

EAST ROCKAWAY UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
East Rockaway, New York
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
7:30 P.M., March 18, 2008 – East Rockaway Jr./Sr. High School
Preceded by a Presentation on New Instructional Spaces and a Public Forum

MINUTES

Present: Members of the Board of Education: Mary Boccuzzi, Marie Girace, Linda Schmidt, Debbie Tufano, Superintendent, Dr. Roseanne Melucci; Director of Finance and Operations, Connie Robinson; District Clerk, Denise Lobascio; staff and members of the community.

Absent: Vicki Alspector

1. The meeting was called to order by Mary Boccuzzi at 8:23 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Marie Girace.

Upon motion by Marie Girace, seconded by Linda Schmidt the following items 2 and 3 were unanimously approved:

2. Approval of Minutes – February 26, 2008
3. Approval of Minutes – March 11, 2008
4. Acknowledge Receipt of Financial Reports for January 2008
5. Correspondence: None
6. Action Agenda

A. Personnel

Upon motion by Debbie Tufano, seconded by Marie Girace, the following items 1 – 10 were unanimously approved:

1. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, correct the effective dates of the following appointments to read: March 1, 2008
William Petry, Junior High Boys Lacrosse coach, effective March 1, 2008
Danielle Dichiara, Junior High Girls Lacrosse coach, effective March 1, 2008
Brian Redash, Junior Varsity Boys Lacrosse coach, effective March 1, 2008
2. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the request of Cheryl Conklin for a child rearing leave of absence from her teacher aide/bus driver position, effective March 4, 2008 through June 30, 2008.
3. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, accept the resignation of Stephanie Guidorizzi, from the position of part-time English teacher for the ALPSS program, effective February 25, 2008.
4. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the appointment of Joseph Whalen to the position of part-time Special Education teacher for the ALPSS program, effective March 1, 2008 through June 30, 2008, at the hourly salary set forth in an agreement with the East Rockaway Teachers' Association for the 2007-2008 school year.
5. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the probationary appointment of Susan Kemmet

to the position of 10-month Senior Clerk Typist, effective March 25, 2008 at the Step 4 annual salary set forth in the East Rockaway Secretaries Association Contract for the 2007-2008 school year, prorated for the period March 25, 2008 through June 30, 2008.

6. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, approve a continuance of a leave of absence for medical reasons for Marie Lyons from her elementary teacher position, effective March 7, 2008 through April 4, 2008.
7. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, approve a continuance of an administrative leave of absence for Susan Glickman from her Step 5 teacher assistant position, effective March 7, 2008 through April 4, 2008, and continue the appointment of Susan Glickman, as the leave replacement elementary teacher, effective March 7 through April 4, 2008, at the MA, Step 3 annual salary set forth in the East Rockaway Teachers Association Contract for the 2007 – 2008, prorated for the period March 7, 2008 through April 4, 2008.
8. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, continue the appointment of Jill Schwartz as the temporary teacher assistant, effective March 7, 2008 through April 4, 2008, at the Step 1 annual salary set forth in the East Rockaway Teachers Association Contract for Teacher Assistants for the 2007 – 2008 school year, prorated for the period March 7, 2008 through April 4, 2008.
9. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, approve the following temporary assignments at the salary approved by the East Rockaway Board of Education:
 - a. Lisa Maldonado, substitute teacher for ALPSS, effective February 4, 2008
 - b. Arianne Millar, substitute clerical, effective March 12, 2008
10. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, accept the resignation of Rosella Vita from her position as monitor, effective March 7, 2008.

B. Other Items:

Upon motion by Linda Schmidt, seconded by Debbie Tufano, the following items 1 – 5 were unanimously approved.

1. Accept a Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollar donation from the Friends of Bridge Foundation presented to Cindy Singer for the East Rockaway Jr./Sr. High School.
2. Accept a donation of weight room equipment from Ken Leistner having a value of Three Hundred Ninety-Four (\$394.00) Dollars presented to Dom Vulpis on behalf of the Athletic Department of East Rockaway Jr./Sr. High School.
3. Approve the contract with Rolling River Day School and Camp for the rental of parking spaces for the 2008 summer camp season and authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract.
4. Approve the 2008 Biennial Review and Amendment of the Shared-Decision Making Plan.
5. Approve the administration of the Bach Harrison Youth Survey for students in grades 7 – 12 during September 2008.

