

MINUTES
ROCKY POINT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
September 22, 2008

Mr. Sanseverino called the meeting to order at 7:42 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Joseph Sanseverino, President
Margaret Smith, Vice President
Edward Darcey, Trustee
Diane Burke, Trustee
Michael Nofi, Trustee
Carla L. D'Ambrosio Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
Michael F. Ring, Ed.D., Asst. Supt. for Finance/Operations
Patricia Jones, District Clerk

Absent: Sherry J. Alessandro, Ed.D., Assistant Supt. For HR/Administration

Mr. Sanseverino announced that he would open the floor to questions and/or comments from meeting attendees following the presentations to be made in acknowledgement of the accomplishment of Rocky Point students.

- Ms. Susan Sullivan announced that Rocky Point High School senior, Katherine Thalen, was awarded a scholarship to the Alice Hoffman Young Writers Retreat for excellence in creative writing. Ms. Sullivan presented Miss Thalen with a certificate in honor of her outstanding achievement.
- Ms. Elizabeth McCabe recognized the Math Enrichment 2008 Contest Winners. Ms. McCabe presented an overview of each of the awards and noted that the students were previously recognized in June for their individual achievement with a certificate and prize. The following students were honored:

3rd Grade 24 Challenge: Brianna Distler, Christina Ferrara, Nicholas LoCastro.

4th Grade Math League Contest: Jimmy Gohn, Ian Holland, A.J. Friss, Connor Moore, Billy Gutmann.

5th Grade Math League Contest: Muhammad Yazdanie, Cole Sugrue, Lauren McBrearty, Tejas Tope and Michael Volpe.

On behalf of the Board of Education, Mr. Sanseverino extended congratulations to the parents/guardians of each of the honored students. Mr. Sanseverino commented that it was a true pleasure to celebrate the academic achievements of the students honored during the evening's meeting.

- Councilwoman Jane Bonner presented members of the varsity lacrosse team with certificates in honor and recognition of earning the title of New York State Class B Lacrosse Champions. Ms. Bonner commented that the parents and families of the student-athletes deserved a note of appreciation for their consistent support and sacrifice, without which, such achievement would not be possible.

Mr. Sanseverino opened the floor to questions/comments from meeting attendees.

- Ms. Jenny Andersson stated that she was speaking in follow-up to her comments made at the last board meeting concerning the district's philosophy on inclusion. Ms. Andersson provided copies of the NYS Commissioner's regulations to the members of the board for their review. Ms. Andersson commented that she was advocating for her daughter and all students with disabilities.

Mr. Sanseverino thanked Ms. Andersson for her comments and the written materials she provided to the board members.

- Ms. Franco inquired about the current status of the teachers' contract and the particulars of same, including who was responsible for generating the contract. Mr. Sanseverino advised Ms. Franco that the school district attorney and Dr. D'Ambrosio and her staff were involved with contract negotiations with the teachers' union. Ms. Franco asked (a) if the taxpayers would have any input in the final terms of the contract and (b) when the public would be made away of the terms of the contract settlement. Mr. Sanseverino informed Ms. Franco that the terms of the contract would be available to the public once the contract was signed by all parties.

Mr. Sanseverino thanked Ms. Franco for her comments.

There were no further questions or comments.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

William B. Caulfield, Principal, Rocky Point High School:

- Homecoming activities will commence this weekend on Saturday, 9/27/08, at 10:00 AM.
- On September 10th, 2008, a commemorative 9/11 assembly was held in the high school auditorium. Chris Hardej, a 9/11 survivor, was a guest speaker at the assembly and relayed his personal account of his escape from Tower One to a riveted audience of 11th and 12th graders.
- The Memorial Gardens are being reconstructed. Mr. Caulfield expressed his gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Darcey and Mr. Schumacher for all of their contributions and assistance with the project.

Joseph Tanen Centamore, Ed.D., Principal, Rocky Point Middle School:

- Dr. Centamore extended his congratulations to those students and their families being recognized for their achievements at tonight's meeting.
- Dr. Centamore thanked students, faculty and staff for their contributions in achieving a great opening day for the Middle School.
- New sixth graders were welcomed to the Middle School and complimented for their successful transition from the Joseph A. Edgar School. Dr. Centamore thanked Ms. Tvelia and Mr. Crawford for their contributions in this endeavor.
- On Friday, September 19th, more than 150 students and family members attended Astronomy Night. Dr. Centamore thanked the science teachers and building principals for their continued support of Astronomy Night.
- Open House is scheduled for September 23rd at 7 PM.
- The Shared Decision Making Team is working on several new initiatives.
- The former DARE program has been replaced by the Police Smart program.

