

**MINUTES  
ROCKY POINT PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
AUGUST 29, 2016**

Mrs. Sullivan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the Rocky Point High School

Present: Susan Sullivan, President  
Scott Reh, Vice President  
Melissa Brown, Trustee  
Edward Casswell, Trustee  
Michael F. Ring, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools  
Deborah De Luca, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent  
Gregory Hilton, School Business Official  
Susan Wilson, Executive Director for Educational Services  
Patricia Jones, District Clerk

Also Present: Kevin Seaman, Esq.

Absent: Sean Callahan, Trustee

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 6:01 p.m. Edward Casswell made a motion and Melissa Brown seconded to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss ongoing legal matters and confidential personnel matters pertaining to select employees.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:08 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mrs. Sullivan announced that the Board was returning from Executive Session. Mrs. Sullivan invited Dr. Ring to begin with the Superintendent's Report.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Referencing the July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 letter he shared with parents, guardians and staff on the district's website, Dr. Ring updated those in attendance regarding the status of the procedures conducted for assessment and testing of the district's drinking water outlets for possible elevated levels of lead. Dr. Ring invited Mr. Brendan Broderick of the consulting firm, J.C. Broderick & Associates, to address meeting attendees.

Mr. Broderick presented extensive and detailed information pertaining to each outlet sampled. Mr. Broderick advised that there were one-hundred and twenty sampling

locations. Of the one-hundred and twenty locations, only nine locations were reported to show high levels of lead. Mr. Broderick advised that those outlets which exceeded the action level had been removed from service until further investigation, remediation, and/or retesting is completed. He noted that the testing labs are inundated and backlogged due to the magnitude of testing being done throughout the Long Island region, seventy-five districts having been tested by J.C. Broderick alone. Mr. Broderick announced that of those fountains that have been completely tested, each meet all required standards.

Dr. Ring thanked Mr. Broderick for his report.

Dr. Ring announced that all of our schools are ready for opening day. Dr. Ring thanked all who contributed to achieving this goal. Dr. Ring thanked the building and grounds department for its tremendous efforts over the course of the summer months. He also acknowledged the contributions made by chairpersons, administrators, and secretarial staff.

Dr. Ring invited Mrs. Crossan to begin with the principals' reports.

**MRS. SUSANN CROSSAN, PRINCIPAL, ROCKY POINT HIGH SCHOOL**

- Mrs. Crossan shared that she is looking forward to the start of her second year as high school principal and that she is eager to continue working with the students, staff, and community members to follow the newly created mission, i.e., to empower the students to be ready to learn, to be ready for life, and to have the courage to do what is right.
- Mrs. Crossan reported that her staff has been busy this summer preparing the master schedule, organizing room use, and developing teacher supervision assignments. Ms. Crossan thanked Mr. Gabriel and Mr. Tapler for their commitment and hard work during the process.
- Mrs. Crossan also reported that the guidance staff did a wonderful job this summer working on course conflicts and modifying student schedules during schedule change meetings last week. Mrs. Crossan thanked the entire department for its ability to solve conflict issues and for their commitment to our students.
- During the summer one-hundred and eighty-eight high school students participated in the summer ICARE program. Ninety-three students attended test prep and ninety-five students earned credit for required courses in credit recovery. Mrs. Crossan shared her pride and announced that one-hundred and eighteen students passed required Regents exams for graduation. Mrs. Crossan thanked Mr. Jason Rand, the principal of the summer program, and the many dedicated teachers and staff members who worked diligently during these months helping the students achieve these results.
- We also had approximately 63 students complete our summer drivers' education program offered through community programs....so be ready for another group of young drivers joining us on the roads! Registration for the fall driver education program will take place Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the high school main office.

- Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade students were invited to the building to attend the orientation to high school program. Students began the event in the cafeteria with a bagel breakfast funded by the Rocky Point PTA. Mrs. Crossan thanked the PTA for its support of the building and for all it does for the students. Each student received a Rocky Point folder containing a guide to the clubs and activities offered at the high school, information on bullying, and a document entitled “Positive Attitude and Actions Will Make a Difference.” The list of ten tips summarizes important items on which students are asked to focus. The students were introduced to the high school guidance counselors and reviewed graduation requirements. The students were also apprised of the Attendance Policy and the Code of Conduct before having the opportunity to try out their lockers and locate their classrooms according to their individual schedules. Mrs. Crossan advised that the intent of this orientation program is to relieve students of any anxiety that comes with entering a new school. The program helps them to become more familiar with their new surroundings and assists them in making connections with staff members before opening day. Mrs. Crossan stated that she and her faculty and staff would like all freshman to feel welcome and to know they can always come to any teacher, guidance counselor or administrator with questions or concerns.
- Fall sports are underway. Mrs. Crossan thanked the nursing office staff for diligently reviewing required paperwork necessary to clear student-athletes for participation. Mrs. Crossan stressed the importance for the parents of all seniors to be aware that an additional dose of the meningitis vaccine is required for seniors in order for them to attend school. This is mandatory for all seniors and must be documented with the nurse’s office by September 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Mrs. Crossan reported that the building looks great and that she would like to thank members of the custodial staff for their hard work and the extra hours they dedicated to be sure the building would be ready to go for opening day. Mrs. Crossan also made mention of how pleased she was with the new gymnasium floor.
- Mrs. Crossan also thanked the clerical staff at the high school for all they did this summer assisting with the updating of documents, preparation of schedules and the creation of first day materials for staff and students.
- Mrs. Crossan shared that she hoped to see students and parents at Homecoming on September 17<sup>th</sup> and Open School Night on September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