Upon motion by Debbie Tufano, seconded by Marie Girace, the following items C & D were unanimously approved:

C. Approval of CSE Recommendations

D. Approval of CPSE Recommendations

6. Policy Matters for Review – None

7. Superintendent's Report.

1. Bond Update

In February, we had a problem with the univents where a pipe froze and burst. We had the contractor come in and fix it right away. We also found inadequacies in the HS fire alarm. These have also been repaired. Work resumed on the field March 1. Rolls of sod have been delivered as well as the clay for the football and baseball fields. The scoreboard wire was repaired and is now working. We had a walk through of the athletic area and identified what still needed to be done and that is now being worked on.

Our English Department has our students reading some great books, some that you might want to read; To Kill a Mockingbird, Number the Stars, Othello, Romeo & Juliet and Snow Treasure.

Our "It's Academic" team won their last meet against HAFTR and are now going to the finals.

This week is TV turn off week. Rhame Avenue is celebrating with a slumber party. I attended Rock Rivalry on Friday night. The students did an outstanding job and it was very funny.

Rhame Avenue had their Family Fun Night for grades 3 – 6.

Centre Avenue had its annual Dad Breakfast.

Centre Avenue & Rhame Avenue both had their Parent Teacher conferences.

Rhame Avenue PTA sponsored Story Pirates. The children wrote stories and a group will act out the stories that the children wrote.

There was a recent analysis of the school lunch program by New York State and it was found that East Rockaway UFSD is meeting the standards for all students.

At the last meeting, Kristen Ochtera had asked that we find a curriculum connection for the March 1st Sewage Plant rally. We had some Social Studies students attend the rally as well as students from the environmental science class. Dr. Melucci stated that tomorrow night is the county's meeting with the community

regarding information for the Bay Park Recycling Plant. I urge all community members to come tomorrow night at 7:00. I would like to say that when we decided to allow this event it was understood it was for the community. I now understand that other communities were also invited. I called the 4th Precinct to make sure Mr. Tobak's office notified them and they will be around. Once we allow community event we cannot check ID's at the door. East Rockaway residents should get here early if they want seats.

8. Privilege of the Floor

One community member questioned the scheduling conflict with Rock Rivalry and the State Basketball playoffs.

9. Board Member Comments

Marie Girace – I would like to thank the people responsible for the demonstration in the new wing. I am always learning something and I wish I was back in high school. I am very happy to see the space at Rhame Avenue also used well. At Centre Avenue I love the library. I had the privilege to watch Rock Rivalry and it amazes me that for a small town we have such talented students. Their minds, their creativity make Rock Rivalry a wonderful night. It is such a positive experience for the students.

Linda Schmidt – I apologize for missing the presentation, I was at a meeting at Centre

Avenue. I for the first time attended the preview night and it was wonderful. Thank you for coming.

Debbie Tufano – Thank you for the demonstration. It is very nice to see how the rooms are being used from the teachers. I too went to Rock Rivalry, when we pulled in Friday night, the electricity was phenomenal. Friday night was great. The students learn to make things work with people they might not want to work with. Thank you for coming.

Mary Boccuzzi – Vicki & I attended a meeting on March 5 led by Tom Suozzi regarding tax caps. There were people there representing their constituents. Everyone presented what they thought was the best for our taxes. Someone from Dowling College spoke about centralizing the teachers and other ideas. There is much to be said about this and he will present to the

governor. I will keep you informed and I don't know how it is going to pan out. Rock Rivalry, it's unbelievable the talent we have in the district. Learning to work with other people does teach you. It is a number one thing in East Rockaway. At Rhame Ave. all improvements shown on the slides of the demonstration look great, I will come by to see it one day. Thank you Mr. Piccarella for the demonstration tonight.

10. Adjournment – Upon motion by Debbie Tufano, seconded by Linda Schmidt and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Lobascio
District Clerk