

Rockaway Borough Board of Education

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 14, 2023, 7:30 PM

Thomas Jefferson School Cafeteria, 95 East Main Street, Rockaway, NJ 07866

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ROCKAWAY BOROUGH SCHOOLS' MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the Rockaway Borough School District, a caring and diverse community, is to propel the success of each student by creating an environment that fosters self-confidence and encourages creativity through quality instruction and educational opportunities aligned with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

Executive Session: 6:31-7:50 pm

Be it Resolved, that the Board enters into Executive Session (Private) to discuss exempt matters pertaining to: student HIB, personnel, and negotiations with the Rockaway Borough Education Association, the nature of which will be made public only when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

<u>Motion to Enter:</u>	Moved by: Mrs. Walter	Seconded by: Dr. Piombino	Voice Vote: All Ayes
<u>Motion to Adjourn:</u>	Moved by: Dr. Piombino	Seconded by: Mrs. Walter	Voice Vote: All Ayes

1. Call to Order: 7:50 PM

The public portion of this meeting was called to order at 7:50 p.m., by Mr. Tobias, Board President, by reading the following announcement:

"In accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, The Rockaway Borough Board of Education has provided adequate notice of this meeting to the public by having the time, date, and location advertised in The Citizen Newspaper on January 11, 2023; posted on our website and at town hall. Official action will be taken."

2. Board Member Roll Call:

Mr. Brian Riveccio - Present

Elected 2022 to 1st term (3-year seat to Dec. 31, 2025)

Mr. Edward Graf - Present

Appointed October 2022 to fulfill an unexpired term (to Dec. 31, 2023)

Dr. Alexis Piombino - Present

Elected 2021 to 2nd consecutive term (3-year seat to Dec. 31, 2024)

Mrs. Karen Walter, VP - Present

Elected 2021 to 2nd consecutive term (3-year seat to Dec. 31, 2024)

Mr. Jeffrey Tobias, President - Present

Elected 2020 to 2nd consecutive term (3-year seat to Dec. 31, 2023)

Mr. Anthony Grieco, Superintendent - Present

Appointed July 2021 Chief School Administrator & Non-Voting Board Member (CSA/Supt)

Mr. William Stepka, SBA/Board Secretary - Present

Appointed Nov 2017 Business Administrator, Secretary of the Board & Non-Voting Board Member (BA)

Along with 2 staff members, and an HSA Representative.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America was then held.

3. Reports & Updates:

A. Board Committees for 2023: (Chairs in **BOLD**)

1. Curriculum/Special Education: **Mr. Graf & Dr. Piombino**
2. Safety/Security: **Mrs. Walter & Mr. Riveccio**
3. Athletic/Activities: **Mr. Riveccio & Mr. Tobias**
4. Finance/Facilities: **Mr. Graf & Mr. Tobias**
5. Technology: **Mrs. Walter & Mr. Graf**
6. Negotiations (Ad Hoc): **Mrs. Walter & Mr. Tobias (Co-Chairs)**

B. Superintendent's Report: Mr. Grieco

1. District Update: Upcoming Events: P/T Conferences, Winter Wonderland, HSA Meeting
TJ Winter Concert, Basketball Season has started.

C. Board Secretary's/Business Administrator's Report: Mr. Stepka

1. Board Correspondence: *Received (R) or Sent (S) since our last meeting:*
 - A. R: 11/14/23 - Board member Dr. Piombino's resignation. She spoke for a few minutes and thanked her colleagues who, along with her, put their heart and soul into being board members.
Motion to accept, with regret by Mrs. Walter, seconded by Mr. Graf & unanimously approved.
2. Financial Status Updates:
 - A. Review of the Budget Development Calendar
3. Board of Education Election Results: Tuesday, November 7, 2023:
 - A. Petitions filed for 2 three-year seats (Jan 2024 to Dec 2026):
 - Mr. Edward Graf - 735 votes
 - Ms. Jennifer Dahl - 767 votes
 - Write-Ins - 21

D. Administration Monthly Reports:

Submitted by:

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. Lincoln Principal's Report: | <i>Mrs. Skomial</i> |
| 2. Thomas Jefferson Principal's Report: | <i>Mr. Samuels</i> |
| 3. Curr., Inst., and Assessment Director's Report: | <i>Mrs. Argenziano</i> |
| 4. Building & Grounds Supervisor's Report: | <i>Mr. Klein</i> |
| 5. Technology Supervisor's Report: | <i>Mr. Reyes</i> |

E. Other Items for the Good of the Order

Mr. Graf gave a brief report about attending the NJ School Boards' Association Convention. Mr. Riveccio asked about the gym wall pads for Lincoln school, administration answered that they will be ordered in the spring.

F. Review of Agenda Items Recommended for Approval

4. Public Comment No. 1:

1. On agenda items only: There was none at this time.

5. Enrollment & Staffing Report:

Grade Level & School	Students June 30, 2023	Students November 8, 2023	Difference from June 23	Sections (Classes)	Avg. Class Size	Certificated Staff - Teachers	Non-Certificated Staff - Aides & Other
Preschool - Lincoln AM/PM & Full Day	30	25	-5	2	13	1	8
Kindergarten - Lincoln	58	61	+3	3	20	3	3
Grade 1 - Lincoln	67	59	-8	3	20	3	3
Grade 2 - Lincoln	59	69	+10	3	23	3	2
Grade 3 - Lincoln	67	62	-5	3	21	3	2
Other Staff: (Principal 1, Specials 8, Aides 5, PE 1, Guid 1, Nurse 1, Sec 1, Cust 2.5, Caf 7)	-	-	-	-	-	12	15.5
<u>Total Lincoln School:</u>	<u>281</u>	<u>276</u>	<u>-5</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>33.5</u>
Grade 4 - TJ	55	63	+8	3	21	3	-
Grade 5 - TJ	42	57	+15	3	19	3	-
Grade 6 - TJ	61	42	-19	3	14	3	-
Grade 7 - TJ	55	61	+6	3	20	3	-
Grade 8 - TJ	61	56	-5	3	19	3	-
Other Staff: (Principal 1, Specials 16, Aides 9, PE 2, Guid 1, Nurse 1, Sec 2, Cust 2.5, Caf 9)	-	-	-	-	-	21	22.5
<u>Total Thomas Jefferson:</u>	<u>274</u>	<u>279</u>	<u>+5</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>22.5</u>
Shared Staff: (Other Certificated Teachers 4.5, & Part-Time Nurses 2)	-	-	-	-	-	4.5	2
Administrative: (Supt, BA, CIA, CST 1, Sec 4, Maint 2, Bus Drivers 2, Bus Aides 2)	-	-	-	-	-	3	11
Special Ed Out-of-District:	2	3	+1	-	-	-	-
<u>Resident Students:</u>	<u>557</u>	<u>558</u>	<u>+1</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>18.5</u>	-	-
Charter/Choice Schs Out:	2	1	-1	-	-	-	-
Spec. Ed Tuition Incoming:	5	4	-1	-	-	-	-
Total Students (548)/ Staff (137.5) Ratio: 4/1	564	563	-1	-	-	68.5	69

6. Meeting Minutes

- A. Be it resolved to approve and accept the following meeting minutes:
1. October 17, 2023 Regular and Executive Sessions I & II.

7. Finance

- A. Be it resolved to approve the manifest of Payrolls and Bills & Claims List, which is on file in the Business Administrator's Office:
1. Bills, Claims, and Payrolls List: October 18 to November 14, 2023: \$356,606.25
- B. Be it resolved to approve and accept the Budgetary Transfers Report for the month of July.
- C. Be it resolved to approve and accept the Board Secretary's Financial Reports for the month of July.
I hereby certify, pursuant to NJAC 6A:23A2.3(e), that as of July 31, 2023, no budgetary line item has been over-expended in violation of NJAC 6:23-2.11(a). William Stepka, RSBA- Business Administrator/Board Secretary
- D. Be it resolved to approve a contract with "All Shifts," of Newark, NJ, to provide on-site Nurses: RNs, LPNs, and CNAs, as need for the 2023-24 school year, at the following competitive hourly rates: RN: \$70, LPN: \$50, and CNA: \$30. (RN=Registered Nurse, LPN=Licensed Practical Nurse, CNA: Certified Nursing Assistant)

8. Personnel

- A. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the attached list of Staff Member **Professional Development Workshops & Travel Expenditure Requests** that have been deemed related to and within the scope of the employee's current job responsibilities and will enhance the efficient delivery of student instruction and/or furthers the efficient operation of the school district. Reimbursements listed are in accordance with guidelines established by the Dept. of Treasury, BOE Policy, and in accordance with NJAC 6A:23B-1.1., and listed at the end of this agenda.
- B. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept and approve the resignation of **Svitlana Kahuy**, paraprofessional at Lincoln School effective November 17, 2023.
- C. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Joseph Ellis** as a substitute bus "driver" for the 2023-2024 school year at an hourly rate of \$26.00 and as a substitute bus "aide" at an hourly rate of \$15.25, as needed.
- D. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following Extra Curricular advisor for the 2023-2024 school year:

Club / Sport	Advisor	Stipend
Girls Soccer - Assistant Coach	Samantha Mannello	\$937

- E. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to confirm/approve an leave of absence for the following personnel:

Staff #	Location	Position	From	To
#581	Thomas Jefferson School	Teacher	10/31/23 (utilizing 10 sick days)	11/15/23
#104	Lincoln	Crossing Guard/Lunch Aide	10/27/23 (unpaid leave)	1/2/24

- F. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to confirm/approve an UPDATED leave of absence for the following personnel:

Staff #	Location	Position	From	To
#527	Lincoln School	Teacher	10/2/23 (utilizing sick days)	11/3/23

- G. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the internship of **6 Morris County Vocational School Students** at both Lincoln and Thomas Jefferson Schools (the students are part of the Academy for Education and Learning and will be working with staff as part of their work-based learning experience), names of which are on file in the Superintendent's office.

9. Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

- A. Be it resolved to approve the Student Field Trip requests as listed at the end of this agenda.

10. Technology and Buildings & Grounds

- A. Be it resolved to approve and accept the "Annual Facilities Comprehensive Maintenance Plan & M-1 Worksheets" for the 2024-25 school year.
- B. Be it resolved to approve and accept the "Health and Safety Evaluation of School Buildings Checklist" for Lincoln and Thomas Jefferson schools for the 2023-24 school year.

11. Policy

- A.** Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the ***First Reading*** of the following new and/or updated Board Policy and/or Regulation where applicable:

Policy/Regulation	Number	Title	Reason for Update
P	0144	Board Member Orientation and Training	Revised
P	1524	School Leadership Councils	Abolished
P	2270	Religion in the Schools	Revised
P & R	2520	Instructional Supplies	Revised (Mandated)
P	3161	Examination for Cause	Revised
P & R	3212	Attendance	Revised (Mandated)
P	3217	Use of Corporal Punishment	Revised
P	3324	Right to Privacy	Revised
P & R	3432	Sick Leave	Abolished
P	4161	Examination for Cause	Revised
P & R	4212	Attendance	Revised (Mandated)
P	4217	Use of Corporal Punishment	New
P	4327	Right of Privacy	Revised
P & R	4432	Sick Leave	Abolished
P & R	5111	Eligibility of Resident-Nonresident Students	Revised (Mandated)
P & R	5116	Education of Homeless Children and Youths	Revised
P	5305	Health Services Personnel	Revised (Mandated)
P & R	5308	Student Health Records	Revised (Mandated)
P & R	5310	Health Services	Revised (Mandated)
P & R	5460.02	Bridge Year Pilot Program	Abolished (Mandated)
P	6112	Reimbursement of Federal and Other Grant Expenditures	Revised (Mandated)
R	6115.01	Federal Awards-Funds Internal Controls-Allowability of Costs	New (Mandated)
P	6115.04	Federal Funds-Duplication of Benefits	New (Mandated)
P	6311	Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by Federal Grants	Revised (Mandated)
P	6361	Relations With Vendors for Abbott Districts	Abolished
P	7440	School District Security	Revised (Mandated)
P	8500	Food Services	Revised (Mandated)
P	8540	School Nutrition Programs	Abolished (Mandated)
P	8550	Meal Charges/Outstanding Food Service Bill	Abolished (Mandated)
P	9100	Public Relations	Abolished

P	9140	Citizens Advisory Committees	Revised
R	9140	Citizens Advisory Committees	Abolished

- B. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the district Nursing Services Plan for 2023-2024.

12. Consent Agenda

- A. Move and Vote on all Agenda Resolutions & Recommendations in One Motion:

<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>	<u>Moved & Seconded By:</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Mr. Riviuccio:	Seconded	Aye	-	-	-
Mr. Graf:	Moved	Aye	-	-	-
Dr. Piombino:	-	Aye	-	-	-
Mrs. Walter, VP:	-	Aye	-	-	-
Mr. Tobias, President:	-	Aye	-	-	-

All resolutions carried: 5 0 0 0

13. New Business

- A. There was none at this time.