Carol Tvelia, Principal, Joseph A. Edgar School:

- Ms. Tvelia reported a very successful opening of the Joseph A. Edgar School for the 2008-2009 school year.
- Ms. Tvelia commented upon the extremely successful transition of second grade students from FJC to third grade students at JAE.
- Ms. Tvelia announced that Theatre Three would be presenting a play in October for the JAE students.

Scott O'Brien, Ed.D., Principal, Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School:

- Dr. O'Brien offered his congratulations to the students being recognized at the evening's meeting.
- The FJC Elementary School assembly program will focus around the theme: FJC Celebrates Long Island.
- Open House was held on September 15th for kindergarten, September 16th for first grade and September 17th for second grade. Pre-K open house will take place on Monday, September 29th.
- FJC will participate in the Rocky Point High School homecoming parade on Saturday, September 27th. The theme will be "Must See TV."

Mr. Sanseverino took a moment to introduce and welcome Dr. Michael Ring, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, to the Rocky Point School District and the Rocky Point community.

MINUTES

Upon a motion made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Edward Darcey, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Minutes of the following Board of Education meetings be accepted as presented: **Meeting, August 25, 2008, Meeting, September 15, 2008.**

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

TREASURER'S REPORTS

Upon a motion made by Edward Darcey and seconded by Michael Nofi, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the Treasurer's Report for the month of June 2008 as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

EXTRA-CLASSROOM ACTIVITY ACCOUNT TREASURER REPORT

Upon a motion made by Michael Nofi and seconded by Diane Burke, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the Extra-Classroom Activity Treasurer Report for the month of June 2008 as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke and seconded by Margaret Smith, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the Financial Reports for the month of June 2008 as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

BUDGET TRANSFER SUMMARY – June 2008

Upon a motion made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Edward Darcey, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the June 2008 Budget Transfer Summary as presented.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

YEAR END BUDGET TRANSFERS

Upon a motion made by Edward Darcey and seconded by Michael Nofi, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the year end budget transfers in the total amount of \$2,120,919.00.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

INTERNAL CLAIMS AUDIT REPORT – AUGUST 2008

Upon a motion made by Michael Nofi and seconded by Diane Burke, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts the August 2008 Internal Claims Audit Report.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

2008-2009 TAX LEVY

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke and seconded by Margaret Smith, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOVLED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the tax levy of \$38,934,810 for the 2008-2009 fiscal year be approved.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

AUDIT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Upon a motion made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Edward Darcey, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the members of the 2008-2009 Audit Committee Meeting be sworn in by the District Clerk.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

Mr. Sanseverino explained that each school district is required to have an audit committee and that the 2008-2009 committee would be comprised of the following members: Joseph Sanseverino, Margaret Smith, Michael Nofi, Diane Burke, Edward Darcey, Eugene Johann, Michael Matera and Dolores Conner. The district clerk proceeded with the swearing in of each of the above-named committee members. Dr. D’Ambrosio extended her gratitude to the members for their service.

There were no further comments.

DONATION – MICROSOFT SEARCH AND GIVE

Upon a motion made by Edward Darcey and seconded by Michael Nofi, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves and accepts the donation from Microsoft Search and Give Charity Program:

Microsoft Search and Give Charity Program: \$2.20

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

A21105000300000 \$2.20

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

BUILDING USE WAIVER FEE

Upon a motion made by Michael Nofi and seconded by Diane Burke, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the waiver of the building use fee of \$40.00 per hour for the Rocky Point Fire Department for the event to be held on October 18, 2008.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

SURPLUS BOOKS

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke and seconded by Margaret Smith, 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 items per the attached list.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

Upon a motion made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Edward Darcey, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOVLED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves for surplus the items per the attached list.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

ISLANDERS STREET LEARNING EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

Upon a motion made by Edward Darcey and seconded by Michael Nofi, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the Joseph A. Edgar Intermediate School to participate in the New York Islanders Street Learning Experience Program (I.S.L.E.). Furthermore, the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to execute the required I.S.L.E. Program Indemnification Agreement.

