

**MINUTES**  
**ROCKY POINT PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**December 15, 2003**

**Meeting called to Order at 7:32 PM**

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Geraldine Thalen, President  
Michael Matera, Vice-President  
Howard Gimple, Trustee  
Joseph Sanseverino, Trustee  
James J. Gerardi, Superintendent of Schools  
Carla D'Ambrosio, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction  
Stephen Bilyk, Interim School Business Official  
Irene Pedota, District Clerk

Absent: Jane Bonner, Trustee

**Mrs. Thalen opened the meeting to questions or comments from the community:**

- Mrs. Karen Audette took the opportunity to publicly thank Mr. Bonomi for all his work with the Singing Santas. She added that the children who are involved with Singing Santas, especially those who don't have Mr. Bonomi as a teacher during the year, are fortunate to be able to work with Mr. Bonomi and that working with Mr. Bonomi is a gift in and of itself.

There were no further questions or comments.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- **Rocky Point High School** – Mr. William Caulfield:
  - Mr. Caulfield agreed with Ms. Audette that Mr. Bonomi is a terrific person and that the Singing Santas Concert, as well as their visits to nursing homes in the area are always a tremendous success and well-received by the community. The Singing Santas raised over \$3,000.00 for various local charities. This year, there were approximately 170 students from every different background involved, and he congratulated Mr. Bonomi and everyone who worked with him.
  - The High School Brass Ensemble performed at the annual tree lighting on Broadway on December 12, 2003, and the Holiday Concert will be on December 18, 2003 at 7:30 PM.
  - The Guidance Department would like to remind everyone to visit their web page via the Rocky Point Schools Website for up-to-date guidance information.
  - Scheduling for the 2004-2005 school year will begin on January 13, 2004. Every student will receive a copy of the new course selection guide and parents are encouraged to review the guide with their children so that they can make the best possible choices for their schedule. Counselors will meet with students at the end of January to help them with the scheduling process.
  - Mr. Caulfield expressed his best wishes to all for a healthy and happy holiday season.
- **Rocky Point Middle School** – Mr. Leonard Kies:
  - December has been a very busy month at the middle school.
  - There were Terra Nova exams for sixth and seventh grade students at the beginning of the month.

- The middle school dance held on Monday, December 8, 2003, was a huge success.
  - He thanked the PTA for sponsoring the recent book fair and the game show event that students enjoyed today.
  - Part one of their winter concert was held last week and part two will be tomorrow night.
  - Seventh and eighth grade students will enjoy a Singing Santas assembly in the high school auditorium on Friday afternoon.
  - Mr. Kies also wished everyone a happy and healthy holiday season.
- **Joseph A. Edgar School** – Mrs. Carol Tvelia:
    - The winter concert was held last Thursday, December 11, 2003. Over one-third of the children participated in the concert.
    - Students are participating in a toy drive for Suffolk County’s Interface Network.
    - The third grade will see the play *Annie* on Wednesday.
    - Students collected donations of new socks and mittens for needy children that were hung on a “sock and mitten” tree in the library.
    - Last week all of the school supplies that were collected for students in Iraq were shipped.
    - Terra Novas were administered to students in third and fifth grades from December 9 through 12, 2003 and make-ups are scheduled for December 15 & 16, 2003.
    - Mrs. Tvelia also extended her best wishes to everyone for a happy holiday season.
- **Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School** – Mr. Paul Read:
    - First grade students participated in a “Frosty the Snowman” field trip last week.
    - He thanked the PTA for hosting a very successful holiday boutique this past weekend.
    - He thanked the PTA for the baskets that were raffled off to benefit the family of Stephanie Costa, a student from their building who is seriously ill.
    - Second graders had a field trip today to the Airport Playhouse to see *Annie*.
    - Second grade students participated in a holiday letter-writing campaign to soldiers stationed in Iraq.
    - Mr. Read extended his best wishes to everyone for a happy holiday season.

Mrs. Thalen announced that the Board of Education has come to a decision to ask Mr. Gerardi to continue on as Superintendent of Schools for an additional year. It will be announced at next month’s meeting that Mr. Gerardi will return for one more year beyond his current contract. Mrs. Thalen asked if there was any discussion from the board. There was none.

Mrs. Thalen also announced that the board has decided to have a student representative serve on the Board of Education and that they would like to hold an open discussion at the next meeting in January to determine how to select a student.

## MINUTES

Upon a motion made by Michael Matera and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Minutes of the following Board of Education Meeting be accepted as presented: **Regular Meeting, November 24, 2003**. All in favor – Motion carried 4-0.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN COMMITTEE 2003-04**

Upon a motion made by Joseph Sanseverino and seconded by Howard Gimple, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the following members of the 2003-04 Professional Development Plan (PDP) Committee for a two-year term:

**Sherry Alessandro**, Administrative Representative, Director of Personnel  
**Margaret Bonasera**, Teacher Representative, JAE  
**Joseph Centamore**, Administrative Representative, MS Principal  
**Carla D'Ambrosio**, Administrative Representative, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction  
**Howard Gimple**, Representative for Higher Education  
**Barbara Kjaerbye**, Teacher Representative, FJC  
**Steven Lagnena**, Teacher Representative, HS  
**Joseph Settepani**, Teacher Representative, MS  
**Margaret Smith**, PTA Representative  
**Deborah Tonetti**, Teacher Representative, HS  
**Carol Tvelia**, Administrative Representative, JAE Principal  
**Daniel Vedder**, Teacher Representative, FJC

Discussion ensued. Mr. Thalen asked when the meetings were held and whether or not they were open to the public. Mrs. D'Ambrosio replied that the next meeting is scheduled for January 7, 2004 and they are not open to the public. Mr. Matera inquired if Mrs. D'Ambrosio would be the chairperson. Mrs. D'Ambrosio replied that she would act as the chairperson, and the purpose of the committee is to put together the district's goals for professional development of the staff. New forms for observations and annual performance reviews will be created.

All in favor – Motion carried 4-0.

## **DONATION OF A BALDWIN UPRIGHT PIANO**

Upon a motion made by Howard Gimple and seconded by Michael Matera, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the donation of a Baldwin Upright Piano to the Music Department of the Rocky Point School District from Mrs. Macallum a resident of the district. All in favor – Motion carried 4-0.

## **PERSONNEL**

Upon a motion made by Michael Matera and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accept the attached Personnel changes. All in favor – Motion carried 4-0.

**Mrs. Thalen asked if there were any other questions or comments before the board moved to Executive Session:**

There were none.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 7:50 a motion was made by Joseph Sanseverino and seconded by Howard Gimple for the Board of Education to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. All in favor – Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Irene Pedota  
District Clerk

The Board returned to open session at 8:15 PM.

**RESOLUTION FOR EVALUATION OF A CERTAIN EMPLOYEE**

Upon a motion made by Joseph Sanseverino and seconded by Howard Gimple, the following resolution was offered:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, a certain employee made known to the Board of Education has recently exhibited unusual behavior in the discharge of his/her duties as a member of the teaching staff of the Rocky Point Union Free School District;  
and

**WHEREAS**, such behavior has raised issues with respect to this employee's physical condition;

**NOW THEREFORE**, pursuant to Section 913 of the Education Law,

**IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** that this employee is directed to report for an examination to determine his/her physical capacity to perform the duties required of such employee, the same examination to be performed by Dr. Mark Wasserman on or before January 28, 2004 or any adjourned date. All in favor – Motion carried 4-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:17 PM a motion was made by Michael Matera and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino for the Board of Education adjourn the meeting. All in favor – Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

James J. Gerardi  
Superintendent of Schools