

Rockaway Borough Board of Education
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

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

Tuesday, October 16, 2018

Workshop Session: 6:30 PM

Executive Session: 7:00 PM

Regular Monthly Business Meeting: 8:00 PM

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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.

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m., by Mrs. Christa Smith, Board President, by reading the following announcement to those present:

"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 place thereof advertised in the Daily Record and The Citizen newspapers, posted our district website, and posted in other public places."

2. Board Member Roll Call

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Four (4): Mrs. Sarah Concannon, Mrs. Colleen Grow, Mrs. Linda McGovern, and Mrs. Christa Smith, Board President.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: One (1): Mr. Jeff Tobias

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Mrs. Phyllis Alpaugh, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. William Stepka, SBA/Secretary of the Board, Mr. Scott Zucker, Board Counsel

OTHERS PRESENT: 11 Members of the Admin., Staff, Parents & Public

The Pledge of Allegiance was then held . . .

3. 6:30 PM: Workshop Session

The Board and Administration reviewed and discussed recommendations for approval listed on the Agenda and any other items brought before it for consideration.

I. **Administration Reports**

- A. Lincoln Principal's Report
- B. TJ Principal's Report
- C. C&I Supervisor's Report
- D. B&G Supervisor's Report
- E. Technology Supervisor's Report

III. **Agenda Items Review/Discussion**

The Superintendent and Business Administrator reviewed certain recommendations and answered questions from the Board.

4. **6:55 PM: Motion to Adjourn the Workshop Session & Enter into Ex. Session**

Be it Resolved, that the Board enter into Executive Session (Private) for the purpose of: 1) conducting a Board Hearing on Rockaway Borough Education Association (RBEA) Grievance #2018-2, 2) to discuss negotiations between the Board and the RBEA, and 3) two HIB Investigation Reports, the nature of which will be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists. At the conclusion of the private portion, the Board will reconvene in public for the Regular Monthly Business Meeting.

Moved By: Mrs. Grow Seconded By: Mrs. Concannon Voice Vote: All Ayes

5. **8:03 PM: Motion to Adjourn Executive Session and Commence the Regular Mtg**

Moved By: Mrs. Grow Seconded By: Mrs. Concannon Voice Vote: All Ayes
An additional 18 people were now in the audience.

6. **October 2, 2018 Building Referendum Questions Outcome (Session #9)**

The Administration provide a brief update regarding the Building & Renovation Projects Referendum held on Tuesday, October 2, 2018:

VOTER TALLY:

Question #1 ***must pass*** in order for #2 and/or #3 to be approved.

#1 ONE Both Schools – new boilers and other infrastructure improvements:

YES: 447 NO: 613 Defeated by 166 votes

#2 TWO Lincoln School – 3 new classrooms & new main office addition:

YES: 371 NO: 674 Defeated by 303 votes

#3 THREE TJ – New Gymnasium:

YES: 322 NO: 722 Defeated by 400 votes

Mrs. Alpaugh, Mr. Stepka and Mr. Somjen (district architect) discussed the Board's alternatives, due to the fact that the infrastructure upgrades (boilers, air conditioning, fire alarms, etc.) in Question 1 are still sorely needed. It was decided to hold a "Post Referendum Resident Feedback" Meeting on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at 7:00 pm to hear feedback from the community before taking any further steps.

7. **Public Comment No. 1 on Agenda Items Only**

There was none at this time.

8. Superintendent's Report

A. Legislative Report – There was none at this time.

B. Special Report --**PARCC Presentation 2017-18**

Be it resolved, to approve and accept the PARCC Presentation and Test Score Results for the 2017-18 School year as presented.

Moved by: Mrs. Concannon Seconded by: Mrs. Grow Voice Vote: All Ayes

9. Business Administrator/Board Secretary's Report

A. Correspondence Received Since Our Last Meeting:

1. 10/15/18: Morris County Clerk; Certified Referendum Results.

10. Meeting Minutes

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

September 18, 2018:

Workshop Session

Executive Session

Regular Monthly Business Meeting

& Ref Public Input #8

11. Finance

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

Bills & Claims List 9/19/18 - 10/16/18: \$249,161.73

B. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator and the School District Auditor, to delay the submission and acceptance of the August 2018 Financial Reports (Budgetary Transfer Report, Board Secretary's Financial Report and the Treasurer of School Monies Report) until the November Regular Board Meeting, to allow for extra time to complete the 2017-18 Comprehensive Annual Financial Audit which will, in turn, be used to confirm, and adjust if necessary, any and all financial records brought into the 2018-19 School Budget Year.

C. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator, to acknowledge a \$1,500 Safety Grant credit to our workers' compensation invoice for the 2018-19 school year, from our insurance carrier; the School Alliance Insurance Fund (SAIF).

12. Personnel

- A. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the attached list of Staff Member Professional Development/Travel Expenditure requests.

- B. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve a paid medical leave of absence request for Joanne Parent, 1st grade teacher at Lincoln school, effective Monday, November 12 and returning on Wednesday, January 2, 2019. She will utilize banked sick days.

- C. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve Madison Dreiss, a Morris Hills High School student, as an intern at Lincoln Elementary to pursue her Gifted and Talented Independent Study. While an intern at Lincoln, Ms. Dreiss will work under the mentorship of Mrs. Nicole McCarter.

- D. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following teachers as facilitators for the Title I Before/After School Instructional/homework help programs as well as the Title III W.I.S.E. (Where Instruction Supports English) program at a rate of \$41.85 per session pending RBEA negotiations:

"Ready Set Go"--Lincoln AM Program	Courtney Hartnett, Nicole McCarter, Aileen Schumacher
"W.I.S.E. Program"	Mihaela Tuluca
"Beyond the Bell"--Lincoln PM Program	Maryann Medore, Dodi Yobs, Heather Moriano
"Beyond the Bell"--TJ PM Program	Heather DenHeyer, Janet Dobbs, Jenna Schreck, Daniele Ferrone, Cindy O'Brien, Monica Fleming

13. Curriculum/Students

- A. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the attached list of Student Field Trip requests.
- B. Be it resolved, to approve the Superintendent’s Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying decision dated September 27, 2018 for incident number TJ 2018-19 01.
- C. Be it resolved, to approve the Superintendent’s Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying decision dated October 12, 2018 for incident number TJ 2018-19 02.
- D. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following staff members to the Lincoln Elementary School Safety/Climate team:

Denise Jacobus	School Nurse
Michael Jones	Physical Education/Health Teacher
Mary Leslie	Preschool Teacher
Sharon Lowry	School Parent
Maryann Medore	2nd Grade Teacher
Diane Rounsaville	District Library/Media Specialist
Susan Tully	Guidance Counselor
Mihaela Tuluca	2nd grade Teacher
Dorothea Yobs	1st grade Teacher
Christine Savini	Special Ed. Teacher
Milissa Dachisen	Lincoln School Principal

- E. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following staff members to the Thomas Jefferson School Safety/Climate team:

Alexa Barbone	Guidance Counselor
Kerri Anne Iapicca	School Parent
Linda Savercool	School Nurse
Laurie McGill	Resource Center Teacher
David Waxman	Thomas Jefferson School Principal

14. Technology/Building & Grounds

- A. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of Business Administrator, to approve and accept the Annual District Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for the 2018-19 school year.

Background: This is an annual report that is required by the Dept of Education to ensure that we are maintaining our buildings the best we can. This proves as expenditure evidence to qualify for SDA grant funding, for up to 40%, for any new equipment and upgrades.

- B. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of Business Administrator, to issue a contract to Tony Sanchez LTD., of Ledgewood, NJ, to furnish and install a "Salt Dogg" Model TGS07 poly tailgate spreader on a district pick-up truck, in the amount of \$1,990, plus labor and custom installation for a total cost of \$3,508.

Rational: To be able to purchase salt in bulk and to have our crew efficiently take care of our parking lots when it snows. We spent over \$3,500 in bagged salt (3 pallets) last winter. This will save us \$.

- C. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of Business Administrator, to issue a contract to CDW-G of Vernon Hills, IL, to furnish 6 APC Smart - UPS (universal power supply back-up batteries) for all network servers, switches, and telephone network in the event of; power loss, brownouts, and power spikes, by utilizing Sourcewell Contract (formerly NJPA) 100614#CDW, in the amount of \$8,337.84 (for \$1,389.64 each).

Rational: The existing backup battery packs are over 5 years old and have reached the end of their guaranteed useful life. We risk losing essential phone services, valuable data, and connectivity settings in the event of an electrical power grid interruption/loss.