Discussion ensued. Dr. D'Ambrosio announced that members of this organization would attend physical education classes at the Joseph A. Edgar School and provide hockey coaching to the students of JAE.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

SPECIAL EDUCATION AND RELATED SERVICE CONTRACTS

Upon a motion made by Michael Nofi and seconded by Diane Burke, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOVLED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the purchasing agent to enter into contracts for special education and related services as required under applicable Individual Educational

Programs, applicable law, and district policy, from time to time, in accordance with the attached schedule of providers and associated rates.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

STUDENT ACTIVITY CONTRACTS

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke and seconded by Margaret Smith, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the purchasing agent to enter into contracts for services to be provided for events and activities of district sponsored clubs and organizations, as well as those sponsored by the district, in accordance with the attached schedule.

Discussion ensued. Mr. Sanseverino asked Dr. Ring for clarification of this motion. Dr. Ring advised that these contracts included payment for such items as student transportation to school-sponsored events, printing of the yearbook, set materials for school productions and catering hall facilities for school events.

There was no further discussion.

All in favor – 5-0

RESOLUTION TO AMEND ANNUAL APPOINTMENT – AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH PETTY CASH FUNDS

Upon a motion made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Edward Darcey, the following resolution was offered:

Due to the appointment of Dr. Michael Ring, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, the following appointment and resolution made on July 2, 2008 at the Annual Organization Meeting be amended as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Administration be authorized to establish petty cash funds for the 2008-2009 school year as follows:

Business Office – Dr. Michael Ring	\$100.00
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All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RESOLUTION TO AMEND ANNUAL APPOINTMENT – DESIGNATION OF AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES ON CHECKS

Upon a motion made by Edward Darcey and seconded by Michael Nofi, the following resolution was offered:

Due to the appointment of Dr. Michael Ring, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, the following appointment and resolution made on July 2, 2008 at the Annual Organization Meeting be amended as follows:

E IT RESOLVED, that Dr. Michael Ring, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, be authorized to sign checks for the 2008-2009 school year in the absence of Irene Rosener, School District Treasurer.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

COMMITTEES ON SPECIAL EDUCATION/PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Upon a motion made by Michael Nofi and seconded by Diane Burke, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education votes to arrange for appropriate services pursuant to the recommendations of Schedule 09-22-08-A and Schedule 09-22-08- B.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENTS

Upon a motion made by Diane Burke and seconded by Margaret Smith, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the employment agreements of the following people and authorizes Joseph Sanseverino, as President of the Board of Education, to execute same on behalf of the Board of Education: Gregory Hilton, Business Manager and Irene Rosener, District Treasurer.

Mr. Sanseverino explained that these agreements were extensions of contracts of current Rocky Point UFSD employees.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0

PERSONNEL

Upon a motion made by Margaret Smith and seconded by Edward Darcey, 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

Mr. Sanseverino opened the floor to questions and/or comments.

- Ms. Patricia Noto reported that there were several problems concerning school bus “U.” Dr. D’Ambrosio advised Ms. Noto that she had met with representatives of the bus company on Friday, September 19th, 2008. Dr. D’Ambrosio assured Ms. Noto that the problems reported would be both addressed and resolved.
- Mr. Lantz identified himself as a first-time attendee at a Rocky Point UFSD Board of Education meeting. Mr. Lantz inquired about the public’s scope of accessibility to the particular items being discussed at the monthly meetings. Mr.

Sanseverino informed Mr. Lantz that the public agenda for the monthly meetings was posted on the district's website several days prior to the actual meeting. Dr. D'Ambrosio advised Mr. Lantz of his option to FOIL information.

- A meeting attendee asked how residents would be alerted to changes/cancellations to the Homecoming program due to the forecast of inclement weather. Dr. D'Ambrosio suggested that interested community residents view the district's website for up-to-the-minute information concerning the itinerary for Homecoming Weekend.
- Jack Bernard, a senior at Rocky Point High School, inquired about the cancellation of the Homecoming Pep Rally. Mr. Caulfield responded that the high school administrative staff and student government advisors reported that overall student attendance at the homecoming pep rallies was poor. Due to the lack of student participation, the rally was canceled. Mr. Caulfield advised that a review of the present structure of the Pep Rally would be initiated in consideration for next year.

There were no further questions or comments.

At 8:35 PM, a motion was made by Edward Darcey and seconded by Michal Nofi, for the Board of Education to adjourn the meeting.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Jones
District Clerk

