

**MINUTES**  
**ROCKY POINT PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**November 16, 2020**

Mrs. Sullivan called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. in the auditorium of Rocky Point High School.

Present: Susan Sullivan, President  
Sean Callahan Vice President  
Gregory Amendola, Trustee (Arriving at 5:10 p.m.)  
Edward Casswell Trustee  
Jessica Ward, Trustee  
Scott O'Brien Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools  
Susann Crossan, Assistant Superintendent  
Christopher Van Cott, Assistant Superintendent for Business  
Kelly White, District Clerk

Absent:

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 5:01 p.m. a motion was made by Jessica Ward, and seconded by Ed Casswell, to go into Executive Session in order to discuss negotiations, contractual and legal issues.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. O'Brien announced that Phase 2 began with live streaming on November 9<sup>th</sup> and confirmed that the return to four day in-person learning is scheduled for Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. He thanked Buildings & Grounds, Teachers, Staff and Administration for their hard work. Dr. O'Brien wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mrs. Sullivan opened the floor to questions/comments regarding the agenda.

There were no questions/comments.

**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. The Consent Agenda items are listed below 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-IX CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Upon a motion made by Sean Callahan, and seconded by Jessica Ward, the following resolution was offered:

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

- III: Minutes** – Regular Meeting, October 19, 2020; Special Meeting, November 3, 2020
- IV: Budget Transfer Summary** – October 2020
- V: Treasurer’s Reports** – October 2020
- VI Extra-Classroom Activity Account Treasurer’s Report** – October 2020
- VII: Financials** – October 2020
- VIII: Internal Claims Audit Report** – October 2020
- IX: Committees on Special Education Schedules 11-16-20-A and 11-16-20-B** recommended by the Superintendent of Schools, to arrange for appropriate services, as indicated.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

### **X DONATION OF WALL DECORATION MATERIALS**

Upon a motion made by Jessica Ward, and seconded by Ed Casswell, 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 wall decoration materials from resident, Mrs. Cortney Weisman, valued at approximately \$200.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Mrs. Sullivan thanked Mrs. Weisman for her donation.

### **XI DONATION FROM OHIOPYLE PRINTS, INC.**

Upon a motion made by Ed Casswell and seconded by Gregory Amendola, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approve and accept the donation from Ohioyle Prints. Inc.

**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 \$113.01 as a result of the donation from Ohioyle Prints, Inc.

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

A2110500030000     \$113.01

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

## **XII SURPLUS EQUIPMENT**

Upon a motion made by Gregory Amendola and seconded by Sean Callahan, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves for surplus the following attached lists of equipment.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

## **XIII BID AWARD – 2020/21 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM SED NO. : 58-02-09-02-0-005-037 – MS ELECTRICAL RECONSTRUCTION – SECURITY SYSTEM**

Upon a motion made by Sean Callahan, and seconded by Jessica Ward, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education awards the installation of the Middle School new intrusion alarm system, in conjunction with NYS Contract Award No. 23150 – Intelligent Facility & Security Systems and Solutions, to Digital Provisions, Inc., at a cost of \$61,331.78, as per the attached.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

## **XIV COUNTY OF SUFFOLK STOP ARM CAMERA PROGRAM**

Upon a motion made by Jessica Ward, and seconded by Ed Casswell, the following resolution was offered:

**WHEREAS**, the Rocky Point UFSD intends to participate in the County of Suffolk School Bus Stop Arm Enforcement Program (hereinafter the “Stop Arm Program”);

**WHEREAS**, the Stop Arm Program is authorized under the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law § 1174-a;

**WHEREAS**. Pursuant to NYS VTL §1174-a, in order to participate in the Program, the School District must enter into an agreement with the County;

**WHEREAS**, the Rocky Point UFSD intends to execute the School Bus Stop Arm Enforcement Program Opt-In Agreement and enter into the Stop Arm Program;

**WHEREAS**, the Rocky Point UFSD intends to execute the First Amendment to the Opt-In Agreement and enter into the Stop Arm Program;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Rocky Point UFSD hereby acknowledges and approves the Suffolk County School Bus Stop Arm Enforcement Program Opt-In Agreement and First Amendment made between the County of Suffolk, Rocky Point UFSD, Bus Patrol America LLC, and First Student and agrees to be bound by its terms;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Board of Education hereby authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute said agreements on behalf of the District.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

## **XV VAPING CLASS ACTION**

Upon a motion made by Ed Casswell and seconded by Gregory Amendola, the following resolution was offered:

**WHEREAS**, the Rocky Point Union Free School District agrees to retain the law offices of Napoli Shkolnik PLLC and McGrath Klaus & Associates, LLP (the “Law Firms”) (collectively, “Parties”) as Client’s attorneys in the potential prosecution of a legal claim(s) against manufacturers and distributors of vaping products arising out of the manufacturers’ and distributors’ fraudulent and negligent marketing and distribution of vaping products.

**WHEREAS**, no legal fees and/or related reimbursable expenses would be charged to the District unless a settlement is awarded;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute a retainer agreement with the above referenced firms.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

## **XVI GRANTING OF TOWN OF BROOKHAVEN EXEMPTIONS FOR 2020-21**

Upon a motion made by Gregory Amendola and seconded by Sean Callahan, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education grants any/all of the following exemptions, as per the attached:

RP 467 Partial Exemption for Seniors – (Local options 1, 2 & 3)

RP 459C Limited Income Disability Exemption – (Local options 1, 2 & 3)

RP 458A Alternative Veterans Exemption – (Local options 1, 2, 3 & 4)

RP 458B Cold War Veterans Exemption – (Local options 1, 2 & 3)

RP 466C Fire/Ambulance Workers Exemption – (Local options 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5)

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

## **XVII MODIFICATION TO THE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT**

Upon a motion made by Sean Callahan, and seconded by Jessica Ward, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the First Amended and Restated Employment Agreement, dated November 16, 2020, between the Board of Education of the Rocky Point Union Free School District and Dr. Scott O’Brien, Superintendent of Schools.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

## **XVIII PERSONNEL**

Upon a motion made by Jessica Ward, and seconded by Ed Casswell, 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.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

## **XIX NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Sullivan inquired of the trustees if there was any new business they wished to discuss.

There was no new business.

Once again Mrs. Sullivan invited the meeting attendees for questions/comments.

- Mr. Graf spoke regarding concerns of inappropriate content in a middle school social studies assignment.  
Mrs. Sullivan stated that she would discuss it with Dr. O'Brien.  
  
Mr. Graf also inquired regarding any updated to allowing community access to school fields.  
Dr. O'Brien advised that Mr. Delargy had reached out to the heads of sports clubs that had requested access to the fields. He offered them use of the fields but explained that they must abide by the same guidelines that are required to be used during school.  
Mr. Callahan added that the Board of Education is not willing to break the rules that they are required to follow.
- Ms. Clark inquired if the Board of Education meetings could be live streamed or recorded to allow access for a larger number of community members due to in-person restrictions set by the Governor.  
Mrs. Sullivan stated that they would discuss it.
- Ms. Trentowski expressed her disappointment in the postponement of Phase 2's four days of in-person learning.
- Mr. Lisa spoke regarding the short notice and early release of students at the Frank J. Carasiti school due to COVID-19.  
Mr. Lisa also suggested the use of additional programs on the Chromebooks to allow for more efficient teaching and less independent work for the students.

- Mr. Logue addressed the delay of Phase 2's four days of in-person learning and asked for the cause of the postponement.  
Dr. O'Brien explained that due to the necessity of reallocating cleaning resources due to confirmed COVID-19 cases, they did not have sufficient time to complete the needed preparations. He added that in order to ensure timely completion of the remaining tasks, additional custodial personnel have been hired. Dr. O'Brien also stated that desk shields are already in place in many of the classrooms.  
Mr. Callahan, Ms. Ward and Mr. Amendola added that they understand the desire to return to school and share the same interests, as they too, have children in the Rocky Point School District.
- Ms. Abernethy brought concerns of deteriorating mental health in students as a result of not being in school full time.  
Dr. O'Brien explained that School Counselors and Social Workers are available to assist the students. He added that they have been pushing in to classrooms as well as making virtual appointments to help any students in need. Dr. O'Brien directed any concerns needing to be addressed to be brought to Building or District Administration.

There were no further questions/comments.

## **XX                    ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:43 p.m. a motion was made by Jessica Ward, and seconded by Sean Callahan, to adjourn the meeting.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Mrs. Sullivan wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly White  
District Clerk