

ROMULUS CENTRAL SCHOOL
ROMULUS, NY 14541
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2024
5:30 PM BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
6:30 PM-BOARD OF EDUCATION CONFERENCE ROOM

Budget committee Meeting was held at 5:36pm with the following in attendance: Ed Ninestine-School District Treasurer, Marty Rotz-Superintendent, Thomas Wilson, Kimberly Wolverton, Beth Bulkley, Erik Karlsen, Tenneille Brewer, Rachelle Bateman (5:40pm), Alicia Rath (6:15pm) and Suzanne Nicholson. Mr. Ninestine led the discussion of the status of the budget process. The committee is still hopeful that the State will come though and restore the Safe Harmless for the Foundation Aid. This committee meeting adjourned at 6:28pm

PRESENT: Rachelle Bateman-President, Tenneille Brewer-Vice President, Beth Bulkley, 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 Instruction and Curriculum, various teachers, staff, members of the Bowling Team and community members. (21 people).

1. OPENING AND MINUTES

1.1 Call to Order at 6:33pm by President Bateman.

1.1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

1.1.2 Public Comment- Mrs. Linda Mastellar addressed the Board looking for an update on the status to remedy the situation within the building since the public complaints started. President Bateman addressed her request with an overall review stating the administrative duties were divided between Mr. Rotz and Mrs. Bartlett-Prati and parents were made aware of the points of contact within the building. She also commented on the ongoing Superintendent Search process and more information would be shared later in the meeting.

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 February 13, 2024.

Moved: Mrs. Rath Seconded: Mr. Karlsen

Approved unanimously 7/0.

1.3 Resolutions, Other

1.3.1 To act upon the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following:

1.3.1.1 Approval of the Agenda

Moved: Mrs. Wolverton Seconded: Mrs. Bulkley

Approved unanimously 7/0.

1.4 Announcements and Reports

1.4.1 The next regular meeting of the Board of Education on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at 6:30pm in the Board of Education Conference Room

1.5 Other Items

2. INTERSCHOOL ACTIVITIES

2.1 Romulus Student Forum- Welcome and Congratulate the Undefeated Varsity Bowling Team A few of the members of the bowling team were in attendance with their Coach. Certificates were handed out and a picture was taken with the plaque. (Brian Consoli, Gigi Consoli, Jacob Lister and Brett Werner with Coach Matt Thomas)

2.2 Resolutions

2.3 Announcement and Reports

Congratulated the Spelling Bee winners:

Elementary Winners: Carson Smith and runner-up Blake Westervelt

Middle Level Winners: Noah Zugibe and runner-up Bradley Harvey

Congratulated the All-Star Music Students All-County East Festival

14 of our All-Star music students took part in the annual Elementary All-County East Festival at Marcus Whitman High School. Students participated in a band and chorus made from the best 5th and 6th grade musicians from 7 area schools in Seneca, Ontario, and Yates counties and represented Romulus with outstanding performances. Congratulations to Marina Rokosz, Bradley Harvey, Gwendolyn Wasney, Heidi Stekl, Audree Galipeau, Maggie McMillan, Parker Fischer, Urijah Ward, Bentley Whitelaw, Garrett Mount, Evelyn Slentz, Gavin Brewer, Madison Ethridge, and Barrett Gill!

2.4 Other Items

2.4.1 Approved Holly Stekl inquiry to the possibility of selling items branded with the RCS logo for personal fundraising. (See Policy #5001 Use of School District Trademarks and Service Marks)- This was tabled from the February 13 meeting.

Moved: Mrs. Brewer Seconded: Mr. Karlsen

Discussion: This endeavor would not infringe on any of the current fundraising activities throughout the school.

Approved unanimously 7/0.

3. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

3.1 Resolutions

3.2 Announcements and Reports

3.2.1 President's Report- President Bateman received the status of the Superintendent Search being led by WFL BOCES Lynne Rutnik. Focus Groups had met with the team and the Community Survey has been completed with great feedback. The BOE will be reviewing the application this evening to come up with a list of possible interview candidates. Once the process narrows down the 2 finalists the focus groups will come together for the final interview process. The timeline is still on track to have someone appointed by July 1, 2024.