#### **DR. SCOTT O’BRIEN, PRINCIPAL, ROCKY POINT MIDDLE SCHOOL**

- New sixth grade students received their schedules at the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Middle School “Welcome Back Social” that was held on Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup> and featured a barbeque and ice cream. Dr. O’Brien thanked the PTA for sponsoring this event. The students are also able to review their schedules, locate their classrooms, and set-up and organize their lockers. Dr. O’Brien also pointed out the importance of the students being able to practice opening their lockers. Dr. O’Brien reported that guidance counselors were on hand to assist students and parents with any scheduling questions.
- Both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students had the opportunity to visit their classrooms and lockers on Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup>.

- Middle School sports will begin on Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Middle School Open House is scheduled for Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM for all 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- Dr. O'Brien offered his congratulations to the Point Middle School for being named a 2016 Inviting School Award recipient from the International Alliance for Invitational Education (IAIE). The school was noted for the high levels of inviting practices that have been created in the school as demonstrated by the portfolio submission and multiple school visits. The entire school community has been commended for the outstanding learning climate produced for students, parents, staff and community and these efforts have been noted by the committee as resulting in a better school for all stakeholders. Respect, Trust, Care, Optimism and Intentionality are qualities that the awards committee and school assessors found consistently among people and practices at our school. Dr. O'Brien reported that the award will be presented at the IAIE World Conference to be held in Lexington, KY, November 2<sup>nd</sup> through November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Dr. O'Brien shared that everyone is very proud of this recognition and that the students will continue to benefit from the Invitational Education journey begun at the school. Dr. O'Brien extended his congratulations to the entire RPMS community.

**MS. LINDA TOWLEN, PRINCIPAL, JOSEPH A. EDGAR SCHOOL**

- Ms. Towlen thanked the custodial and secretarial staffs for their hard work and dedication in preparing the building and school supplies to start the new school year. Ms. Towlen also thanked the teachers for their efforts in making their rooms ready for the new school year. Ms. Towlen commented that all those at JAE are ready for a great new school year.
- The third grade social was held today. The students and their parents came to the school to see their classrooms and they participated in a scavenger hunt to learn the location of important places in the building. Students were then able to enjoy an icy. Ms. Towlen thanked the PTA for sponsoring this event.
- Students will be greeted by balloons on the first day of school. Third graders will report to the "new" gym to meet their teachers, fourth graders will meet their teachers in the "old" gym and the fifth graders will go directly to their classrooms.
- Open school nights are scheduled for September 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> in grade level order, respectively.

**DR. VIRGINIA KELLY-GIBBONS, PRINCIPAL, FRANK J. CARASITI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

- Kindergarten students and their families will attend the Kindergarten Orientation/Social on August 30<sup>th</sup>. The students will take a bus ride and learn about a typical day in kindergarten. Important health information and pertinent building procedures will be reviewed. The event will culminate with the Kindergarten Social sponsored by the Rocky Point PTA. Dr. Kelly-Gibbons extended her gratitude to the PTA for their continued generosity with the sponsorship of this event.
- Dr. Kelly-Gibbons acknowledged the custodial staff for working tirelessly to make the building sparkle for the first day of school. . Dr. Kelly-Gibbons also

thanked the secretarial staff for all that they did during the summer months to prepare for the incoming and returning students. Dr. Kelly-Gibbons reported that the teachers have been busy setting up their classrooms in preparation for the new school year.

- Spirit Week is scheduled for the week of September 12<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Kelly-Gibbons invited all staff and students to show their school spirit with a different theme each day.
- In a respectful attempt to commemorate the heroes of 9/11, Dr. Kelly-Gibbons reported that staff and students will celebrate the “Heroes in Our Lives.” Ms. Brooks has created a PowerPoint presentation that will be shown by teachers in their classes.
- Students of FJC have once again been invited to march in the Rocky Point Homecoming Parade on September 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Dr. Kelly-Gibbons reported that she is looking forward to welcoming the families of the students during the annual Open Houses on September 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>.

