

Rockaway Borough Board of Education

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, April 8, 2025, 7:30 PM

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

Visit us on the Web: 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 an Executive Session (Private) to discuss exempt matters pertaining to personnel, the nature of which will be made public only when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

Motion to Enter:

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Voice Vote:

Motion to Adjourn:

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Voice Vote:

1. Call to Order: 7:30 PM

The public portion of this 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 15, 2025, posted on our website and at town hall. Official action will be taken."

2. Board Member Roll Call:

Mrs. Faride Hernandez

Elected 2024 to 1st term (3-year seat to Dec. 31, 2027)

Mrs. Vanessa Dorgilles

Elected 2024 to 1st term (3-year seat to Dec. 31, 2027)

Mr. Brian Riviuccio

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

Ms. Jennifer Dahl, VP

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

Mr. Edward Graf, President

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

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

Board Secretary Pro-Tempore

Be it resolved to appoint Mr. Anthony Grieco as the temporary Board Secretary, from March 18, 2025 through June 30, 2025

Moved:

Seconded:

Voice Vote:

3. Reports & Updates:

A. Board Committees Reports (as needed):

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <u>Strategic Planning:</u> | <i>Ms. Dahl & Mr. Riviuccio</i> |
| 2. <u>Finance/Personnel/Facilities:</u> 3/17 | <i>Mr. Graf & Mrs. Hernandez</i> |
| 3. <u>Curriculum/Special Education:</u> | <i>Ms. Dahl & Mrs. Dorgilles</i> |
| 4. <u>Negotiations with RBAA:</u> 4/8 | <i>Mr. Graf & Ms. Dahl</i> |
| 5. <u>Negotiations with RBEA:</u> 3/27 | <i>Mrs. Dorgilles</i> |
| 6. <u>Athletic/Activities:</u> | <i>Mr. Riviuccio & Mrs. Dorgilles</i> |
| 7. <u>Policy/Safety & Security/Technology/Misc.:</u> | <i>Ad Hoc</i> |

B. Liaison Reports (as needed):

1. NJ School Boards Assoc. - Mr. Riviuccio
2. Morris County School Boards Assoc. - Ms. Dahl
3. Rockaway Borough Council - Mr. Graf
4. Morris County ESC - Ms. Dahl
5. Rockaway Borough HSA - Mr. Graf
6. Rockaway Borough Ed. Found. - Mrs. Hernandez
7. Rockaway Borough Recreation Committee - Mrs. Dorgilles

C. Superintendent’s Report: Mr. Grieco

1. District Update-
2023-2024- NJ School Performance Reports RELEASE

D. Board Secretary’s/Business Administrator’s Report:

1. **Board Correspondence:** *Received (R) or Sent (S) since our last meeting:*
N/A

E. Administration Monthly Reports:

1. Lincoln Principal's Report:
2. Thomas Jefferson Principal's Report:
3. Curr., Inst., and Assessment Director's Report:
4. Building & Grounds Supervisor's Report:
5. Technology Supervisor's Report:

Submitted by:

Mrs. Skomial
Mr. Samuels
Mrs. Argenziano
Mr. Klein
Mr. Reyes

F. Any Other Items/Comments for the Good of the Order

G. Board Review of Agenda Items

4. Public Hearing:

Agenda items only: limited to 3 minutes each. Please state your name & address.
 The President will open the floor for the Board to hear the public and then close the floor.
 Please direct all dialogue to the President. Board replies are not required.

