

ROMULUS CENTRAL SCHOOL
ROMULUS, NY 14541
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024
5:30 PM BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
6:30 PM-BOARD OF EDUCATION CONFERENCE ROOM

PRESENT: Rachelle Bateman-President, Tenneille Brewer-Vice President, Erik Karlsen, Alicia Rath, Thomas Wilson, and Kimberly Wolverton

OTHERS PRESENT: Suzanne Nicholson-District Clerk, Marty Rotz-Superintendent, Edward Ninestine-School District Treasurer, Jennifer Bartlett-Prati-Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Christopher Puylara-Principal, Erika Parisian-MSST Coordinator, Michael Pane-Athletic Director/Dean of Students, Jennifer Salone, Joe Sapio, Joe Pysnack, Bruce Maybury, Tracy Maybury, Cindy Lorenzetti, Vickie Shields, Lisa Racano, Henry Hartman, Shannon Corcoran, RoseMarie Whitley, Maggie McMillan, Audree Galipeau and Marina Rokusa

ABSENT: Beth Bulkley

1. OPENING AND MINUTES

1.1 Call to Order at 6:35pm by President Bateman

1.1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

VARIOUS PUBLIC COMMENTS GIVEN

1.1. 2 Public Comments-Heard from the following people based on previous correspondence from Jennifer Salone to each of the BOE members regarding a personal attack on her character. Ms. Salone addressed the board to express her concerns and dismay of how the complaint from another parent was handled. She feels that she is being targeted because she brings her concerns to the District. Mr. Joe Sapio spoke on behalf of Ms. Salone in support of her dedication to the students and community and voiced his concerns on how things were handled. He also feels that they both are being retaliated for bringing other concerns earlier to the BOE. Mr. Joe Pysnack then addressed the BOE regarding how Ms. Salone is an asset to the Boys' Basketball program. He also expressed his support for her. Mrs. Cindy Lorenzetti addressed the board with her concerns of the negativity throughout the Romulus Community. She is a longtime resident and alumni. She hopes that something can be done to make changes to this current perception. She also voiced her disagreement with the School Board's procedure in completing a form prior to addressing the Board. President Bateman thanked them all for their comments. Ms. Salone requested that she be invited into an executive session to further discuss the details of this issue.

1.1.3 Board of Education Members

1.2 Resolution to Approve Minutes

1.2.1 Approved the Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting of December 12, 2023.

Moved: Mrs. Brewer Seconded: Mr. Karlsen

Approved unanimously 6/0.

1.3 Resolutions, Other

1.3.1 Acted upon the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following:

1.3.1.1 Approved the Agenda

1.3.1.2 Executive Session will be held at the end of the meeting for the Discussion of particular personnel items.

Moved: Mrs. Brewer Seconded: Mr. Karlsen

Approved unanimously 6/0.

1.4 Announcements and Reports

1.4.1 The next regular meeting of the Board of Education on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at 6:30pm in the Board of Education Conference Room

1.5 Other Items

2. INTERSCHOOL ACTIVITIES

2.1 Romulus Student Forum

2.1.1 Elementary Student Council Update- Maggie McMillan, Audree Galipeau and Marina Rokosz updated the board on the past activities through December. Their student store is doing well every C day. Give back week provided over 500 items to the Ovid Food Pantry and the Holiday Elf deliver gifts to each student at Christmas. January they will be doing their annual Reading for Education which mailings go home to solicit magazine sales. This is a huge money maker for the Student Council.

2.1.2 Administration Updates (Mr. Puylara, Mrs. Bartlett-Prati and Mrs. Parisian)
Mrs. Parisian updated the BOE on the MTSS progress. The program services 147 general education students and 34 students with IEPs in grade K through 5th. 18 students have been discharged from the program so far. Data has shown improvement with the participants and the program is fully functional. Mr. Puylara reported on the Character Ed Middle Level Assembly skit on Empathy. Teams wrote thank you cards to the different departments of the school. Midterm and Regent Testing will take place after break.

Mrs. Bartlett-Prati presented the ESSER Grant funding for the past 3 years detailing expenditures and programs that have been initiated due to the COVID Pandemic. The new programs helped to offset learning loss from the pandemic. These grant funds expire September 2024 and continuation of programs and positions will need to be considered while working on the budget process.

2.2 Resolutions

COMBINED SPRING SPORTS APPROVED

2.2.1 Approved the participation with South Seneca for the following sports as agreed on terms for combining sports upon the recommendation of the Superintendent. The host school will use coaches' salary schedule and coaches' handbook of the said host district and the students from each district will follow their own school's code of conduct. All costs associated with the combined athletic program for the 2023-2024 (such as supplies, official, salaries and transportation) will be based on the percentage of the athletes that participate from Romulus and South Seneca

2.2.1.1 Modified Baseball hosted by Romulus, Combined JV and Varsity Baseball hosted by South Seneca Central School. (Combined Modified if numbers warrant a combined team with Romulus hosting)

2.2.1.2 Modified Softball hosted by Romulus, Combined JV and Varsity Softball hosted by South Seneca Central School (Combined Modified if numbers warrant a combined team with Romulus hosting)

2.2.1.3 Combined Modified and Varsity Track and Field hosted by South Seneca Central School

2.2.2 Approved the participation with Mynderse Academy for the following sports as agreed on terms for combining sports upon the recommendation of the Superintendent. The host school will use coaches' salary schedule and coaches' handbook of the said host district and the students from each district will follow their own school's code of conduct. All costs associated with the combined athletic program for the 2023-2024 (such as supplies, official, salaries and transportation) will be based on the percentage of the athletes that participate from Romulus and Mynderse.

2.2.2.1 Modified and Varsity Girls Lacrosse hosted by Mynderse

ROYALS CLUB RFEO GRANT ACCEPTED

2.2.3 Accepted the RFEO Royals Club Grant in the amount of \$6,239 as written by Amanda Pundt

CHESS CLUB RFEO GRANT ACCEPTED

2.2.4 Accepted the RFEO Chess Club Grant in the amount of \$500 as written by Paul Matthey

Moved: Mr. Wilson Seconded: Mrs. Rath

Discussion: Mrs. Brewer asked Mr. Pane about actual numbers for spring sports. Mr. Pane reported that he would be starting signups before Winter Break and FamilyID would be open after break. Modified Baseball/Softball teams will be separate to start but may become combined given actual numbers.

Approved unanimously 6/0.

2.3 Announcement and Reports

2.4 Other Items

3. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

3.1 Resolutions

3.2 Announcements and Reports

3.2.1 President's Report- Mrs. Bateman gave an update on the Superintendent search and reported that the formal announcement has been made and the group is looking at a July 1st start date. Stakeholder groups will be formed, and the interview process will begin. Another meeting with BOCES will finalize timeline. A postcard mailer will be sent after winter break to all households in the community.

3.2.2 Board Members Forum- Mrs. Brewer reported that the Budget Committee met and has its first rough draft of the budget. Early figures are estimated and will need to be recalculated through February and March. April 1st the State Budget is due, and the district will have a better idea for state aid figures. Mrs. Wolverton commented on the MTSS triangle, and it looks great for Romulus students. She also stated that the

Bowling team is having a great season- undefeated with 5 of the top league bowlers are from RCS!

3.2.3 Superintendent's Report – Mr. Rotz inquired about the status of the repairs for the schoolhouse. Mrs. Freier is looking into various grant possibilities for financial help for the repairs. She has found 2 grants one as a matching funds and one stand alone grant. The board agreed to continue looking at grant funding and would consider the possibilities once all options were collected. Mrs. Freier has also been in contact with the Fayette Historical Society to see if there is a possibility of their organization to take over the building and to utilize the space. Mr. Rotz handed out the proposals for the gym floors mascot removal. This could be done as a small capital project by itself instead of coming out the General Fund directly. He is looking at the difference in total costs and building. Mrs. Rath asked if there would be a price difference if there was no logo on the Elementary gym floor. Mr. Rotz will get a revised quote from the vendor. This work needs to be completed by 2025 and would be done in the summer. Mr. Wilson asked if volunteers were covered under policy 6121-A; Mr. Rotz indicated that he did not believe so, however there is a separate volunteer policy. He invited any BOE member interested in attending the Workplace Violence Prevention Program meeting on Tuesday. This is a requirement for the new risk assessment for the Workplace Violence Policy. The draft policy will be available at the next BOE meeting on January 23rd.

3.3 Other Items

4. **BUSINESS OFFICE REPORTS**

4.1 Resolutions

4.1.1 Acted upon the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following:

4.1.1.1 ~~To accept the Extra Class Monthly report for December 2023~~ (no bank statement was received at this time)

4.1.1.2 Accepted the Treasurer's Report for November 2023

RFA TENTATIVE AGREEMENT RATIFIED

4.1.1.3 Ratify the Tentative Agreement Document for the RFA Contract through June 30, 2028 (4 year)

CSEA MOA COOK/MANAGER ACCEPTED

4.1.1.4 Accepted the CSEA MOA for the Cook/Manager Title

INTERNAL CLAIMS AUDIT REPORT ACCEPTED

4.1.1.5 Accepted the Internal Claims Audit Quarterly Report October-December 2023

MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT IRS RATE ADOPTED

4.1.1.6 Adopted the 2024 IRS Mileage reimbursement rate of \$.67 per mile.

Moved: Mrs. Brewer Seconded: Mr. Wilson

Approved unanimously 6/0.

4.2 Announcements and Reports

4.2.1 Accounts "A" General Fund dated 12/01/23 to 12/31/23; Warrant No. 53 for Accounts "A" General Fund dated 12/07/23 in the amount of \$6,887.04; Warrant No. 54 for Accounts "A" General Fund dated 12/14/23 in the amount of \$5,358.31; Warrant No. 43 for Accounts "A" General Fund dated 12/21/23 in the amount of \$14,933.79.

4.2.2 Accounts "C" Cafeteria Fund dated 12/01/23 to 12/31/23; Warrant No. 16 for Accounts "C" Cafeteria Fund dated 12/07/23 in the amount of \$7,185.05; Warrant No. 17 for Accounts "C" Cafeteria Fund dated 12/14/23 in the amount of \$10,745.25; Warrant No. 18 for Accounts "C" Cafeteria Fund dated 12/21/23 in the amount of \$635.14.

4.2.3 Accounts "F" Federal Funds dated 12/01/23 to 12/31/23; Warrant No. 18 for Accounts "F" Federal Fund dated 12/07/23 in the amount of \$4,807.05; Warrant No. 19 for Accounts "F" Federal Funds dated 12/14/23 in the amount of \$2,542.60; Warrant No. 20 for Accounts "F" Federal Funds dated 12/21/23 in the amount of \$93.71.

4.2.4 Accounts "H" Capital Funds dated 12/01/23 to 12/31/23; Warrant No. 13 for Accounts "H" Capital Funds dated 12/21/23 in the amount of \$37,372.18.

4.3 Other Items

5. **COMMUNICATIONS**

5.1 Resolutions

5.2 Announcements and Reports

5.3 Other Items

6. **PERSONNEL**

6.1 Resolutions in Regard to Administrators and Teachers

6.2 Resolutions in Regard to Support Staff

6.2.1 Acted upon the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following:

PERMANENT STATUS AS COOK/MANAGER APPROVED FOR KELLY UPDYKE

6.2.1.1 Extended the Leave of Absence for Kelly Updyke's Head Cook position through June 30, 2024 and approve her permanent status as Cook / Manager effective January 10, 2024.

Moved: Mrs. Brewer Seconded: Mr. Wilson

Approved unanimously 6/0.

6.3 Resolutions, Other

6.4 Announcements and Reports

6.5 Other Items

7. **CURRICULUM**

7.1 Resolutions

7.1.1 Acted upon the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following placement/academic opportunities:

7.1.1.1 Approved the placement of the Committee on Special Education Minutes from the meeting dated December 15, 2023 (Student Number #67577); from the meeting dated December 18, 2023 (Student Number #67194); from the meeting dated December 20, 2023 (Student Number #67447).

7.1.1.2 Approved the placement of the Committee on Preschool Special Education from the meeting dated December 8, 2023 (Student Number #67529); from the meeting dated December 19, 2023 (Student Number #67483); from the meeting dated December 20, 2023 (Student #67448); from the meeting dated January 2, 2024 (Student Number #67434).

- 7.1.1.3 Approved the placement of the Section 504 Meeting Minutes- from the meeting dated December 7, 2023 (Student Number #06859); from the meeting dated December 8, 2023 (Student Number #06501); from the meeting dated December 13, 2023 (Student Number #67556).

Moved: Mrs. Rath Seconded: Mr. Wolverton

Approved unanimously 6/0.

7.2 Announcements and Reports

7.3 Other Items

8. BUILDING AND GROUNDS

8.1 Resolutions

8.2 Announcements and Reports

8.3 Other Items

9. TRANSPORTATION

9.1 Resolutions

9.2 Announcements and Reports

9.3 Other Items

EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD

10. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Mrs. Bateman requested that an Executive session was needed to discuss personnel and budget contractual items with no further action being taken this evening.

Moved: Mrs. Brewer Seconded: Mr. Karlsen

Approved unanimously 6/0.

Motion to adjourn the executive session and return to the open session at 11:20pm by Mr. Karlsen and seconded by Mrs. Rath.

Approved unanimously 6/0.

11. **PUBLIC COMMENT 2nd Session- not needed.**

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was offered to adjourn at 11:22pm

Moved: Mrs. Wolverton Seconded: Mr. Wilson

Approved unanimously 6/0.

13. DISTRIBUTIONS

14. **NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING- not needed**

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Nicholson

District Clerk