Mrs. Sullivan thanked the principals for their reports.

Mrs. Sullivan opened the floor to questions and/or comments from meeting attendees.

- Noting that the Board would be reviewing and readopting several Board of Education policies at this meeting, Dr. Pinkenburg voiced his disagreement with assigning students detention if they arrived late to school. Dr. Pinkenburg stated that he was of the opinion that detention for lateness is counterproductive and acts as a punishment for students. Mrs. Sullivan advised Dr. Pinkenburg that she respects his opinion and thoughts on this matter but she respectfully disagrees with his perspective. Discussion ensued. Dr. Pinkenburg inquired if tardy students could receive extra-help in lieu of detention. Mrs. Sullivan and Mr. Reh both offered their thoughts on the importance of instilling and enforcing responsible behavior in students and offered several suggestions to help ensure an on-time arrival to school. Mr. Casswell shared with Dr. Pinkenburg the consequence of his son’s first and only lateness to school.

There were no further questions or comments.

Noting that this is the start of a new school year, Mrs. Sullivan took a moment to read the “Reminder Regarding Public Comment” announcement contained on the meeting agenda.

As the agenda item, Surplus Textbooks, is included in the Consent Agenda, Mrs. Sullivan inquired as to where, specifically, the surplus textbooks go. Dr. Ring advised that according to Board of Education Policy, the purchasing agent attempts to find a buyer and/or a facility to which the books might be donated and that many are donated. However, Dr. Ring noted that some books are discarded after being declared surplus by the Board of Education due to there being no interested parties to take certain books. Mr. Reh requested clarification of the procedures in place for surplus/obsolete metals. Dr. Ring responded that the district will attempt to receive payment for scrap metal and,

depending upon market conditions for scrap metal, has been able to receive some value from the surplus items in the past.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The items listed below are presented as part of the Consent Agenda which can be adopted by the Board of Education under a single motion followed by a second and then a formal vote. On the following page the Consent Agenda items are listed in their regular order within a group. Before an actual vote is taken, any Consent Agenda item may be removed by a Board member without a formal motion or second. If this occurs, the indicated resolution will be discussed during its regular order on the agenda and voted on individually.

### **III-XVII CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Upon a motion made by Scott Reh and seconded by Melissa Brown, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education accepts the following agenda items as one item.

- III:** **Minutes** – Special BOE Meeting June 13, 2016; Regular Meeting June 20, 2016; Organizational Meeting/Regular Business Meeting July 14, 2016
- IV:** **Treasurer’s Reports** – June 2016
- V:** **Extra-Classroom Activity Account Treasurer’s Report** – June 2016
- VI:** **Internal Claims Audit Report** – July 2016
- VII:** **Committees on Special Education Schedules** 8-29-16-A and 8-29-16-B as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools, to arrange for appropriate services, as indicated.
- VIII:** **Claims Service Bureau Agreement**
- IX:** **Participation of Cooperative Bid of Nassau County BOCES**
- X:** **Adoption of the Revised and Updated Academic Intervention Plan**
- XI:** **Special Education Contract – Riverview School Summer 2016**
- XII:** **Special Education Contract – Three Village CSD**
- XIII:** **Special Education Contract – Mill Neck Manor School for the Deaf**
- XIV:** **Special Education 2015-2016 Contract – Port Jefferson UFSD**
- XV:** **Surplus Textbooks**
- XVI:** **Surplus Equipment**
- XVII:** **Review, Revision and Re-Adoption of Board of Education Policies (*Second Reading*)**

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

**XVIII            SOCIETY FOR SCIENCE & THE PUBLIC AND BROADCOM  
FOUNDATION – RECOGNITION AWARD – 2015 BROADCOM  
MASTERS**

Upon a motion made by Melissa Brown and seconded by Edward Casswell, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the check for \$1,000.00 from Society for Science & the Public.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Rocky Point Union Free School District hereby approves, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to increase the general fund budget by \$1,000.00 as a result of the check from the Society for Science & the Public.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the following budget code be adjusted to reflect said increase:

A 2110 500 06 0000            \$1,000.00

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

**XIX                DONATION OF MR. COFFEE COFFEEMAKER**

Upon a motion made by Edward Casswell and seconded by Scott Reh, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the donation of a Mr. Coffee Model # BVMC-CIX21GTFWF coffeemaker from Miriam Hernandez, a Rocky Point High School employee, valued at approximately \$15.00.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

Mrs. Sullivan thanked Ms. Hernandez for this donation.

