

Rockaway Borough Board of Education

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, May 7, 2024, 7:30 PM

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

Visit us on the Web: www.rockboro.org

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: 6:30-7:30 pm (Closed to the Public)

Be it Resolved, that the Board enters into Executive Session (Private) to discuss exempt matters: 1) Personnel; review and discussions of staff reappointments for 24-25, 2) Student HIB reports, and 3) Negotiations; about collective bargaining contract negotiations with the Rockaway Borough Education Association, the natures of which will be made public only when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

<u>Motion to Enter:</u>	Moved by:	Seconded by:	Voice Vote:
<u>Motion to Adjourn:</u>	Moved by:	Seconded by:	Voice Vote:

1. Call to Order: 7:30 PM

The public meeting will be called to order at approximately 7:30 p.m., by Mr. Graf, 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 17, 2024; posted on our website and at town hall. Official action will be taken."

2. Board Member Roll Call:

Ms. Jennifer Dahl

Elected 2023 to 1st term (3-year seat to Dec. 31, 2026)

Mr. Brian Riviuccio

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

Mr. Jeffrey Tobias

Appointed January 2024 to completed a 3-year unexpired term (to Dec. 31, 2024)

Mrs. Karen Walter, VP

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

Mr. Edward Graf, President

Elected 2023 to 1st term (3-year seat to Dec. 31, 2026)

Mr. Anthony Grieco, Superintendent of Schools

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

Mr. William Stepka, SBA/Board Secretary

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

"Now, please join us for the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America. . ."

3. Reports & Updates:

A. Board Committees for 2024: (Chairs in **BOLD**)

1. Policy/Curriculum/Special Education: **Mr. Graf & Ms. Dahl**
2. Safety/Security: **Mr. Riviuccio & Mrs. Walter**
3. Athletic/Activities: **Mr. Riviuccio & Ms. Dahl (Co-Chairs)**
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: (Recent and Upcoming Events)

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

1. **Board Correspondence:** *Received (R) or Sent (S) since our last meeting:*
 - A. None since our last meeting.
2. **Financial Status Updates:**
 - A. 2023-24 Current Budget Year: Proceeding within budgeted parameters.
 - B. 2024-25 Budget: Public Hearing tonight.

D. Administration Monthly Reports:

- | | <u>Submitted by:</u> |
|--|------------------------|
| 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. Any Other Items/Comments for the Good of the Order

1. Jack Phillips newspaper article.
2. Starbucks Challenge newspaper article (Ms. Isenberg).
3. Board of Education Candidates petitions due 7/29/24 to County Clerk, 2 seats up.

F. Review of Agenda Items Recommended for Approval

4. Public Comment No. 1: Agenda Items ONLY

- A. *Please state your name and address, thank you.*

2024-25 District Budget Presentation & Public Hearing

A. Mr. Grieco and Mr. Stepka will present the 2024-25 School Budget and highlight the educational programs and the impact on the overall residents' tax rate

During the presentation, the public may comment & ask questions once recognized by the presenter.

Whereas, the Rockaway Borough Board of Education is charged by the state constitution of New Jersey with providing a thorough and efficient education for all school-aged and legally eligible children who reside in Rockaway Borough by developing a District Budget for the 2024-25 school year as prescribed by the NJ State Board of Education, State law and Administrative Code, and

Whereas, the Board, Superintendent & Business Administrator, in conjunction with other administrators and district stakeholders, has put forth a responsible and justified budget that addresses the continued updating and enhancement of the educational programs delivered to the students, along with maintaining & upgrading our school buildings - which are major community assets, and

Whereas, this Budget, which has been reviewed and approved by the Executive County Superintendent of Schools and Executive County Business Administrator, has been published in The Citizen local newspaper on Wednesday, May 1, 2024, and posted on the district's website in accordance with the state law, and a Public Budget Hearing has just been held and concluded in accordance with state law where the public, if so desired, commented on the budget, now therefore

Be It Resolved, that the Rockaway Borough Board of Education hereby formally approves and adopts the 2024-25 School Budget in the following amounts:

	General Fund	Special Revenues	Debt Service	Totals
2024-25 Total Appropriations:	\$12,519,525	\$556,714	\$756,675	\$13,832,914
Less: Anticipated Revenues:	\$3,159,523	\$556,714	\$240,148	\$3,956,385
Local Taxes To Be Levied:	\$9,360,002	-0-	\$516,527	\$9,876,529 and

Be it Resolved that the Board of Education includes in the budget the adjustment for increased costs of health benefits in the amount of \$68,640 as the additional funds will be used to pay for the additional increases in health benefits premiums, and

Be it Resolved that the Board of Education includes in the budget the adjustment for enrollment in the amount of \$237,991 the district intends to use these funds to provide goods and services necessary to teach students, and

