Rockaway Borough Board of Education

103 E. Main Street, Rockaway, NJ 07866

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, April 7, 2026, 7:30 PM

Thomas Jefferson School Cafeteria, 95 E. Main Street, Rockaway, NJ 07866

Visit us on the Web: rockboro.org

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.

Executive Session I: 6:30-7:30 pm (Closed to the Public)

Be it Resolved, that the Board enters into an Executive Session (Private) to discuss exempt matters pertaining to personnel and legal matters; the nature of which will be made public only when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

6:42 PM

Motion to Enter:	***Moved by:***	***Dahl***	***Seconded by: Hernandez***	***Voice Vote: ALL***
Motion to Adjourn:	***Moved by:***	***Dahl***	***Seconded by: Hernandez***	***Voice Vote: ALL***

1. Call to Order: 7:37 PM

The public portion of this meeting will be called to order at approximately 7:30 p.m. by Mr. Graf, Board President, by reading the following announcement:

"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 location advertised in The Citizen Newspaper, posted on our website and at town hall. Official action will be taken."

2. Board Member Roll Call: *ALL PRESENT*

Mr. Michael Dougherty
Elected 2025 to 1st term (3-year seat to Dec. 31, 2028)

Mrs. Faride Hernandez
Elected 2024 to 1st term (3-year seat to Dec. 31, 2027)

Mrs. Vanessa Dorgilles
Elected 2024 to 1st term (3-year seat to Dec. 31, 2027)

Ms. Jennifer Dahl, VP
Elected 2023 to 1st term (3-year seat to Dec. 31, 2026)

Mr. Edward Graf, President
Elected 2023 to 1st term (3-year seat to Dec. 31, 2026)

Pledge of Allegiance

3. Reports & Updates:

A. SGO Student Reports

B. Superintendent's Report: Mr. Grieco
-District Update

C. Board Reports:

- **Mr. Dougherty-** **Recreation Update**
  Technology Report
  Thank you and best wishes to Ms. Skomial
- **Ms. Dorgilles-** **TJ Report**
  Thank you and best wishes to Ms. Skomial
- **Ms. Dahl-** **Curriculum Report**
  Strategic Planning Report
  Thank you and best wishes to Ms. Skomial
- **Ms. Hernandez-** **Lincoln Report**
  Thank you and best wishes to Ms. Skomial
  Finance Committee Report
  NJSBA Report
- **Mr. Graf-** **Negotiations Update**
  Facilities Report- (None)
  Thank you and best wishes to Ms. Skomial

D. Board Secretary's/Business Office Report:

1. **Board Correspondence:** *Received (R) or Sent (S) since our last meeting:*
   N/A

E. Any Other Items/Comments for the Good of the Order

F. Board Review of Agenda Items

4. Public Hearing:

Ms. Hamilton- Rockaway, NJ-
Comments about retention of staff (PE Teacher resignation).
Ms. Rueda- Rockaway, NJ-
Comments about special services programs and cost.

Agenda items only: limited to 3 minutes each. Please state your name.
The President will open the floor for the Board to hear the public and then close the floor.
Please direct all dialogue to the President. Board replies are not required.

During the board meeting, the Board offers members of the public an opportunity to comment on issues regarding the operation of our schools. If you wish to speak, please raise your hand and proceed to the podium. When called on by the President, state your first name, last name, and municipality of residence. The President may limit each statement made by a participant to three (3) minutes in duration. The President may also interrupt, warn, and/or terminate a participant's statement, question, or inquiry when it is too lengthy or the inquiry is abusive, obscene, or may be defamatory. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard.

Our goal is to maintain the formality, decorum, and efficiency of our meetings according to District Policies and state law. Issues raised by members of the public may or may not be responded to by the Board, and the President may direct a response after the public comment session.

Members of the public should be courteous and aware of others' rights when speaking. Families and employees have specific legal rights afforded by the laws of New Jersey and therefore be advised:

- *The Board bears no responsibility nor will it be liable for any comments made by members of the public.*
- *Members of the public should consider their comments in light of the legal rights of those affected by or identified in their comments.*
- *Members of the public should be aware that they are legally responsible and liable for their comments.*

The Board also encourages community members to follow the chain of command—beginning with the classroom teacher and progressing through the Administrative hierarchy. When the chain of command is used properly, it improves communication and permits the Board to act as the final arbiter on issues that have not been resolved at other steps in the chain.

5. Enrollment & Staffing Report:

Grade Level & School	Students June 30, 2025	Students March 25, 2026	Difference from June 30, 2025	Sections (Classes)	Avg. Class Size	Certificated Staff - Teachers	Non-Certificated Staff
Preschool - Lincoln AM/PM & Full Day	**26**	**27**	**+1**	**3**	**9**	**2**	**8**
Kindergarten - Lincoln	**67**	**55**	**-12**	**3**	**18**	**3**	**3**
Grade 1 - Lincoln	**58**	**67**	**+9**	**3**	**22**	**3**	**3**
Grade 2 - Lincoln	**62**	**58**	**-4**	**3**	**19**	**3**	**2**
Grade 3 - Lincoln	**66**	**63**	**-3**	**3**	**21**	**3**	**2**
Other Staff: (Principal 1, Specials 8, Aides 5, PE 1, Guide 1, Nurse 1, Sec 1, Cust 2.5, Caf 7)	-	**-**	-	-	-	**12**	**15.5**
Total Lincoln School:	**279**	**270**	**-9**	**15**	**18**	**26**	**33.5**
Grade 4 - TJ	**63**	**64**	**+1**	**3**	**21**	**3**	-
Grade 5 - TJ	**65**	**66**	**+1**	**3**	**22**	**3**	-
Grade 6 - TJ	**64**	**68**	**+4**	**3**	**23**	**3**	-

