



REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2025

"All Remsen students will Soar to Success!"

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Lou Allen, Stephanie Karis, Jeannie Scouten, Patrick Nolan

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tara Kennerknecht

OTHERS PRESENT: John McKeown, Abigail Roberts, Jody Lamphere, Sanya Pelrah, Joe Bessmer, Dale Denning, Kelly Runninger, Carlleen Taylor, Erin Muzio, Mark Harlander, Linda Metzler

Meeting called to Order by Mary Lou Allen, Board President at 6:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance recited by all present.

Mr. Mark Harlander gave a presentation for the Technology Curriculum. Mr. Harlander listed all the courses that he has taught and has been offered. He also gave information on each course and if the course is a full year course or half year course. The courses that have been offered are:

- Technology 7 and 8 (10 week course)
- Drawing and Design for Production (full year course). This course meets the criteria for a Fine Arts credit.
- Wood working (20 week course). This class made the disc golf station and the desk system that was used for the Cinderella play, which they put together in only 2 weeks.
- Construction (full year course)
- Career and Financial Management (20 week course) The is a class that is approved for CTE pathways, which is a required credit for students in NYSED.
- Computer Aided Design (full year course)
- Drone Technology (20 week course). This course prepares students to take the FAA exam.
- Game and App Design (20 week course)
- Real World Math (full year course). This course can be used for an additional math credit.

Mrs. Allen read the following statement:

We are about to convene into the public comment period of our meeting. Any district resident wishing to speak during a public session is required to sign in, stating your full name, address, contact information and the topic that you wish to discuss. If you have not signed in and you wish to speak, the District Clerk will bring the sign-in sheet over to you at this time. We will insist that all speakers and members of the audience maintain civility and respect. As a reminder, discussion or comment about personnel matters, any district employee or any particular student is prohibited. Those concerns should be brought directly to the Superintendent.

The board will now entertain public comments for up to a maximum of 30 minutes. Each individual speaker will be allotted three minutes. Please be reminded that written comments or concerns to be shared with the Board may also be submitted or emailed to the district clerk or to the Superintendent, Mr. Timothy Jenny at any time. Mrs. Roberts, do we have any members of the public signed in to speak this evening?

No Public Participation.

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Patrick Nolan.

“BE IT RESOLVED, that in compliance with the provisions of Section 3012(d) of the Education Law and Part 30.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that Erin Muzio, of Remsen, NY be appointed to tenure in the Special Education tenure area, who holds a valid New York State Certificate permitting her to serve in the aforesaid tenure area, the Board of Education of the Remsen Central School does hereby make this appointment effective December 15, 2025.”

Mrs. Allen stated congratulations on your tenure and thank you for doing such a wonderful job!

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the minutes from the meeting held on November 12, 2025, approve the agenda dated December 9, 2025; and be it further resolved that the Board of Education approve warrants for payment; accept Treasurer's Report, Revenue Status Report, Appropriation Status Report, and approve Budget Transfers.”

4 yes 0 no

Elementary Principal's Report given by Jody Lamphere included the following items:

- Students in grades 2 through 5 had the opportunity to visit the Remsen Arts Center. Mr. Billard invited students down to see the Train Show that was being held there. The students were very interested and had a great time viewing the trains.
- Our first quarter Evening of Excellence was held on November 19th at 6pm. Over 80 awards were given out recognizing excellence in academics and behavior. Many families were in attendance.
- The Genesis Group Recognition and dinner was held on November 20th. Mrs. Erika Manley and Mr. John Bunker were both recognized as Outstanding Educators in their field. It was a wonderful evening full of outstanding educators in our area.
- Parent Teacher Conferences for pre-kindergarten through sixth grade were held on November 20th and 21st. This is a great way for families to connect with school. They are able to see first hand the progress their student is making and are able to ask any questions they may have.
- Upcoming Events
 - Dec 8-11 PTG Sneaky Santa
 - Dec 10th Santa Trolley Visit
 - Dec 10th Pre-K through 6 Holiday Concert
 - Dec 11th Team Workshop
 - Dec 15th-19th Holiday Spirit Week