5. Enrollment & Staffing Report:

Grade Level & School	Students June 30, 2024	Students April 1, 2025	Difference from June 30, 2024	Sections (Classes)	Avg. Class Size	Certificated Staff - Teachers	Non-Certificated Staff
Preschool - Lincoln AM/PM & Full Day	29	26	-3	2	13	1	8
Kindergarten - Lincoln	56	68	+12	3	23	3	3
Grade 1 - Lincoln	59	59	0	3	20	3	3
Grade 2 - Lincoln	66	61	-5	3	20	3	2
Grade 3 - Lincoln	59	66	+7	3	22	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
Total Lincoln School:	269	280	+11	14	20	25	33.5
Grade 4 - TJ	62	64	+2	3	21	3	-
Grade 5 - TJ	56	63	+7	3	21	3	-
Grade 6 - TJ	45	63	+18	3	21	3	-
Grade 7 - TJ	63	53	-10	3	17	3	-
Grade 8 - TJ	58	66	+8	3	22	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
Total Thomas Jefferson:	<u>284</u>	<u>309</u>	<u>+25</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>21</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/Reg Ed Out-of-District:	5	8	+3	-	-	-	-
Resident Students:	<u>558</u>	<u>597</u>	<u>+39</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>21</u>	-	-
Charter/Choice Schs Out:	0	0	0	-	-	-	-
Spec. Ed Tuition Incoming:	3	3	0	-	-	-	-
Total Students (593)/ Staff (140) Ratio: 4.25/1	561	600	+39	-	-	66.5	69

6. Meeting Minutes:

- A. Be it resolved to approve and accept the following meeting **Minutes**:
1. March 28, 2025, Special Meeting, and Executive Session
 2. March 18, 2025, Regular Meeting and Executive Sessions 1 and 2

7. Finance:

- A. Be it resolved to approve the manifest of **Payrolls and Bills & Claims List**, which is on file in the Business Office:
1. Bills, Claims, and Payrolls List: March 19 - April 8: \$760,235.67

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., listed below.

Professional Development/Travel Expenditure Requests:

Staff Member	Workshop Title/Dest.	Dates	Reg & Fees	Cost to District	Justification for the Trip
Jennifer Glica	NJCIE Summer Leadership/ Kean University, Union, NJ	6/6/25	\$125 Mileage: \$26.69	ESEA Grant	This conference will provide the skills and resources needed to develop and sustain inclusive learning communities for all students.
Mary Leslie	NJCIE Summer Leadership/ Kean University, Union, NJ	6/6/25	\$125 Mileage: \$26.69	ESEA Grant	This conference will provide the skills and resources needed to develop and sustain inclusive learning communities for all students.
Timothy Yobs Michael Klein	ESCNJ Vendor Expo/ Expo Center, Edison, NJ	5/21/25	Free	Nonet	Training, CEU's safety for schools.

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

Staff #	Location	Position	From	To
654	Thomas Jefferson	Aide	UPDATE: 3/10/25 Requesting additional 3 weeks Unpaid	3/28/25
595	Thomas Jefferson	Aide	4/9/25- utilizing personal days, sick days and unpaid	6/30/25
546	Lincoln School	Counselor	8/26/25 - Utilizing sick days, NJFLA. Will claim NJFLI	12/13/25

- C.** Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Rockaway Borough Board of Education confirms the Administrative Leave with pay for **Employee #484**, effective March 18, 2025.
- D.** Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept and approve the resignation of **Patricia Fitzgerald**, district substitute bus driver, effective March 21, 2025.
- E.** Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept and approve the resignation of **Melody Wolfe**, lunchroom aide, effective April 14, 2025.
- F.** Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept and approve the resignation of **Kaila West**, floating substitute teacher, effective April 21, 2025.
- G.** Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following substitute nurses for the 2024/2025 school year at a per diem rate of \$250.

Mannal Ramadan	Catharina Coccozza
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- H.** Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Shawn Robertson** as a Floating Substitute Teacher at Lincoln School beginning May 5, 2025 through June 17, 2025 at a per diem rate of \$125.

- I. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Kyra Morena** as a substitute teacher for the 2024-2025 school year. Ms. Morena has successfully completed all required background checks.

9. Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment:

- A. Be it resolved to approve the **Student Field Trip/District Events/Miscellaneous** requests as listed below:

Student Field Trip/District Events/Miscellaneous Requests:

GRADE	TEACHERS	DATE	TIME: DEPART/RETURN	DESTINATION	# of Pupils	# of Staff	Cost Per Pupil	Cost to District	JUSTIFICATION FOR TRIP
MD/APE	Onischuk Bogart	4/23/25	10:45 / 1:30	Rockaway Lanes / M&S2 Pizza/ Rockaway, NJ	7	7	Free	Substitute Estimate- \$230.00 Bussing and Fuel Estimate- \$75	Exercise based reward system; offering students a non-traditional setting for physical activities.
5-8	Onischuk	5/28/25	9am - 2pm	Somerset Patriots/ TD Bank Ballpark, Somerset, NJ	75	7	Approx. \$20-\$30	Estimate- \$115.00 Bussing and Fuel Estimate- \$75	End of the year athletic department trip; opportunity for young athletes to see high level play; team bonding experience; it is also STEAM/Education Day.
MD	Zangara	4/28/25	10:45/12:30	Chick, Wings & Things/ Rockaway, NJ	7	7	Free	Bussing and Fuel Estimate- \$75	To enhance our social skills curriculum with real world connections and interdisciplinary math skills as well as foster growth in college and career readiness.

District Events List / Miscellaneous:
N/A

- B. Be it resolved to approve a student tuition contract with the Wharton Board of Education in the amount of \$18,432 to provide regular educational services to student 14476387 for the 2024-25 school year, as per the “McKinney-Vento” law and regulations.
- C. Be it resolved to approve a special education student tuition contract with the Stanhope Board of Education in the amount of \$9,178.48 plus related services of shared aid for \$3,232.31 and counseling services for \$396.50 (grand total: \$12,807.29) plus transportation costs to be determined, effective March 12 to June 30, 2025.

10. Technology and Buildings & Grounds:

- A. N/A

11. Policy

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

1. 289373_TJM_03112025 - Conclusion: Unfounded

- B. Be it resolved to approve the **Second Reading & Adoption** of the following new and/or updated Board Policies(P) and/or Regulations (R), where applicable: (Policy 9163- *Spectator Code of Conduct for Interscholastic Events* was tabled at the 3/18/25 meeting- **First Reading**)

Policy/Reg	Number	Title	Reason for Update
Policy	5111	Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students (M)	Revised
Policy	5512	Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying (M)	Revised
Policy	5533	Student Smoking (M)	Revised
Regulation	5533	Student Smoking	Revised
Policy	5701	Academic Integrity	Revised
Policy	5710	Student Grievance	Revised
Policy	8500	Food Services (M)	Revised
Policy	9320	Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies (M)	Revised
Regulation	9320	Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies (M)	Revised

12. Consent Agenda:

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

Roll Call Vote:	Moved & Seconded By:	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Recuse	Not Present
Mrs. Hernandez						
Mrs. Dorgilles						
Mr. Riviuccio						
Ms. Dahl, VP						
Mr. Graf, President						

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

Public Hearing on Superintendent’s Employment Agreement Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-11.

The Rockaway Board of Education has provided notice of its intent to hold a public hearing and to take action to rescind the Superintendent’s current Employment Agreement and approve a new Agreement, effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2030. This notification was printed in the Board's official newspaper (The Citizen), posted at the Borough of Rockaway Public Schools, and on the District’s Website, on February 26, 2025.

Public Comment

Please state your name & address.

14. Public Hearing: Limited to 3 minutes each.

Please state your name & address.

The President will open the floor for the Board to hear the public and then close the floor.

Please direct all dialogue to the President. Board replies are not required.

15. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting:

A. Tuesday, May 6, 2025

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

16. Executive Session II (if necessary)

Be it Resolved, that the Board enter into Executive Session (Private) for the purpose of discussing _____, 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 ____ MINUTES.

BOARD ACTION _____ BE TAKEN AFTER THIS SESSION CONCLUDES.

17. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting:

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

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Voice Vote: