

Rockaway Borough Board of Education

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 19, 2022, 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 I: 6:40-7:35pm

Be it Resolved, that the Board enters into Executive Session (Private) for the purpose of discussing exempt matters pertaining to: 1) personnel: executive/administrative 21-22 evaluations and employment contracts for the 22-23 school year, 2) personnel: superintendent's evaluation for the 21-22 school year, and 3) negotiation matters; the nature of which will be made public only when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

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

1. Call to Order: 7:35 PM

The public meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m., by Mrs. Christa Smith, 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 19, 2022; posted on our website and at town hall. Official Board actions will be taken."

2. Board Member Roll Call:

Mrs. Linda McGovern - Present

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

Dr. Alexis Piombino, Vice President - Present

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

Mrs. Christa Smith, President - Present

Elected 2019 to 7th consecutive term (3-year seat to Dec. 31, 2022)

Mr. Jeffrey Tobias - Present

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

Mrs. Karen Walter - Present

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

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 2017 District Business Administrator (BA) & Secretary of the Board

**Mr. Stepka Declares: All Board Members Present,
along with two members of the school staff.**

The Pledge of Allegiance was then held . . .

3. Workshop/Regular Session:

A. Administration Monthly Reports -

Submitted by:

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| 1. Lincoln Principal's Report: | Ms. Dachisen |
| 2. Thomas Jefferson Principal's Report: | Mr. Waxman |
| 3. Curr., Inst., and Assessment Director's Report: | Ms. Argenziano |
| 4. Building & Grounds Supervisor's Report: | Mr. Klein |
| 5. Technology Supervisor's Report: | Mr. Reyes |

B. Superintendent's Report - Mr. Grieco, Supt.

1. Monthly District Update Report. ESY going well, 2 new committees: Safety/Security & Scheduling.
2. SSDS (Student Safety System Data)- Reporting Period 1, Reporting Period 2, and Total for 2021-2022. (Motion & second to approve and accept under New Business.
3. Mr. Grieco praised the custodial staff as well as the summer help crews.

C. Business Administrator's & Board Secretary's Report - Mr. Stepka, BA

1. Board Correspondence: Received(R)/Sent(S) since our last meeting:
 - A. None since the last meeting.
2. Financial Status Updates:
 - A. 2021-22 Budget Year: Financials are being closed out.
 - B. 2022-23 Current Budget Year: is moving along within budget parameters.
3. Board of Education Election:
 - A. Board Member Nominating petitions are due on July 25, at 4:00 pm (Monday) in the county clerk's office. We have one (1) seat up for election in November.

D. Other Items for the Good of the Order:

1. Summer Projects Summary: paving, TJ interior shades, maintenance garage update, new TJ blacktop area with 4 basketball hoops, and interior painting in Lincoln school.

E. Review of Agenda Items Recommended for Approval

1. The Board and the Supt & BA reviewed resolutions recommended for approval on the agenda

Motion to adjourn workshop and begin regular meeting: Mrs. Walter moved, seconded by Dr. Piombino, and unanimously carried on voice vote.

4. Public Comment No. 1: Agenda Items ONLY

- A. There was none at this time.

5. Enrollment Report:

Grade Level & School	Students June 30, 2021	Students June 30, 2022	Diff from June 21	Sections (Classes)	Avg. Class Size
Preschool - Lincoln	19	29	+10	2	15
Kindergarten - Lincoln	50	65	+15	3	22
Grade 1 - Lincoln	64	56	-8	3	19
Grade 2 - Lincoln	59	66	+7	3	22
Grade 3 - Lincoln	43	57	+14	3	19
<u>Total Lincoln School:</u>	<u>235</u>	<u>273</u>	<u>+38</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>20</u>
Grade 4 - TJ	58	46	-12	3	15
Grade 5 - TJ	50	59	+9	3	20
Grade 6 - TJ	52	54	+2	3	18
Grade 7 - TJ	52	58	+6	3	19
Grade 8 - TJ	69	53	-16	3	18
<u>Total Thomas Jefferson:</u>	<u>281</u>	<u>270</u>	<u>-11</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>18</u>
Special Ed Out-of-District:	3	3	0	-	-
<u>Resident Students:</u>	<u>519</u>	<u>546</u>	<u>+27</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>19</u>
Charter/Choice Schs Out:	2	1	-1	-	-
Spec. Ed Tuition Incoming:	3	5	+2	-	-
Total Students:	524	552	+28	-	-