High School Principal's Report given by Sanya Pelrah included the following:

- A holiday themed Team Workshop will be held on December 11th. Mrs. Pelrah will be providing tea and hot chocolate to help get everyone in the winter spirit.
- On November 21-22. Trent Jenny, Gavin Nelson and Ellie Secor participated in the Senior High Area All-State. Congratulations to these students, and thank you to Mr. Dangler for helping to support our students. They earned this distinction by performing at a high level.
- On November 25th, we held the 5th Annual Thanksgiving Breakfast. It is always a great opportunity to serve our students and spend time with them.
- On November 25th, a representative from the YWCA did an interactive presentation for our 7th and 8th grade students about healthy relationships. Thank you to Mrs. Laurey for making this happen.
- The first marking period honor roll awards celebration occurred on December 4th. Ms. Pelrah stated she is very proud of our students for working to achieve these honors.
- **Principal's Cabinet** - At our recent meeting, we planned the next Remarkable Ram Spirit Day for Dec. 12th. We also discussed researching a new mascot costume and planning a talent show.
- **11th Grade** - The Little Caesars Pizza Fundraiser wrapped up and delivery of the pizzas is planned for December 12th. The juniors are looking forward to hosting this year's Snowball on January 10th.
- **10th Grade** - The Sophomore Class had their very first bake sale during parent-teacher conferences at the elementary school. They sold individually wrapped baked goods (all homemade by students and their families) for 42 each, and we made \$464. They almost sold out! Students volunteered their time during the school day to help sell items. It was a great event, and they look forward to hosting another bake sale during the spring conferences.
- **Diversity Club** - Elevating Students Voices hosted their first workshop. They had 8 students attend, and the students found the workshop and circle time informational. The next session will be January 16th.
- **FFA** - The fruit sale was successful and will be delivered next week. They will also be hosting a Wreath Workshop on December 9th for community members. They are preparing for a busy winter season, including Leadership Development Events, the Ignite Conference, and students applying for NY FFA Awards.
- **International Club** - The Dr. Pepper fundraiser was a lot of fun, and the pine swag fundraiser was very successful. A trip to Cohoes Music Hall to see a Selena tribute band and French night at the Syracuse Crunch hockey game are planned for January.
- **Journalism Club** - The Journalism Club finalized their 3rd edition, and it is now accessible online; hard copies will be distributed later this week.
- **Ski Club** - They have 65 members this year, which is the highest participation yet. Mr. Gallo would like to thank everyone who makes this possible - the Administration team, office staff, chaperones, transportation department and the Board of Education. They are looking forward to a great winter. Mr. Gallo urges everyone to get outside and enjoy it because forecasts say it will be a long winter with a lot of snow.

Marissa Karis - Stated Spirit week will be held Dec 15- 19, Monday will be flannel day, Tuesday will be sweet as a candy cane or green as the Grinch, Wednesday will be ugly sweater, Thursday will be festive headwear, and Friday will be wear your cozy comfy's. The food drive was very successful, we collected a large amount. We are planning for the Snowball on January 10th.

Athletic Directors Report given by Dale Dening included the following:

- **Scholar Athlete Team Awards** - The following teams this fall qualified for the NY State Scholar Athlete Award with at least 75% of their roster achieving a 90 or higher for the first marking period:
 - Boys' Varsity Cross Country - 91.67
 - Girls' Varsity Cross Country - 99.50
 - Girls' Varsity Gymnastics - 93.00
 - Girls' Varsity Soccer - 93.69
- Winter Sports Roster Numbers
 - Modified Volleyball - 13
 - JV Volleyball - 14
 - Varsity Volleyball - 12
 - Indoor Track - Boys (13), Girls (8)
 - JV Boys Basketball - 8
 - Varsity Boys Basketball - 12

Remsen will not be offering varsity cheerleading for the winter 2025-2026.

- Participation numbers are down from 86 to 80 total students from 2024-2025.
- JV/Varsity Volleyball will be sponsoring a "Teacher Appreciation night" on December 8th during their contests with ODY/Richfield. All teachers/staff in attendance will be honored prior to the start of the varsity volleyball match.
- The first Teddy Bear Toss was held and was a big success. There were lots of Teddy Bears that will be donated locally, and the winner received a big basket full of things. There will be another Teddy Bear toss held later in the season.

