

**ROCKAWAY BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION
ROCKAWAY, NEW JERSEY
Regular Public Meeting
Thomas Jefferson Cafeteria
March 26, 2013**

ROCKAWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL'S 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 Core Curriculum Content Standards.

I. Call to Order and Flag Salute

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Board President, Christa Smith.

II. Notice of Announcement

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the Rockaway Borough Board of Education has provided adequate written notice of the time, date and place of this meeting to the Daily Record and The Citizen.

III. Roll Call

Board Members Present: Eileen Haynes, Vice-President, Tim Rogers and Board President, Christa Smith

Board Member Absent: Laura Lugo, Debbie McNally

Administration Present: Superintendent of Schools/Thomas Jefferson School Principal, Dr. Brian Purzak, Director of Buildings and Grounds, Anthony Coppola, Technology Coordinator, Shaun Reyes and School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Joseph P. Hurley Jr.

IV. Superintendent's Report

1. Enrollment – Dr. Purzak discussed enrollment. We currently have 670 students.
2. Nurse's Report – Dr. Purzak said that there 510 visits at Lincoln and 448 visits at TJ.
3. Facilities – Mr. Coppola discussed him meeting with Kellen Chapin and said there were several things Kellen will speak to the contractor about. Mr. Coppola reported that the bleachers have had never wood planks installed and just need to be painted.
4. Technology Update – Mr. Reyes discussed projects he had completed and discussed the upgrade in phone lines from Xtel.
5. Vice-Principal Report – Mr. Schwarz discussed the events that took place in the Thomas Jefferson over the past month.
6. 2013-2014 Proposed Budget Presentation – Dr. Purzak and Mr. Hurley discussed the proposed budget with all those present.

V. Comments from the Public

None.

VI. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from the February 12 and 19, 2013 meetings of the Board of Education

The motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote. (Haynes/Rogers)

VII. Approval of the Manifest Bills

Motion to approve the manifest of bills from the Finance Committee as follows:

March \$976,310.87

The regular register is on file in the Office of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

The motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote. (Haynes/Rogers)

VIII. Approval of Budget Transfers

Motion to approve the attached list of budget transfers.

The motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote. (Haynes/Rogers)

IX. Certification of Major Account and Line Item Status

Motion to approve the Major Account and Line Item Status.

The motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote. (Haynes/Rogers)

X. Committee Reports

A. Finance

Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve Finance Items #1-7.

The motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote. (Haynes/Rogers)

1. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve the Board Secretary and Treasurer's Reports for February 2013.
2. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve the February 2013 Cafeteria Reconciliation and Cafeteria Checking Account Report.
3. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve the attached list of Professional Development/Travel Expenditure Requests.
4. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve a neurological evaluation for student #164 as part of a Child Study Team evaluation. Dr. Pahirathi of Denville will provide evaluation at a cost of \$475.00.
5. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to apply for a waiver granting the board permission to not participate in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) for the 2013-2014 school year.
6. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to enter into a contract with CDW-G to provide technical service for the district servers. This contract will begin April 1, 2013 and end March 31, 2014 and cost \$874.
7. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve the 2013-2014 school district budget for submission to the voters as follows:

General Fund	\$ 8,054,146
Capital Reserve Withdrawal	\$ 138,384
Special Revenue Fund	\$ 540,256
Debt Service Fund	\$ 0
Total Budget	\$ 8,732,786

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Rockaway Borough Board of Education approves the appropriation of \$0 from surplus, to help offset the tax increase;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that there should be raised for the General Fund \$7,347,916 and Debt Service \$0 for the ensuing School Year (2013-2014); and

WHEREAS, the district has a taxing authority which is composed of \$44,394 for health benefits adjustment, \$0 for enrollment adjustment, \$0 PERS Deferment, and \$0 banked levy from previous budgets are available to the district for the school budget for 2013-2014 in addition to the 2% cap increase over the prior year which totals \$36,313 resulting in a maximum district tax levy available of \$7,384,229.

WHEREAS, The Board has approved that there should be raised for the General Fund a tax levy of \$7,437,916 for the ensuing School Year (2013-2014).