Be it Resolved to allocate \$125,000 from the district's Surplus account to help fund an out-of-district special education student placement, and

Be it Resolved to withdraw \$30,000 from the district's Maintenance Reserve account to fund budgeted building maintenance needs, and

Be it Resolved that the Board of Education include in the budget a Capital Reserve withdraw in the amount of \$30,660 for the following projects and reimbursement of \$44,017:

1. Thomas Jefferson Blacktop Playground Paving & Sidewalk work: \$18,900
2. Abandoned In-Ground Oil Tank Removal: \$11,760
3. SDA grant assessments reimbursement from FY13 to FY25: \$44,017 (NJAC Title 6A:23A-14.1(8)).

The total cost of these projects is \$30,660 which represents expenditures for construction elements or projects that are in addition to the facilities efficiency standards as determined by the Commissioner as necessary to achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards, and

Be it further Resolved to authorize the Superintendent of School and District Business Administrator/Board Secretary to execute and administer this budget for the 2024-25 school year.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Dahl, Mr. Rivieccio, Mr. Tobias, Mrs. Walter, and Mr. Graf.

5. Enrollment Report:

- A. The same as three weeks ago and will be updated at the June meeting.

6. Meeting Minutes

- A. Be it resolved to approve and accept the following meeting minutes:
1. April 16 Regular Meeting, Executive Session 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: April 17 to May 7, 2023: \$389,932.16

- B. Be it resolved to approve and accept the Budgetary Transfers Report for the months of January, February, March, and April.

- C. Be it resolved to approve and accept the Business Administrator's Financial Reports for the months of January, February, March, and April.

I hereby certify, pursuant to NJAC 6A:23A2.3(e), that as of April 30, 2024, 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 renew the district's participation in the Brown & Brown Public Employer Trust for employee dental coverage for the 2024-25 school year.

- E. Be it resolved to approve the monthly renewal rates for the employee Dental plan (Horizon Dental Option Plan) which reflect a 0% increase, as listed for the 2024-25 school year: Single: \$39.56, 2 Adults: \$87.56, Parent/Child: \$85.64 and Family: \$137.57, this plan serves the majority of district employees.

- F. Be it resolved to approve the monthly renewal rates, which reflect a 0% increase, for the employee Dental plan (Horizon Dental Choice Plan K - Managed Care) as listed for the 2024-25 school year: Single: \$17.34, 2 Adults: \$33.50, Parent/Child: \$43.20 and Family: \$60.62; this plan serves the rest of district employees.

- G. Be it resolved to enter into a Joint Transportation Agreement with the Educational Services Commission of Morris County for public, non-public, and special education pupils for the 2024-25 school year, as needed.

- H. Be it resolved that the Rockaway Board of Education "SFA" (School Food Agency) accepts the bid proposal for the Food Service Management Contract with The Pomptonian, Inc. "FSMC" (Food Service Management Company), of Fairfield, NJ, for the food service operation for 2024-2025 school year (year 1) as follows:

1. FSMC fee:

The FSMC shall receive, in addition to the costs of operation, an administrative/management fee of \$0.2874 per reimbursable meal and meal equivalent to compensate the FSMC for administrative and management costs. This fee shall be billed

monthly as a cost of operation. The SFA guarantees the payment of such costs and fees to the FSMC.

Total meals are calculated by adding reimbursable meal pattern meals served and meal equivalents. The number of reimbursable meals served to the children shall be determined by the actual count. Cash receipts, other than from sales of reimbursable program meals served to the children, shall be divided by \$4.70 to arrive at an equivalent meal count.

The per-meal administrative/management fee of \$0.2383 will be multiplied by the total meals.

2. There is no guaranteed financial performance.

3. Total Estimated Cost of Contract:

Total expenses (costs) include food, labor, supplies, other expenses, and FSMC Management fees. The Total Cost of the Contract is \$248,869.58

8. Personnel

A. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the list of Staff Member **Professional Development Workshops & Travel Expenditure Requests** at the end of this agenda 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 the re-employment of the following **Executive & Administrative Staff** members for the 2024-2025 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Tenured/Non-Tenured</u>
William Stepka	Business Administrator/Board Secretary	Tenured
Leon Samuels	Principal of Thomas Jefferson Middle School	Non-Tenured (T=8/1/27)
Jennifer Skomial	Principal of Lincoln Elementary School	Non-Tenured (T=7/4/27)
Jamie Argenziano	Director of Curr, Inst. & Assessment	Tenured
Dr. Jean-Paul Bonnet	School Physician	Non-Tenured (T=N/E)
Sally Ascoli	Executive Admin. Asst. to Supt.	Tenured
Wendy Chandler	A/P Coord./Admin. Asst. to BA	Tenured
Nadine Morgenland	Payroll/HB/Trans Coord./Admin Asst. to BA	Non-Tenured (T=6/2/25)
Michael Klein	Supervisor of Building & Grounds	Non-Tenured (T=N/E)
Timothy Yobs	Assistant Supervisor of B&G	Non-Tenured (T=N/E)
Shaun Reyes	Technology Coordinator	Non-Tenured (T=N/E)

C. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the re-employment of, which will result in **tenure being granted**, the following **non-tenured certificated teaching staff** members for the 2024-25 school year: (Salary and guide placement will be determined once a new CBA is in effect.)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Tenure Date</u>
Grlca, Jennifer	9/3/2024
Perniciaro, Laura	9/3/2024
Schwarz, Jaclyn	9/3/2024
Tajiddin, Katrina	9/3/2024
Thompson, Allynn	9/3/2024

- D. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the re-employment of the following **non-tenured certificated teaching staff** members for the 2024-25 school year: (Salary and guide placement will be determined once a new CBA is in effect. Tenure dates assume no unpaid leave of absence will be taken, if so, tenure dates are extended equally to the length of any unpaid leave.)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Tenure Date</u>	
Kadus, James	9/3/2025	
Lawton, Alyssa	9/3/2025	
Rigas, Brianna	9/3/2025	25-26 School Year
Mannello, Samantha	9/3/2025	
Staropoli, Marcella	9/3/2025	
<u>Summer, Alyssa</u>	<u>3/30/2026</u>	
Bellafonte, Alyssa	9/2/2026	
Bova, Nicolas	9/2/2026	
Dennison, Bryanna	9/2/2026	26-27 School Year
Esposito, Laura	9/2/2026	
Mikotsky, Lauren	9/2/2026	
Thomas, Kyrsten	9/2/2026	
Beckmann, Marlene	12/21/26	
<u>Rzucidlo, William</u>	<u>3/22/2027</u>	
Duker, Rachael	8/31/2027	27-28 School Year
Carroll, Declan	8/31/2027	

- E. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the re-employment of the following **tenured certificated teaching staff** members for the 2024-25 school year: (Salary and guide placement will be determined once a new CBA is in effect.)

Abrams, Morgan	Blake, Elizabeth	Bogart, Lauren	Capen, Christine	Conway, Courtney
Corbo, Joseph	DeFelice, Amy	DeGrose, Heather	Dobbs, Janet	Doering, Heather
Ferrone, Daniele	Fleming, Monica	Forte, Catherine	Fowler, Kellianne	Gancarcik, Sandy
Hickman, Elizabeth	Holmes, Helena	Hynson, Kimberly	Isenberg, Cecilia	Jacobus, Denise
Jones, Brianna	Jones, Michael	Leahey, Michael	Leslie, Mary	Loneragan, Susanne
Love, Helen	Marsh, Jennifer	Matrisciano, Christine	McCarter, Nicole	McGill, Laurie
Medore, Maryann	O'Brien, Cynthia	Onischuk, Michael	Rich, Sherry	Savercool, Linda
Savini, Christine	Schnurman, Lisbeth	Schumacher, Aileen	Selikoff, Samantha	Ralli, Hailey (Smith)
Stein, Lauren	Tuluca, Mihaela	Vlacich, Rebecca	Yobs, Dorothea	Zangara, Antonia

- F. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the re-employment of the following full-time **custodial staff** members for the 2024-25 school year: (Salary and guide placement will be determined once a new CBA is in effect.)

Duque-Roldan, Maria	Escobar, Albeiro	Sepulveda, Cesar	Sungail, Justin
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- G. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the re-employment of the following full-time **secretarial staff** members for the 2024-25 school year: (Salary and guide placement will be determined once a new CBA is in effect.)

Amato, Nora (T)	Murphy, Kimberly (T)	Swanick, Jean (T)
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- H. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the re-employment of the following part-time district nurses, **Robyn Bezold** and **Ana Mendez-Avarona** for the 2024-2025 school year. Hourly rates will be determined once a new CBA is in effect.
- I. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Patricia Fitzgerald**, as a substitute bus driver for the 2024-2025 school year at an hourly rate of \$28.00.
- J. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Jennifer Berk** as a substitute nurse for the 2024-2025 school year, at an hourly rate of \$34.48.
- K. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Chathuri Galagedara**, an existing paraprofessional, as a substitute bus aide, as needed, at her current hourly rate of \$17.02 per hour, effective May 8 to June 30, 2024.
- L. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Margaret Lenahan**, an existing paraprofessional, as a substitute bus aide, as needed for the 2024-2025 school year.
- M. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Lynne Fomchecnko**, as a full-time 10-month Secretary at Thomas Jefferson Middle School, effective May 1, 2024, through June 30, 2024, at an annual salary rate of \$43,478 (to be prorated from start date). Mrs. Fomchenko has previously completed all required background checks and Sexual Misconduct/Child Abuse Disclosure when first hired.
- N. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Lynne Fomchenko**, as a full-time 10-month Secretary at Thomas Jefferson Middle School, effective August 28, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at an annual salary rate to be determined once a new CBA is in effect. Mrs. Fomchenko has previously completed all required background checks and Sexual Misconduct/Child Abuse Disclosure when first hired.
- O. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following as Seasonal **Summer Help** Custodial staff. They will be employed for no more than 40 hours per week for the summer of 2024 beginning on or about June 17, 2024:

Aiden Kennedy	Tyler Klein	Thomas Lane	Brendan Lenahan
Ellen Secallus	Kassandra Sepulveda	Kevin Simone	

- P. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Shenel Clark** as a substitute crossing guard, as needed, at an hourly rate of \$15.13, effective May 8, 2024, to June 30, 2024, 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.
- Q. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Ken Marsh** as a substitute teacher for the 23/24 school year at a daily rate of \$115.00.

- R. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve/confirm **Maternity/FMLA/Disability/ and Medical Leave of Absence** for the following personnel:

Staff #	Location	Position	From	To/Return date
562	Thomas Jefferson	Teacher	8/28/24 (Utilize Sick days- 8/28/24 -9/6/24) (FMLA- 9/9/24-11/29/24) Will claim benefits under NJ Family Leave Insurance Act	12/2/24
38	Thomas Jefferson	Teacher	5/24/24 (Utilize Sick days- 5/24/24 - 6/14/24)	8/28/24
396	Lincoln	Teacher	8/28/24 (Utilize Sick days- 8/28/24-9/6/24) (FMLA- 9/9/24-11/30/24) (NJFLA- 12/1/24-2/28/25) Will claim benefits under NJ Family Leave Insurance Act	3/1/25

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. There are none at this time.

11. Policy

- A. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept & approve the following Superintendent’s HIB decision(s) in the following instances as numbered:

1. 260774 TJM 02222024-14509407: Founded
2. 260774 TJM 02222024-14605770: Unfounded

12. Consent Agenda

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

Roll Call Vote:	Moved & Seconded By:	Aye	Nay	Abstentions	Absent
Ms. Dahl:					
Mr. Riviuccio:					
Mr. Tobias:					
Mrs. Walter, VP:					
Mr. Graf, President:					

13. New Business/Any Other Items/Comments for the Good of the Order

- A.

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

(Please be respectful of the Board, Administration, Staff, Students, and all other Audience Members in attendance.)

Please state your name and address, thank you.

15. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting

A. Tuesday, June 25, 2024

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

16. Executive Session II

Be it Resolved, that the Board enter into Executive Session (Private) for the purpose of discussing: a negotiation matter, the nature of which will be made public only when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

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

BOARD ACTION MAY BE TAKEN AFTER THIS SESSION CONCLUDES.

Motion to Enter: Moved by: Seconded by: Voice Vote:
Motion to Adjourn: Moved by: Seconded by: Voice Vote:

17. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting:

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

Moved by: Seconded by: Voice Vote:

Student Field Trips/Activity/Events/Fundraisers/etc. Requests:

GRADE	TEACHERS	DATE	TIME: DEPART/ RETURN	DESTINATION	# OF STUDENTS	# OF ADULTS	COST	Bus/Van Included in Cost?	JUSTIFICATION FOR TRIP
8th	Mitofsky	6/5/24 (Thursday)	12:30 PM- 1:00 PM	Rockaway Borough Public Library	5	2	Free	n/a	To have the students explore the public library. They will look up different genres and check out a book.
8th	Mr. Samuels	6/14/24 (Friday)	8:45 AM- 11:00 AM	Morris Hill High School	100	10	Free	\$275	8th Grade Graduation Practice
5th	Officer MacQuesten (Rockaway Borough PD)	6/11/24 (Tuesday)	9:30 AM- 12:30 PM	Rockaway Lanes	56	4	Free	District Drivers	Celebration/completion of the LEAD Program

Professional Development/Travel Expenditure Requests:

STAFF MEMBER	WORKSHOP TITLE/DEST	DATES	REG & FEES	JUSTIFICATION FOR THE TRIP
Mary Leslie Jennifer Grlica Jennifer Skomial	NJCIE Summer Leadership Kean University Union, NJ	6/7/24 (Friday)	Leslie - \$175.00 Grlica - \$175.00 Skomial - Free Mileage (each): \$38.04	The conference will provide the skills and resources needed to develop and sustain inclusive learning communities for all students, as recommended by the CST Director.