Facilities Report given by Joe Bessmer include the following:

- The high school and elementary maintenance teams have been busy with the day to day cleaning. Both builds are busy with after school programs, concerts and sports.
- The grounds team has been working on getting equipment ready for the winter season.

Capital Project

- The elementary school windows have all arrived.
- The brick work has been completed and windows have been installed for rooms 11 and 12.
- The Teachers center window has been removed and the new windows have been installed, the new lentil and brick work has also been installed.
- For the bus garage, Trane is working on the heating and controls for the boiler system, and Spencer electric has installed a new fire system.
- In the High School, Spencer electric has been pulling new wire for the new roof units to the basement that were set on Veteran's day.
- Erie Mechanical has been working on the new mechanical lines for the rooftop units and they have poured a new pad in the boiler room for the new air handler that will be installed.

Mr. Kurt Crossett was not able to attend the meeting. Please see the attached report.

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Jeannie Scouten.

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from meetings held on November 21 and 25, and December 5, 2025. Please be reminded that discussion of specific IEP should be referred to Executive Session."

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Patrick Nolan.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of Remsen Central School hereby approves the Ancillary Administrative Services Agreement between the District and LBS for the management and administration of the District's Flexible Spending Account (FSA) and Dependent Care Benefit Account programs, effective October 1, 2025, for a period of twelve (12) months; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the Business Associate Agreement (BAA) between the District and LBS, which outlines the responsibilities of both parties regarding compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), the safeguarding of personal and protected health information, and the procedures for reporting and addressing any potential data breaches or violations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the BAA shall be effective upon execution and shall remain in effect in accordance with the terms contained therein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes the Superintendent of Schools (or Board President, depending on District policy) to execute both Agreements on behalf of the District and to take all steps necessary to implement and administer their provisions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that approval of both Agreements is contingent upon review by District counsel and all final documents being acceptable in form and content.

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the 2025-2026 TaxCollector's report as submitted, and approve the return of unpaid taxes to Oneida County and Herkimer County.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve Bradly Tyson's request for Family Medical Leave from November 13, 2025 to November 21, 2025, with the potential for additional days.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Autumn Fasolino of Deerfield, NY as a substitute nurse at the hourly rate of \$20.00 effective December 10, 2025.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Agreement between the Remsen Central School District, Lonnie Lankford, and the CSEA, LOCAL 1000 AFSCME, AFL-CIO Remsen Unit #7769 for two unpaid days.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Patrick Nolan, second by Stephanie Karis.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Stephanie Rotach of Remsen, NY as a substitute teacher effective December 10, 2025 at the daily rate of \$110.00, pending fingerprint clearance.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Patrick Nolan, second by Stephanie Karis.

“ RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the enclosed hourly rate wage adjustments, effective December 31, 2025, due to the New York State Minimum Wage Increase.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Patrick Nolan, second by Stephanie Karis.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Emma Hopler of Boonville, NY as the Boys’ 7th Grade Modified Basketball Coach for the 2025-2026 season, at a year one stipend.”

4 yes 0 no

Information & Correspondence- None

Soaring to Success- Board of Education Roundtable Remarks

Board of Education Five-Star Service Recognition - Emily Laurey was the winner drawn for the month of November and received a \$35 Stewart's gift card. Thank you to all of our anonymous donors for their contribution for the gift card.

Round Table Remarks

Mrs. Allen - A big hats off to the PTG for providing Sneaky Santa for the students, the kids really enjoy buying gifts for their families. It is also great that they provide vouchers for students who are unable to bring money in, so they are still able to participate. Joe B. you have done such a great job moving the rooms for all the construction.

Jeannie Scouten - Stated she heard the Thanksgiving breakfast tasted great and the kids loved it. It is a great tradition that's done every year. Jeannie stated she thinks its great they are looking into a new mascot, she remembers that when she was in school her class donated the money towards a new mascot.

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 p.m.