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rockaway Borough School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey approves that the unused taxing authority of \$55,161 be banked for potential use in the subsequent three fiscal years.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rockaway Borough School District, in the County of Morris, New Jersey approves the withdrawal of \$138,384 from the Capital Reserve to provide funding for the following project:

Replacement of the classroom doors at the Lincoln School at an estimated cost of \$138,384.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rockaway Borough School District, in the County of Morris, New Jersey approves the following capital projects for the 2013-2014 school year:

Legal Services \$2,000
Architectural \$15,500
Other Purchased and Professional Services \$7,000
Construction Services \$103,334
Supplies and Material \$9,150
Other Objects \$1,400

WHEREAS, school district policy and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3(a) provides that the board of education shall establish in the annual school budget a maximum expenditure amount that may be allotted for such travel and expenses reimbursement for the 2013-2014 school year; and

WHEREAS, maximum expenditure amount allotted for travel and expense reimbursement for the 2012-2013 school year was \$26,000; and

WHEREAS, travel and expense reimbursement has reached a total amount of \$682.41 as of March 4, 2013;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rockaway Borough School District, in the County of Morris, New Jersey hereby establishes the school district travel maximum for the 2013-2014 school year at the sum of \$26,000; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the School Business Administrator shall track and record these costs to insure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A:5.2 (a) mandates boards to establish annually prior to budget preparation, for public relations and each type of professional service a maximum level of spending for the ensuing school year; and

WHEREAS, the tentative budget includes the following appropriations:

Legal Services \$10,000	
Auditing Services \$17,500	
Architectural Services \$10,000	
Negotiator \$15,000	
Strauss Esmay \$3,935	
Election \$4,000	
Other Administrative Services \$1,200	
Repair Services \$52,285	
Extraordinary Services \$465,736	
Nonpublic Services \$15,538	
Professional Development \$57,000	
Transportation \$207,927	and

WHEREAS, the Administration needs to notice the board if there arises a need to exceed said maximums. Upon which the Board may adopt a dollar increase in the maximum amount through formal board action; and

WHEREAS, the Board and Administration wishes the minimize the amount of paperwork involved in this area;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rockaway Borough School District, in the County of Morris, New Jersey establishes maximums for professional services in the areas listed above at a level of 120% of the amounts listed for the 2013-2014 school year.

B. Curriculum

Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve Curriculum Items # 1-5.

The motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote. (Rogers/Haynes)

1. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve the attached field trip requests.
2. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve the attached school calendar #3 for the 2013-2014 school year.
3. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve the following people for the District Evaluation Advisory Committee (DEAC):

Kelli Fowler	Carol Coulther	Debra McNally
Phyllis Alpaugh	Mark Schwarz	Brian Purzak

Ruth Champagne

Jeanine Pinto

4. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve the following people for the School Improvement Panel (ScIP) for Lincoln School:

Phyllis Alpaugh

Brian Purzak

Jeri Hurley

5. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve the following people for the School Improvement Panel (SIP) for Thomas Jefferson School:

Mark Schwarz

Brian Purzak

Janet Dobbs

C. Personnel

Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve Personnel Items #1-4.

The motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote. (Haynes/Rogers)

1. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve Monica Kline as the district Guidance Counselor/Anti Bullying Specialist from April 9, 2013 to June 30, 2013. Ms. Kline will be placed on Step MA-1 of the teachers guide at an annual rate of \$48,150.00 pro-rated.
2. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve the second reading of the Job Description for Confidential Bookkeeper/Secretary.
3. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve with regret the resignation of Ms. Nichole Taylor to pursue a teaching position at the Fredon Township School District.
4. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve JoAnne Morena, Jaime Patel, Kurt Zimmerman, and Kaitlin Nazario as substitute teachers for the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year at a rate of \$80.00 per day.

D. Policy

Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve Policy Item # 1.

The motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote. (Rogers/Haynes)

1. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to accept the Superintendent's Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying report dated March 26, 2013 for incident numbers 26 – 26.

VIII. Old Business

None.

IX. New Business

None.

X. Comments from the Public

None.

XI. Executive Session

“The next topic on the agenda relates to, which constitutes an exception to the Open Public Meetings Act.”

Therefore, the Board is permitted to have a private discussion and I will entertain a motion in that regard:

I move that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing litigation, the nature of which will be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists. At the conclusion of this discussion, the Board may reconvene in public session and action may be taken.

The motion was approved at 8:26pm in a unanimous roll call vote. (Haynes/Rogers)

XII. Motion to return to Open Session

A motion was approved to return to open session at 9:12pm. (Haynes/Rogers)

XVI. Motion to Adjourn

There being no further business before the Board, a motion was approved at 9:13 p.m. to adjourn for the evening. (Haynes/Rogers)

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph P. Hurley Jr.
School Business Administrator/
Board Secretary