6. Meeting Minutes

- A. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, that the following Meeting Minutes be approved and accepted:

1. June 14, 2022: Regular & Executive Sessions I & II.

7. Finance

- A. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the BA, to approve the manifest of Payrolls and Bills & Claims List, which is on file in the Business Administrator's Office:

1. Bills & Claims List: June 15 to June 30: \$1,055,802.46

- B. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the BA, to approve and accept the Budgetary Transfers Report for the month of May.

- C. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the BA, to approve and accept the Board Secretary's Financial Reports for the months of May.

I hereby certify, pursuant to NJAC 6A:23A2.3(e), that as of May 31st, 2022, 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, based on the recommendation of the BA, to approve and accept the Treasurer of School Monies Financial Reports for the month of May.

- E. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the BA, to approve and accept the Budgetary Transfers Report for the month of June.

- F. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the BA, to approve and accept the Board Secretary's Financial Reports for the month of June.

I hereby certify, pursuant to NJAC 6A:23A2.3(e), that as of June 30, 2022, no budgetary line item has been over-expended in violation of NJAC 6:23-2.11(a). William Stepka, RSBA- Business Administrator/Board Secretary

- G. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the BA, to approve and accept the Treasurer of School Monies Financial Reports for the month of June.

8. Referenda Building Projects & Contractors

- A. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendations of the BA & Architect, to **rescind** the following "Progress Payment" to the following contractor from the June 14th meeting:

1. APS Construction, Lincoln School Addition PayAp#:16 \$258,744.56 (\$Remaining: \$58,262.21)

9. 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 upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve employment contracts for the following **Executive & Administrative Staff** members for the 2022-2023 school year. (Their employment was renewed at the May 3rd meeting and these salaries reflect a 3.3% increase over 21-22)

Name	Position	Salary
Milissa Dachisen	Principal of Lincoln School	\$129,011
David Waxman	Principal of Thomas Jefferson School	\$131,145
Michael Klein	Supervisor of Building & Grounds	\$96,413+\$5K
Timothy Yobs	Assistant Supervisor of B&G	\$59,914
Sally Ascoli	Executive Admin. Asst. to Supt.	\$64,725
Dr. Jean-Paul Bonnet	School Physician	\$8,761
Wendy Chandler	A/P Coord./Admin. Asst. to BA	\$54,999
Melissa Nestor	Treasurer of School Monies	\$9,164
Shaun Reyes	Technology Coordinator	\$86,206
Jamie Argenziano	Director of Curr, Inst. & Assessment	\$123,960

- C. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following leave of absence request, related to a physician's certified personal disability (pregnancy) for **Kimberly Hynson**, Grade 4 Science/Social Studies teacher at Thomas Jefferson School.
- Paid Disability Leave of Absence, utilizing 40 earned and banked sick days to begin on or about October 3, 2022, and to end on or about December 1, 2022.
 - Unpaid NJ Family Leave Act for child-rearing purpose to begin December 2, 2022, and run continuously through March 10, 2023.
 - It is Kimberly Hynson's intention to return to her position on March 13, 2023.
- D. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Laura Esposito** as the part-time Thomas Jefferson School ESL teacher effective August 31, 2022, through June 30, 2023. Ms. Esposito will be placed on Guide/Step BA-11 at an annual salary rate of \$68,605 (prorated @ 50% = \$34,303), pending Criminal History background check required by P.L. 1986 c. 116 and Sexual Misconduct/Child Abuse Disclosure required by P.L. 2018 c.5.
- E. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Jennifer Bills** as a paraprofessional at Lincoln School effective August 31, 2022, through June 30, 2023, at an hourly rate of \$15.72, pending Criminal History background check required by P.L. 1986 c. 116 and Sexual Misconduct/Child Abuse Disclosure required by P.L. 2018 c.5.
- F. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to regretfully accept the resignation of **Marie Wallace**, district Vocal Music Teacher, effective August 29, 2022.
- G. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Richard Campbell** as a substitute bus driver effective July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, as needed.
- H. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Denae Huisa**, as a Floating Substitute Teacher for the district, at a daily rate of \$125.00 for in-person school instruction effective August 31, 2022, through June 30, 2023, pending Criminal History background check required by P.L. 1986 c. 116 and Sexual Misconduct/Child Abuse Disclosure required by P.L. 2018 c.5.
- I. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Dawn Montesano**, as a Floating Substitute Teacher for the district, at a daily rate of \$125.00 for in-person school instruction effective August 31, 2022, through June 30, 2023, pending Criminal History background check required by P.L. 1986 c. 116 and Sexual Misconduct/Child Abuse Disclosure required by P.L. 2018 c.5.

- J.** Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Kyrsten Thomas**, as the district Media Specialist, effective August 31, 2022, through June 30, 2023. Ms. Thomas will be placed on Guide/Step MA-10 at an annual salary rate of \$70,700, pending Criminal History background check required by P.L. 1986 c. 116 and Sexual Misconduct/Child Abuse Disclosure required by P.L. 2018 c.5.
- K.** Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to transfer and approve **Jean Swanick**, as a Principal's Secretary (transferred from the "auxiliary secretary") at Thomas Jefferson Middle School, at an annual salary rate of \$48,000, effective July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023.
- L.** Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Diana Pinto**, as a Secretary at Thomas Jefferson Middle School, effective August 4, 2022 through June 30, 2023, at an annual salary rate of \$46,000 (to be pro-rated from start date), pending Criminal History background check required by P.L. 1986 c.116 and Sexual Misconduct/Child Abuse Disclosure required by P.L. 2018 c.5.
- M.** Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Harry Baker**, as a Lunchroom Aide at Thomas Jefferson School, beginning on or about August 31, 2022, through June 30, 2023, at an hourly rate of \$13.43, then, effective January 1, 2023, the hourly rate increases to \$14.00, in accordance with the state minimum hourly rate law. Employment is contingent upon successful completion of the Office of Student Protection background check required by P.L. 1986 C.116 and Sexual Misconduct/Child Abuse Disclosure required by P.L. 2018, C.5.
- N.** Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following summer painters for no more than 40 hours per week effective June 20, 2022.

Sarah Klein - TBD	Ellen Secallus - TBD
Dana Vissers - TBD	

- O.** Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Jennifer Berk** as a substitute nurse at an hourly rate of \$38.91 for all ESY programs on an as-needed basis.
- P.** Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following Extra Curricular advisors for the 2022-23 school year.

Club / Sport	Advisor
Art Club	OPEN
Assistant Director of the Musical	Jenny Barbosa
Athletic Coordinator	Michael Onischuk
Boys Baseball	Michael Onischuk
Boys and Girls Cross Country	OPEN
Boys Basketball	Michael Onischuk
Boys Soccer	Michael Onischuk
Cube Club	Joseph Corbo
Director of Musical/Drama Productions	Helen Love

Girls Basketball	Robert Longo
Girls Soccer	Aileen Schumacher
Girls Softball	Robert Longo
Jazz Band Director	Helen Love
National Junior Honor Society	Cynthia O'Brien & Daniele Ferrone (Shared Stipend)
Newspaper	Samantha Trillo
SGO	Amy DeFelice
Solar Car Advisor	Samantha Selikoff
Talking Sports Club	Samantha Selikoff
Volleyball Club	Michael Leahey & Michael Onischuk (Shared Stipend)
Yearbook	Cynthia O'Brien
8th Grade Class Advisor	Amy DeFelice & Daniele Ferrone (Shared Stipend)
Yoga Club	Aileen Schumacher/Brianna Luongo (Shared Stipend)
Connect Four & Checkers Club	Laura Perniciaro