3.2.2 Board Members Forum- Mrs. Brewer reminded the Board that the HS Musical is coming up soon and the Elementary Musical will be Mother's Day weekend. Mrs.

Wolverton mentioned that the Music In Our Schools Concert is planned for this Thursday and the Concert on the Green is set for the same date as our Budget Vote.

3.2.3 Superintendent's Report – Mr. Rotz commented on the meeting he had with Dr. Dale Freier and Lisa Freier regarding the MacDaugall Schoolhouse Museum. The Historical Society is interested in supporting the museum both financially and physically maintaining the building. Many questions came up regarding liability, SED building registration and legal partnerships. Mr. Rotz wanted to survey the Board to see what extent they wanted to see with proceeding. The consensus of the Board was to invite Dr. Freier to a meeting in April for further discussions.

Mr. Rotz announced that the Project Bid Openings would be held on March 21st at 1:00pm. SWBR requested an additional week so that the contractor had a bit more time to submit proposals.

The next BOE meeting on March 26th will have an important meeting with SWBR, Tamco and Fiscal Advisors to discuss the implications of the Preliminary Project Review aid issue. The group advised that the Preliminary Review should be stopped due to potential loss of Aid based on Building Aid Units reported. SWBR is currently shifting as much work to be listed under Renovation Categories to limit the amount under the Addition portion. More information will be provided at the next meeting.

The Budget Committee met prior to the regular meeting and there is a strong belief that Albany may restore the Foundation Aide as well as the Safe Harmless aid. Both the Assembly and House include the restoration. The State Budget is supposed to be adopted by April 1st but it may be passed later than the due date. Schools throughout the State are waiting with great anticipation.

Lastly, Mr. Rotz reported that the district will be getting a check from Ferrara Law Firm in the amount of \$4,000 as proceeds from the JUUL litigation judgement.

3.3 Other Items Ms. Jennifer Bartlett-Prati gave a quick update as to the happenings throughout the building. She reviewed the Special Areas Activities for the Beat the Blues week- highlighting each of the subject areas (Art, Music, Library and PE) with daily activities. On the ½ day- the Elementary students had a Blues Festival with a variety of STEM/STEAM activities. She also reviewed the upcoming Superintendent Conference Day activities and commented on the deadline for PreK4 and Kindergarten Registration is April 9th.

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 February 2024~~ (This was tabled to the next meeting – no statement was received)

4.1.1.2 Accepted the Treasurer's report for January 2024

4.1.1.3 Approved the notice of public hearing and budget vote and election Romulus Central School District, Seneca County, Romulus, New York

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a public hearing of qualified voters of the Romulus Central School District, Seneca County, Romulus, New York will be held in the Board of Education Conference Room of the Romulus Central School, 5705 Route 96, Romulus, Seneca County, New York on Tuesday, May 14th, 2024, at 6:00 P.M. prevailing time for the purpose of discussion of the expenditure of funds and the budgeting thereof.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that voting to fill three (3) vacancies on the Board of Education, voting on the Budget, voting to purchase one (1) school bus and voting to collect additional monies for the Edith B. Ford Memorial Library, Ovid, New York will be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2024. Voting is anticipated to be by machine, but if machines are not available, will be by paper ballot, and will be in the North Entrance Lobby of the Romulus Central School building, 5705 Route 96, Romulus, New York 14541, and polls will be open between the hours of 12:00 – 8:00 P.M. Only qualified voters will be permitted to vote.

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN, that petitions nominating candidates for the office of member of the Board of Education must be filed with the District Clerk no later than 5:00 P.M. on Monday, April 22, 2024. There are three (3) vacancies to be filled on the Board of Education; Three (3) vacancies are for a three (3) year term of office.

Petitions to nominate a School Board member may be obtained at the District Clerk's office, Romulus Central School, 5705 State Route 96, Romulus, New York 14541, Monday through Friday, exclusive of legal holidays, between the hours of 7:30 A.M and 3:30 P.M. beginning Monday, March 18, 2024. Each petition must be directed to the Board Clerk, must state the name and residence of each signer, and the name and residence of the candidate. (minimum 25 signatures)

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN, that a copy of the statement of the amount of money which will be required to fund the School District's budget for 2024-2025, exclusive of public monies, may be obtained by any resident of the District during business hours in the fourteen days preceding the date of the annual meeting and general election, except Saturday, Sunday, or holidays, at the District Clerk's Office.

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN, that the Board of Education of the Romulus Central School District, Seneca County, is hereby authorized and directed by the New York State Board of Real Property Services Law, Chapter 258 of the Laws of 2008, Section 495 to annex an Exemption Report to the School District tentative/preliminary budget, and to the final budget. The Report will show the amount of the total assessed value of the final assessment roll(s) used in the budgetary process that is exempt from taxation.

AND, NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN, That the Board of Education of the Romulus Central School District, Seneca County, is hereby authorized and directed to withdraw from the Capital Reserve Fund-Purchase of Buses a sum of money not to exceed \$210,000.00 for the purchase of (1) one 72-passenger diesel bus for the transportation of District students, said amount to be expended in the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN, that pursuant to Education Law, Section 259, the Board of Education of the Romulus Central School District is authorized to levy and collect an annual tax, year after year, separate and apart from the annual school district budget, in the amount of \$580.00 (2% increase), in addition to the current appropriation of \$29,000 for a total of \$29,580 annually, which should be paid over for the support and maintenance of the Edith B. Ford Memorial Library.

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN, that applications for absentee ballots and early mail ballots will be available after April 26, 2024 at the office of the District Clerk, Romulus Central School, 5705 Route 96, Romulus, New York 14541 during school business hours. Eligible District voters may use absentee ballots and early mail ballots under the following conditions: Completed applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Absentee ballots and early mail ballots must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5:00 P.M. prevailing time on Tuesday, May 21, 2024. A list of persons to whom absentee and early mail ballots have been issued will be available for inspection in the District Clerk's office, during regular business hours, during each of the five days prior to the election, except Sunday, and on the date of the election.

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN, that military voters who are qualified voters of the School District may apply for a military ballot by requesting an application from the District Clerk at 1-866-810-0345 ext.*399 or snicholson@romuluscsd.org. For a military voter to be issued a military ballot, the District Clerk must have received a valid ballot application no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 26, 2024. In a request for a military ballot application or ballot by mail, facsimile transmission or electronic mail.

4.1.1.2 Approved the following election workers and inspectors for the May 21, 2024 Annual Vote.

4.1.1.2.1 Carol Cooper-Chairperson/Inspector

4.1.1.2.2 Suzanne Nicholson

Moved: Mr. Wilson Seconded: Mrs. Rath

Approved unanimously 7/0.

4.2 Announcements and Reports

4.2.1 Accounts "A" General Fund dated 2/01/24 to 2/29/24; Warrant No. 71 for Accounts "A" General Fund dated 2/1/24 in the amount of \$9,429.62; Warrant No. 73 for Accounts "A" General Tax Fund dated 2/8/24 in the amount of \$528,554.90; Warrant No. 74 for Accounts "A" General Fund dated 2/15/24 in the amount of \$202,884.98; Warrant No. 77 for Accounts "A" General Fund dated 2/22/24 in the amount of 5,508.99; Warrant No. 78 for Accounts "A" General Fund dated 2/29/24 in the amount of \$219,172.64.

4.2.2 Accounts "C" Cafeteria Fund dated 2/01/24 to 2/ 29/24; Warrant No. 21 for Accounts "C" Cafeteria Fund dated 2/1/24 in the amount of \$500.97; Warrant No. 22 for Accounts "C" Cafeteria Fund dated 2/8/24 in the amount of \$16,513.19; Warrant No. 23 for Accounts "C" Cafeteria Fund dated 2/15/24 in the amount of \$234.60; Warrant No.23 for Accounts "C" Cafeteria Fund dated 2/22/24 in the amount of \$3,158.05.

4.2.3 Accounts "F" Federal Funds dated 2/01/24 to 2/29/24; Warrant No. 24 for Accounts "F" Federal Fund dated 2/8/24 in the amount of \$13,993.00; Warrant No. 25 for Accounts "F" Federal Funds dated 2/15/24 in the amount of \$56,045.15; Warrant No. 26 for Accounts

“F” Federal Funds dated 2/22/24 in the amount of \$819.32; Warrant No. 27 for Accounts

“F” Federal Funds dated 2/29/24 in the amount of \$4,804.41.

- 4.2.4 Accounts “H” Capital Funds dated 2/01/24 to 2/29/24; Warrant No. 14 for Accounts “H” Capital Fund dated 2/8/24 in the amount of \$50,005.00; Warrant No. 15 for Accounts “H” Federal Fund dated 2/29/24 in the amount of \$2,505.00.

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

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

- 6.1.1.1 Appointed Angela Fox as JV Softball Coach at a stipend of \$2,906 for the 2023-2024 season. (Tabled from February 13, 2024 the meeting.)

Moved: Mr. Wilson Seconded: Mrs. Wolverton

Approved unanimously 7/0.

6.2 Resolutions in Regard to Support Staff

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

- 6.2.1.1 Accepted the resignation of Georgia Strong as Teacher Aide effective March 5, 2024.
6.2.1.2 Accepted the resignation of Lyle Coon from the position of Cleaner effective March 12, 2024.

Moved: Mrs. Brewer Seconded: Mr. Wilson

Approved unanimously 7/0.

6.3 Resolutions, Other

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

- 6.3.1.1 Appointed Jeff Newcomb as Modified Baseball Coach at a stipend of \$1,605 for the 2023-2024 season. (Tabled from February 13, 2024 the meeting.)
6.3.1.2 Appointed Ralph Walborn Jr. as Modified Softball Coach at a stipend of \$2,207.00 for the 2023-2024 season.

Moved: Mrs. Wolverton Seconded: Mr. Karlsen

Discussion: Mr. Wilson requested the actual number of students participating in both Modified Baseball and Softball this season.

Approved unanimously 7/0.

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 February 7, 2024 (Student Numbers #66903, #66902, #67447 and #67009); from the meeting dated February 8, 2024 (Student Numbers #67453 and 67272); from the meeting dated February 9, 2024 (Student Numbers #66839, #67372 and #67127); from the meeting dated February 14, 2024 (Student Number #67136); from the meeting dated February 15, 2024 (Student Numbers #67449 and #67374); from the meeting dated February 27, 2024 (Student Number #67332); from the meeting dated February 28, 2024 (Student Numbers #66897 and #67467); from the meeting dated March 4, 2024 (Student Numbers #66726 and 67293); from the meeting dated March 5, 2024 (Student Number #67499).
- 7.1.1.2 Approved the placement of the Committee on Preschool Special Education from the meeting dated February 26, 2024 (Student Number #67537; from the meeting dated February 27, 2024 (Student Number #67488), from the meeting dated February 29, 2024 (Student Numbers #67526, #67544 and #67434); from the meeting dated March 1, 2024 (Student Numbers #67529 and #67483).
- 7.1.1.3 Approved the placement of the Section 504 Meeting Minutes- from the meeting dated February 13, 2024 (Student Number #67015); from the meeting dated February 28, 2024 (Student Number #06763); from the meeting dated February 29, 2024 (Student Number #06294); from the meeting dated March 1, 2024 (Student Number #06413), from the meeting dated March 5, 2024 (Student Number #67015).

Moved: Mrs. Rath Seconded: Mr. Wilson

Approved unanimously 7/0.

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

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION – was needed this evening for the discussion of personnel items, specifically the review of Superintendent applications with the BOCES Search team. With no further action being taken this evening. (7:22pm)

Moved: Mrs. Bulkley Seconded: Mr. Karlsen

Approved unanimously 7/0.

There was a brief break taken while waiting for the BOCES team to arrive.

Motion by Mrs. Rath and seconded by Mr. Karlsen to adjourn the Executive session and return to the open session at 11:27pm

Approved unanimously 7/0.

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was offered to adjourn at 11:28pm

Moved: Mrs. Rath Seconded: Mr. Karlsen

Approved unanimously 7/0.

13. DISTRIBUTIONS

14. NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING- not needed

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Nicholson

District Clerk