14. Public Comment No. 2 (Agenda & Non-Agenda Items)

- A. There was none at this time.

15. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting:

- A. Tuesday, December 12, 2023

The public portion of the Meeting will begin at 7:30 pm in the Cafeteria of Thomas Jefferson Middle School.

17. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting: 8:15 pm

With no further business before the Board, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Moved by: Mrs. Walter Seconded by: Dr. Piombino Voice Vote: All Ayes

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. William Stepka, RSBA
Secretary of the Board of Education/Business Administrator

Professional Development/Travel Expenditure Requests:

<i>Staff Member</i>	<i>Workshop Title/Dest.</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Reg & Fees</i>	<i>Justification for the Trip</i>
Rebecca Vlachich	IMSE Comprehensive Orton-Gillingham Plus/ Virtual	January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 2024	\$1,500	By participating, I will: Gain knowledge of the Science of Reading and Structured Literacy, Gain knowledge about students with reading difficulties such as dyslexia, Understand how ML students can best learn English.
Marcella Staropoli	VTAOE: Gr. 3-5 Math Intervention Workshop/ Virtual	12/5/23	Free	This workshop includes the process for assessing intervention needs, templates for high leverage concepts and student-friendly activities for intervention for grades 3-5.
Anthony Grieco	Basic K-12 Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management Training (Virtual-Live) Sessions	10/30/23	Free	This comprehensive virtual-live training session is designed to equip district/school BTAM members with the essential skills and knowledge necessary for assessing and managing concerning behaviors and potential threats in the school community.
Leon Samuels	Basic K-12 Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management Training (Virtual-Live) Sessions	11/16/23	Free	This comprehensive virtual-live training session is designed to equip district/school BTAM members with the essential skills and knowledge necessary for assessing and managing concerning behaviors and potential threats in the school community.
Brianna Rigas Jennifer Skomial	Basic K-12 Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management Training (Virtual-Live) Sessions	12/14/23	Free	This comprehensive virtual-live training session is designed to equip district/school BTAM members with the essential skills and knowledge necessary for assessing and managing concerning behaviors and potential threats in the school community.
Joseph Corbo	Strengthen your Math Instruction for ELL/ Online	12/7/23	\$279	To scaffold my math instruction to better support ELLs.

Student Field Trip Requests:

<i>GRADE</i>	<i>TEACHERS</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>TIME: DEPART/ RETURN</i>	<i>DESTINATION</i>	<i># of Pupils</i>	<i># OF ADULTS</i>	<i>COST PP</i>	<i>JUSTIFICATION FOR TRIP</i>
5	Samantha Selikoff	5/15/24	9:00/3:00	Somerset Patriots	61	10	\$16	This is a day focusing on STEM at the ballpark.
8	Daniele Ferrone Amy DeFelice	5/22-24/24	6:30am-8:00pm	Washington, DC	56	8	\$635/pp	Connects to 8th grade US History standards.
Adaptive	Antonia Zangara Samantha Selikoff	1/11/24	9:30/1:00	Life Town/ Livingston, NJ	7	8	Free RBEF Grant \$	The purpose of the field trip is to enrich the adaptive program by visiting this special facility.
MD	Antonia Zangara	11/15/23	10:00/11:00	Shop-Rite, Rockaway	7	5	Free	To enhance our curriculum with real world connections and interdisciplinary math skills as well as foster growth in college and career readiness.
MD	Antonia Zangara	12/6/23	10:00/11:30	Target, Rockaway	10	5	Free	To enhance our curriculum with real world connections and interdisciplinary math skills as well as foster growth in college and career readiness.
MD/APE	Mike Onischuk Lauren Bogart	12/1/23	10:45/1:30	Rockaway Lanes/ M&S II Pizza	8	8	Free	Reward for reaching exercise based warm-up incentive program; having students try a sport in a non-traditional PE setting.

ROCKAWAY BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION**AGENDA****NOVEMBER 14, 2023**

8	Mike Onischuk Lauren Bogart Willies Rzucidlo	3/21/24 Or 3/22/24	8:45/2:30	Wellness/Health Fair	20	3	Free	Articulation with the regional high school district; students will experience a full day of wellness activities.
6-8	Mike Onischuk Lauren Bogart Willie Rzucidlo	4/26/24	8:45/2:20	Morris Hills HS- Jane Jones Fitness Combine	26	3	Free	Articulation with the regional high school district; and so students can showcase their physical fitness test skills.