- D. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of Business Administrator, to issue a contract to CDW-G of Vernon Hills, IL, to furnish 3 new Smartboards for the TJ art room, TJ library and TJ classroom #112, by utilizing NJ ESC Technology Supplies & Services contract number #ESC NJ18/19-03, in the amount of \$13,200 (\$4,400 each).

Rational: The existing smartboards in these room are not functioning and are over 10 years old (1st generation of Smartboards). Replacement will enhance student instruction.

- E. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of Business Administrator, to issue a contract to Keyboard Consultants, of Fairfield, NJ to furnish all necessary parts and install the 3 new Smartboards for the TJ art room, TJ library and TJ classroom 112, in the amount of \$2,939 (\$979.67 each).

Rational: This company had always installed our Smartboards in previous years, however, we engaged another company to install our new Smartboards over this past summer, at a lesser cost. Unfortunately we were not totally satisfied with their work and they had to return several times to finish the job to our satisfaction. Thus, we recommend returning to this company, based upon the quality of their work with us in the past.

15. Policy

- A. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the newly created district Suicide Intervention Manual.
- B. Be it resolved, to approve the Second reading and adoption of the following updated and/or new policies and regulations:

	Code	Policy/Regulation Title	Reason for Adoption
P	5601	School Clearance Following a Crisis Situation	New

Addendum Items:

1. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve an additional member for the Thomas Jefferson School Safety/Climate Team: Mr. Michael Onischuk, for the 2018-19 school year.
2. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve a Professional Development/Travel Expenditure request for Ms. Samantha Selikoff, Computer Teacher at TJ, to attend the annual workshop for NJTEEA (NJ Technology/Engineering Educators Association), in Wayne, NJ, on Thursday, October 18, to learn how to design a Makerspace teaching station. Registration is FREE & mileage reimbursement will apply.
3. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Business Administrator, to enter into a four (4) year lease agreement with Dell Financial Services, of Round Rock, Texas, for ten (10) Dell Latitude 5490 computer laptops, at an annual cost of \$3,027.15, based upon their quote dated October 15, 2018. Total cost of agreement is \$12,108.60.
 Rational: This will complete our stable of laptops for the staff; have backups, and be available for other extra uses. The outright purchase price is \$11,880.50, but, in keeping with our intent to be able to have new laptops every four years, the finance cost of \$228.10 is worth the cost. This way, they are on the same four-year replacement cycle as our original purchase is.
4. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve a paid medical leave of absence (by utilizing banked sick days) for Ms. Carol Coulther, Resource Room Teacher, for 6 to 8 weeks, beginning on Monday, October 8, and returning on/or about Monday, November 19, 2018, pending medical clearance from her doctor.
5. Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve a paid medical leave of absence (by utilizing banked sick days) for Ms. Jennifer Marsh, Reading Specialists, for 6 to 8 weeks, beginning on Thursday, November 15, and returning on/or about Tuesday, January 2, 2019, pending medical clearance from her doctor.

Consent Agenda: move and vote on entire agenda in one motion:

Motion By: Mrs. Grow		Seconded By: Mrs. Concannon	
<u>Roll Call Vote:</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Mrs. Sarah Concannon	Aye		
Mrs. Colleen Grow	Aye		
Mrs. Linda McGovern	Aye		
Mr. Jeffrey Tobias	Aye		
Mrs. Christa Smith	Aye		

All recommendations unanimously carried.

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

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

Mr. Onischuk, PE Teacher and RBEA Co-President, asked about Elections & EZ Management system.

Mr. Burges, district resident, asked about the specification on the Dell Laptops and building security.

Mrs. Hurley, ESL Teacher and RBEA Co-President, read the following statement to the Board regarding the change of employee health, prescription, and dental benefit insurance carriers implemented by the district as of October 1, 2018:

"Good Evening:

On October 1st the board switched insurance carriers from Horizon in the state plan to Horizon private. This included a prescription carrier change from OPTUMRX to Prime Therapeutics as well as a dental carrier change. The association was told by Mr. Stepka at a public board meeting that we would see substantial savings in our October paychecks. Furthermore, the board gave the association a written letter stating the change in carrier would be equal or better than the state plan.

A good number of our members have contacted Brown and Brown, as they were instructed to. Upon numerous requests Brown and Brown has been unable to rectify issues and members have had to take it upon themselves to resolve these issues.

It has only been 16 days into the new plan and already significant issues have been noted. These issues have caused members to expend additional money as well as been denied services. Additionally prescription medications were denied during post-surgical recovery resulting in pain and agony.

Our previous coverage never denied these services, medications and medical devices.

We have letters from RBEA members that have had some of these issues. Mike is going to read excerpts from these letters.

In the first 16 days we have little confidence that this is equal or better to our previous coverage. There is no substantial savings that our members have noticed in their October 15th paycheck.

"The RBEA is extremely disappointed and frustrated that the board did not do a thorough job to ensure that the coverage we now have is truly equal or better to what we have had before. If your motives were purely financial this comes at the expense of creating pain, aggravation and wasted time for our members. The board needs to look at each one of these issues and has the responsibility to rectify them, you created this mess."

Mr. Onischuk, PE Teacher and RBEA Co-President, then read the following to the Board:

1. In addition to my many calls and appointments I told you about last week I sent papers to brown and brown - pat said that we'd all be expected to pay out of pocket max again until State records with our previous carrier could be confirmed-3-6 weeks ! I also just got home to a letter that my medicine (which I was promised would be approved) was denied. This is unacceptable. I will be calling my doctor tomorrow and then brown and brown again. B&b and horizon assured me that this medicine would be covered . I have now spent three afternoons physically at doctors, two on the phone with them and countless hours gathering paperwork .

2. There is no wellness program with this new insurance. I am now out of \$250.00 each year and if you have a family/employee, spouse program you are out \$500.00. Brown and Brown explained that they contribute towards a gym membership but many of us do not use a gym membership but most of us DO go to the doctor to keep healthy. Definitely not equal.

3. We had a problem filling my husband's prescription. The pharmacy first told us weren't in the system, then said we didn't have prescription coverage. They had to make a few calls to Horizon to finally straighten things out. My husband's medication ended up costing more than it had under the old plan. It took almost two hours for what should have been a routine refill of a very commonly prescribed medication. My younger daughter had an injury. She needed crutches and I was told we needed to purchase them, so I did. The last time she needed crutches, when I have NJ Direct, I never paid out of pocket, and didn't have to drag an injured kid through three stores in the rain looking for them.

4. I still do not have my insurance cards. When I called Brown and Brown over a week ago I explained that I did not receive them. They told me although I filled out the paperwork with my current address, it bounced the card to my old address in the system. I haven't been at that address for 3 years. They said they took care of the issue and I would receive the new cards within the week. I still have not received them. My husband had a procedure on Thursday and needed medication-I had no prescription card-so again I had to call Brown and Brown and get the info the pharmacy needed in order to process the claim. All my own footwork. Then I get to the pharmacy and they tell me only ½ the prescription is covered under my new plan, the rest I will have to pay out of pocket. Never had a problem with the old prescription plan.

5. Since the transition to the new plan, I am paying an additional \$7.86 per paycheck towards health insurance. I have only picked up one of many prescriptions since the transition, and that one prescription costs me an additional money per month.

6. I had surgery Monday October 8. I had a total hip replacement and was in the hospital until Thurs. the 11th. I dropped off my 2 prescriptions for pain meds. that afternoon. The insurance denied them and required prior authorization. The doctor did that immediately. The insurance company then denied the prior authorization and sent it to an appeal process that would take 7-10 days. I called the insurance company and tried to explain that it is a necessary drug and how could they even think to deny it. Prior to my surgery my doctor was able to prescribe one of the same drugs to manage my pain. This new company told me they didn't feel a total hip replacement warranted the medication. It took 5 days from my release from the hospital to get the medication I needed.

7. I've been making phone calls to Brown & Brown, Optum RX, Horizon, and my doctor's office to sort out switching prescriptions. I have already made 4 phone calls to Pat from B&B starting on October 3rd and 2 phone calls to Optum RX and still don't have what I need to fully prove that I met my prescriptions deductible.

17. Old Business

There was none at this time.

18. New Business

There was none at this time.

19. Next Regular Monthly Business Meeting

Tuesday, November 27, 2018:

6:30 pm to 7:30 pm: Workshop

7:30 pm to 8:00 pm: Executive Session

8:00 pm: Regular Monthly Business Meeting

20. Motion to Adjourn: 9:50 PM

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Moved By: Mrs. Concannon Seconded By: Mrs. Grow Voice Vote: All Ayes

Respectfully submitted,

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

Rockaway Borough Board of Education
Professional Development/Travel Expenditure Approval Requests:

NAME	WORKSHOP TITLE & DESTINATION	DATES	FEES/MILEAGE	PURPOSE OF THE TRIP
Dave Waxman Jamie Argenziano Christine Capen Sandy Gancarcik Courtney Hartnett	Pequannock Tech Summit/ Pequannock School District	10/5/18	\$50 \$50 \$50 \$50 FREE & mileage	In line with the implementation of 1:1 initiative and curriculum/instructional needs.
Jacobus, Denise Savercool, Linda	School Emergency Triage Training/ Randolph Middle School	10/8/18	\$125 & mileage \$125 & mileage	Will help school nurses develop skills needed to be an effective leader in mass casualty response in schools.
Cynthia O'Brien Amy DeFelice	How to Teach the Holocaust/NJ Law Center- New Brunswick, NJ	10/12/18	FREE & mileage	The Holocaust is in the 8th grade curriculum and is covered through an interdisciplinary unit with ELA
Jamie Argenziano Cathy Forte	Neuroscience Based Math: The Foundation of STEAM/Palisades Park, NJ	10/2/18	FREE & mileage	Workshop will be held by Nigel Nisbet, Vice President and content creation lead for the Mind Research Institute and ST Math.
Michael Klein	Lunch & Learn with NAETI/ JFK High School, Paterson, NJ	12/3/18	\$25 & mileage	CEFM & CEU
Jamie Argenziano Lauren Stein	Junior Achievement/ Edison, NJ	10/17/18	Free & mileage	We will be using the Junior Achievement program and curriculum in our CID classes.
Linda Savercool	School Emergency Triage Training/Randolph Middle School	10/8/18	\$125 & mileage	For the preventative training for disaster planning, organizing, training, equipping, exercising and evaluating for mass casualty incidents.
Linda Savercool	Suicide Self-Harm/Sheraton Parsippany Hotel	12/12/18	\$199.99 & mileage	Well help with the Crisis Team the district is putting tougher. Will teach Assessment Strategies. Help Implement Risk Assessment.
Nicole McCarter	Students Who Start School Behind/ Fairfield, NJ	12/11/18	\$259.00 & mileage	To gain practical strategies to accelerate academic success for students who come to pre-k and kindergarten lacking readiness and language skills.
Michael Klein Timothy Yobs	Mid Atlantic Buildings & Facilities Mant. Conference/ Edison, NJ	11/14/18	Free & mileage	Classes to improve costs on building operations, safety & security.
Christine Matriciano	Motor, Posture & Cog., Dev. Parsippany, NJ	11/27/18	\$219 & mileage	To improve treatment techniques & strategies to increase student learning.

Student Field Trip Approval Requests:

GRADE	TEACHERS	DATE	TIME DEPART/ RETURN	DESTINATION	# OF STUDENTS	# OF ADULTS	COST PER STUDENT	REASON FOR TRIP
MD	Zangara/ Smith	10/22/18	9:00 am 1:00 pm	Ort Farm/Long Valley	13	8	\$10.	To enhance our curriculum with real world connections and interdisciplinary, math skills as well as foster growth in college and career readiness.
8 th	O'Brien/ Ferrone	10/31/18	9:00 am 1:30 pm	Pax Amicus Theatre/ Budd Lake	70	7	\$16.	To watch a live performance of literature being studied.
4 th	Rich/Fowler /Blackadar	4/1/19	9:00 am 11:30 am	Mayo Performing Arts Center/ Morristown	51	7	\$17.	To support our Reader's Workshop fiction unit, specifically traditional literature, which includes fables.
7/8 th grade chorus	Kopetz	10/23/18	8:45 am 2:00 pm	Morris Hills High School	23	1	\$0.	A day for middle school students to learn about the vocal music programs at Morris Hills & Morris Knolls. They will sing, rehearse and perform in a concert.
MD	Zangara	11/12/18	10:30 am 11:30 am	Shop-Rite	8	4	\$	To enhance our curriculum with real world connections and interdisciplinary math skills as well as foster growth in college and career readiness.