- Q.** Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Bryanna Dennison**, as the Thomas Jefferson School Counselor, effective August 31, 2022, through June 30, 2023. Ms. Dennison will be placed on Guide/Step MA-4 at an annual salary rate of \$60,285, pending Criminal History background check required by P.L. 1986 c. 116 and Sexual Misconduct/Child Abuse Disclosure required by P.L. 2018 c.5.
- R.** Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Ana Mendez-Avaroma**, as a part-time nurse at an hourly rate of \$34.48, up to 27.5 hours per week, pending Criminal History background check required by P.L. 1986 c. 116.

10. Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

- A.** Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the Student Field Trip requests as listed at the end of this agenda, if any.
- B.** Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve a renewal contract with Michelle Lawton, MA-BCBA, of Lanoka Harbor, NJ, to provide BCBA (Board Certified Behavioral Analyst) level supervision to the PALS, MD, and LLD programs at an hourly rate of \$125.00, not to exceed 650 total hours for the 2022-23 school year in accordance with her proposal dated July 1, 2022.

11. Technology and Buildings & Grounds

A. There is nothing at this time.

12. Policy

A. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept public comment on the Rockaway Borough School District's Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service Pursuant to the Federal American Rescue Plan Act, Section 2001 (i). This plan was previously approved on June 8, 2021, revised/approved on August 31, 2021, and revised/approved again on January 5, 2022. (Public comment will be taken into account during the development revisions/approvals of this plan.)

Move to Open Public Comment by: Dr. Piombino Seconded by: Mrs. Walter Voice Vote: All Ayes

Public Comment: *Please state your name & address for the record, thank you!*

None was offered by those present.

Move to Close Public Comment by: Mrs. Walter Seconded by: Dr. Piombino Voice Vote: All Ayes

13. 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>Yeas</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>Abstentions</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Mrs. McGovern:	-	Yea	-	-	-
Dr. Piombino, VP:	Seconded	Yea	-	-	-
Mr. Tobias:	-	Yea	-	-	-
Mrs. Walter:	Moved	Yea	-	-	-
Mrs. Smith, Prez:	-	Yea	-	-	-

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Mr. Stepka declares all Resolutions & Recommendations are hereby unanimously approved.

14. Old Business

A. There was none at this time.

15. New Business

- A. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the submission of the SSDS (Student Safety Data System) Report for the 2021-2022 school year.
- B. Be it resolved to approve the completion of the evaluation for the Superintendent of Schools, as per NJ Rev Stat § 18A:17-20.3 (2013). The evaluation was discussed in executive session on June 14, 2022, and the evaluation was completed and signed on June 28, 2022.

Items A & B Moved by: Dr. Piombino Seconded by: Mrs. Walter Voice Vote: All Ayes

16. Public Comment No. 2 (Agenda & Other School Business Items to be Heard)

- A. There was none at this time.

17. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting**A. Tuesday, August 30, 2022**

The Public Meeting will begin at 7:30 pm in the Cafeteria of Thomas Jefferson Middle School. (Executive Session begins at 6:30 pm - closed to the public.)

18. Executive Session II: 7:55 – 8:20pm

Be it Resolved, that the Board enter into Executive Session (Private) for the purpose of discussing: negotiations pertaining the BA's employment contract, the nature of which will be made public only when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

THE BOARD ANTICIPATES BEING IN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES.

BOARD ACTION WILL NOT BE TAKEN AFTER THIS SESSION CONCLUDES.

Motion to Enter: Moved by: Dr. Piombino Seconded by: Mrs. Walther Voice Vote: All Ayes

Motion to Adjourn: Moved by: Mrs. McGovern Seconded by: Dr. Piombino Voice Vote: All Ayes

19. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting: 8:20 pm

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 8:20 pm.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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

Student Field Trip Requests: None at this time.

Professional Development/Travel Expenditure Requests: None at this time.