**XX                 ROCKY POINT PTA DONATION FOR INCOMING 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE  
ORIENTATION**

Upon a motion made by Scott Reh and seconded by Melissa Brown, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the \$250.00 donation from the Rocky Point PTA.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Rocky Point Union Free School District hereby approves, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to increase the general fund budget by \$250.00 as a result of the donation from the Rocky Point PTA.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the following budget code be adjusted to reflect said increase:

A 2110 500 03 0000                    \$250.00

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

**XXI                    ROCKY POINT PTA DONATION FOR MAGAZINE  
SUBSCRIPTIONS (FJC)**

Upon a motion made by Melissa Brown and seconded by Edward Casswell, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the \$1,969.62 donation from the Rocky Point PTA, as per the attached.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Rocky Point Union Free School District hereby approves, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to increase the general fund budget by \$1,969.62 as a result of the donation from the Rocky Point PTA.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the following budget code be adjusted to reflect said increase:

A 2110 500 01 0000                    \$1,969.62

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

Mrs. Sullivan extended her gratitude to the PTA for this generous donation.

**XXII                    MOTION TO APPOINT IMPARTIAL HEARING OFFICER**

Upon a motion made by Edward Casswell and seconded by Scott Reh, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education appoints Heidi Reichel from the New York State Education Department’s Impartial Hearing rotational list to serve as the Impartial Hearing Officer in the matter of a demand hearing for a classified student, initiated by the parent of said student on August 3, 2016 and August 23, 2016, respectively.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

**XXIII                    MOTION TO APPOINT IMPARTIAL HEARING OFFICER**

Upon a motion made by Scott Reh and seconded by Melissa Brown, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education appoints Roslyn Roth from the New York State Education



Department's Impartial Hearing rotational list to serve as the Impartial Hearing Officer in the matter of a demand hearing for a classified student, initiated by the parent on August 11, 2016.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

**XXIV            ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBER: SPECIAL  
EDUCATION/PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT  
MEMBER**

Upon a motion made by Melissa Brown and seconded by Edward Casswell, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Jenny Andersson as Parent Member to the Committee on Special Education/Preschool Special Education, in accordance with the Commissioner's Regulations, Part 200, and the provisions of the Education Law, Section 4402.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

**XXV            RECERTIFICATION OF THE ROCKY POINT UFSD ANNUAL  
PERFORMANCE REVIEW PLAN IN COMPLIANCE WITH  
EDUCATION LAW SECTION 3012-C OR 3012-D, 8 N.Y.C.R.R. 30-  
2 AND N.Y.C.R.R. 100.2**

Upon a motion made by Edward Casswell and seconded by Scott Reh, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the Rocky Point Union Free School District hereby recertifies the Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR) Plan in compliance with Education Law Section 3012-c or 3012-d, 8 N.Y.C.R.R. 30-2 and N.Y.C.R.R. 100.2; and authorizes the Board of Education President to sign the recertification form effective July 28, 2016 on behalf of the Board of Education.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

**XXVI (A)      PERSONNEL**

Upon a motion made by Scott Reh and seconded by Melissa Brown, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the attached Personnel changes, as presented, with the exception of lines 26 and 27 of Schedule B – Certified Staff.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

## **XXVI (B) PERSONNEL**

Upon a motion made by Melissa Brown and seconded by Edward Casswell, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts Line Items 26 and 27 of Schedule B – Certified Staff.

Motion defeated 2-2

Those in favor: Melissa Brown and Scott Reh

Those opposed: Edward Casswell and Susan Sullivan

## **XXVII NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Sullivan inquired of the trustees if there was any new business they wished to discuss. There was no new business.

Referencing the walk-through of all of the buildings the trustees participated in earlier today, Mrs. Sullivan, on behalf of the Board of Education, thanked everyone for their contributions in helping to make everything ready for the 2016-2017 school year.

Mrs. Sullivan opened the floor to questions and/or comments from meeting attendees.

- Ms. Connelly thanked the building principals for recognizing the contributions made by members of the School-Related Professional Association. Ms. Connelly also thanked Dr. Ring and Mrs. Sullivan for the time they extended to both herself and SRP Association Vice President, Anne Quartararo, during a scheduled meeting at district office earlier in the day.
- Noting that his son received a summer packet containing Advanced Placement course information late in the summer, Dr. Pinkenburg inquired if going forward this information could be provided to the students at the end of June. Dr. Ring advised that he would have a discussion with administrators and teachers regarding Dr. Pinkenburg's request.

There were no further questions or comments.

## **XXVIII ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion made by Scott Reh and seconded by Melissa Brown, the Board of Education adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Jones  
District Clerk