

Transfer To	Amount Not to Exceed
Capital Fund for Building Improvements and Repairs II	\$200,000
Capital Fund for Technology II	\$200,000
Unemployment Insurance Reserve	\$100,000
Employee Benefits Accrued Liability Reserve (EBALR)	\$500,000
Reserve for Employee Retirement System	\$400,000

10. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Education Law section 2034(6)(b), the Board of Education of the East Rockaway Union Free School District orders the opening and the unsealing of the ballot box for the May 20, 2014, Budget Vote and Election and for all previous District meetings and elections and orders the destruction of all ballots contained therein.

C. Budget Transfers - None

Upon motion by John Giannotti, Jr., seconded by Patricia Nicoletti, Agenda Item No 5.D., Approval of CSE Recommendations, was tabled, upon unanimous approval by the Board.

6. Policy Matters

Upon motion by John Giannotti, Jr., seconded by Patricia Nicoletti, the following policies, 1.a. and 1.b., were unanimously adopted.

- a. 5405, Student Wellness
- b. 1500, Public Use of Facilities

7. Good and Welfare – Board President, Kristin Ochtera

- a. Congratulations to Leslie Klein on the birth of her first grandchild, Noah Mason, born June 2, 2015
- b. Condolences to Janet Matthews, retired teacher aide, and family, on the passing of her husband, John Matthews

- c. Condolences to Harriet Palmer, retired senior account clerk, and family, on the passing of her father-in-law, Edmond Palmer

8. Superintendent's Report

Centre Avenue

- Congratulations to Elizabeth Son, Sophia Passanisi, and Lucy Temple for coming in 3rd place out of a 123 teams in the Stock Market Game. Mrs. Healy, our Enterprise teacher, and our students were treated to an awards ceremony and lunch at the Garden City Hotel last Wednesday. The team made \$12,633.43 in 10 weeks! Good going ladies!
- Congratulations to Mark DiLapi a 5th grade student at Centre Avenue in Mrs. Napolitano's class. He has been accepted into the Creative Problem Solving for Gifted and Talented Students at SUNY Old Westbury. Only a small percentage of applicants are accepted into this scholarship program. His official selection is titled "Long Island Young Scholar of Mathematics." I know Mark will represent Centre Avenue School well!
- Centre Avenue School recently celebrated its Reading Partners Program with over 100 participants in attendance. Students and volunteers created reading experiences for students on a weekly basis throughout the year.
- Enterprise students participated in the STEM Junior Solar Sprint at the Cradle of Aviation competition where students build and race their own solar powered cars!
- Centre Avenue select 6th graders attended the Hofstra Leadership Conference with other 6th graders across the county. Topics such as anti-bullying, volunteerism, anti-drug programs, cyber bullying and other topics pertinent to 6th graders were explored by the students.

Rhame Avenue

- The Nassau Zone Outstanding Physical Education Student of the Year Award is presented to one male and one female 6th grade student. CJ Peknic and Carly Kane were this year's recipients and both have demonstrated strengths in the areas of commitment to personal fitness, knowledge of content and exceptional character as role models in this area.
- Students in grades 3-6 at Rhame Avenue School participated in the annual essay contest sponsored by the Lynbrook/East Rockaway Restorative Therapy and Nursing Home. This year's theme was, "Think of three actions you could take to make the world a better place. The winners from Rhame and Centre Avenue were invited to a very special awards banquet on June 2. From Rhame Avenue, the winners from grade 4 were Michael Buzzerio, Kelly O'Connor and Gia Ventucci. Grade 5 winners were Kylie Matthews, Grace Wayar and Sarah Riordan. Grade 6 winners were Lauren Cronin, Robert Welch and Gianna Rizzo. Kelly O'Connor was a grand prize winner of an IPAD!

- Mr. Walter was invited to a very special awards ceremony last Friday evening honoring a group of girls in 6th grade that earned the "Silver Torch" award for Girl Scouts. The Silver Torch award recognizes Cadettes who act as leaders in their school and the community at large. Lauren Cronin, Adriana Pollizzi, Emily Hernandez, Nicole Acampora, Jenna Esposito, Allyson Haggerty, Meghan McMahon, Antonia Prisciandaro, Daniela Prisciandaro and Karolyna Villegas were all presented with this very special award.

ERHS

- The high school held its first ever Senior Awards Night this past Thursday, June 11. Over 60 seniors were in attendance to receive various scholarships and celebrate their success. Over 20 teachers came to present on their behalf. The night was punctuated by many moving tributes to our students. We hope to continue this event for many years to come.
- Diana Sharkey and Courtney Jackson were honored at the annual Superintendents' Valedictorian and Salutatorian breakfast at the Crest Hollow Country Club.
- Laura Millar and Leslie Torres were honored at the Moving Up Ceremony for having the two highest cumulative averages in the 8th grade.
- The annual "Poetry Madness" competition organized by the English Department took place this past April and May. The high school winner was Danielle Boss. The runners up were Courtney Jackson, Diana Sharkey, and Briana Holmes. The middle school winners were Hunter Vertuccio and Emily Ramos (grade 7) and Russell Conevery and Isabella DaCosta (grade 8)

9. Privilege of the Floor

Ms. Lonagan –

Lunch program – will it stay the same?

Dover Catering

Open Campus at high school next year

Board President, Kristin Ochtera, and Superintendent Ruiz provided answers and described the formation of a cafeteria committee.

Board Member Comments

Patricia Nicoletti: Recognized student stars and retirees. Commended all for their hard work. Thanked outgoing and incoming PTA Boards.

Keith Gamache: Congratulations to the retirees and speaking of retirements, I'm sorry I missed last month's meeting. I was attending the retirement party for my principal and East Rockaway resident, Carol Burris. I'd also like to thank the community for continuing to support our schools by passing the budget. Thank you all for being here tonight.

John Giannotti, Jr.: Congratulations and good luck to the retirees and PTA Boards. Congratulations to the Valedictorian and Salutatorian and outstanding students. Thank you to all for coming out to vote. It is a privilege to serve my community for another three years.

Neil R. Schloth: Thank you to all for being at our meeting. Congratulations and thank you to the PTA Boards. Thanks to the district for forming the Strategic Planning Committee. The participation and feedback provided has been very productive and we greatly appreciate the efforts from all those who have participated.

Kristin Ochtera: I like to take this opportunity to thank and commend the Superintendent Ruiz for her hard work this year and wish her the best for the challenges we face and her leadership in helping the district move forward. Thank you to the PTA Boards and how they have advocated for our schools on behalf of our students and community. We greatly appreciate the time you have spent away from your families on behalf of our students. I am extremely proud to have served in the PTA.

10. Upon motion by John Giannotti, Jr., seconded by Neil R. Schloth, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m. to executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

James P. Robinson
Deputy District Clerk

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