Grade 7 - TJ	**54**	**66**	**+12**	**3**	**22**	**3**	-
Grade 8 - TJ	**65**	**57**	**-8**	**3**	**19**	**3**	-
Other Staff: (Principal 1, Specials 16, Aides 9, PE 2, Guide 1,Nurse 1, Sec 2, Cust 2.5, Caf 9)	-	**-**	-	-	-	**21**	**22.5**
Total Thomas Jefferson:	**311**	**321**	**+10**	**15**	**21**	**36**	**22.5**
Shared Staff: (Other Certificated Teachers 4.5, & Part-Time Nurses 2)	-	-	-	-	-	**4.5**	**2**
Administrative: (Supt, BA, CIA, CST 1, Sec 4, Maint 2, Bus Drivers 2, Bus Aides 2)	-	-	-	-	-	**3**	**11**
Special/Reg Ed Out-of-District:	**8**	**8**	**-**	**-**	**-**	-	-
Resident Students:	***598***	***599***	***+1***	***30***	***21***	-	-
Charter/Choice Schs Out:	**0**	**0**	0	-	-	-	-
Spec. Ed Tuition Incoming:	**3**	**3**	0	-	-	-	-
Total Students (593)/ Staff (140) Ratio: 4.25/1	**601**	**602**	**+1**	**-**	**-**	**66.5**	**69**

6. Meeting Minutes:

A. Be it resolved to approve and accept the following meeting Minutes:

- March 17, 2026, Board of Education Meeting- Regular and Executive Sessions

7. Finance:

A. Be it resolved to approve the manifest of Payrolls and Bills & Claims Lists, which are on file in the Business Office:

- Bills, Claims, and Payrolls List: March 18th through April 7th.
  $144,179.87

B. RESOLUTION APPROVING A FIVE-YEAR LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR CANON PHOTOCOPIERS THROUGH UBS UNDER A STATE CONTRACT

WHEREAS, the Rockaway Borough Board of Education (the "Board") has a need to acquire updated photocopier equipment and related services to support district operations; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that entering into a new five-year lease purchase agreement for Canon photocopiers is in the best interests of the district; and

WHEREAS, the lease purchase agreement will be financed through UBS pursuant to the applicable State of New Jersey cooperative purchasing contract, thereby ensuring compliance with all applicable public procurement laws, including N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-10(a);

and

WHEREAS, the use of a state contract permits the Board to procure such equipment without the need for public bidding; and

WHEREAS, the Interim Business Administrator/ Board Secretary has reviewed the terms and conditions of the proposed lease purchase agreement, including the pricing schedule attached hereto, and recommends approval;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby approves the execution of a five-year lease purchase agreement with UBS for the acquisition of Canon photocopiers under the applicable State contract, No. Canon-25-COMG-103708; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the pricing schedule attached hereto is hereby approved and incorporated into this resolution, including the following terms:

- 60 Month FMV Lease at $1,494.82 per month;
- Includes 5-year Uniflow Cloud subscription and card readers for 5 Canon copiers;
- Program includes all parts, labor, and supplies except paper and staples;
- Rates are billed quarterly based on usage ($.0039 per black and white copy; $.045 per color copy);
- UBS will issue $10,503.95 to pay off remaining Savin copier 5-year lease purchase agreement (currently $1,542.10 per month excluding print management software, which is a separate cost); and the program includes the Trade In Value of the Savin copiers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board President and Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary are hereby authorized to execute all necessary documents to effectuate this agreement.

C. Be it resolved to establish and approve the following incoming pre-k students tuition rate for the 2026-2027 school year.

Grade Level/Program	25/26	26/27
10 Month Resident Preschool Program (Parent Paid)	$3,600	$3,600

8. Personnel:

A. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the attached list of Staff Member **Professional Development Workshops & Travel Expenditure Requests** that have been deemed related to and within the scope of the employee's current job responsibilities and will enhance the efficient delivery of student instruction and/or furthers the efficient operation of the school district. Reimbursements listed are in accordance with guidelines established by the Dept. of Treasury, BOE Policy, and in accordance with NJAC 6A:23B-1.1., listed below.

Professional Development/Travel Expenditure Requests:

Staff Member	*Workshop Title*	*Workshop Location*	*Dates*	*Reg & Fees*	*Additional Cost to District*	*Justification for the Trip*
Yobs, T.	ESCNJ Vendor Expo	NJ Convention Center, Edison, NJ	5/20/26	Free		CEU's for CEFM, code changes, record management, public funded projects, and utility bills.

B. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Tyquan Griffin,** as a Paraprofessional, effective on or about April 20, 2026 through June 30, 2026. Mr. Griffin will be paid based on Aide/Guide Step-1, at an hourly rate of $17.95, pending successful completion of Criminal History background check required by P.L. 1986 c.116 and Sexual Misconduct/Child Abuse Disclosure required by P.L. 2018 c.5.

C. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Amy Welsch,** Floating Substitute Teacher for the 2025/2026 school year, at a daily rate of $125.00, effective on or about April 7, 2026, through June 30, 2026. Mrs. Welsch has successfully completed all required background checks.

D. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Lauren McVey** as a district substitute nurse for the 2025/2026 school year at a per diem rate of $250, pending county certification.

E. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve and accept the resignation of **Casey Layne**, Physical Education/Health Teacher (Lincoln), effective May 27, 2026.

F. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the REVISED Extracurricular Advisor position for the 2025-2026 school year.

Advisor	Program	Stipend
Jennifer Barbosa	Director of Musical/Dramatic Productions	$3,620

G. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve and accept the resignation of **Jennifer Skomial**, Lincoln School Elementary Principal, effective June 30, 2026.

9. Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment:

A. Be it resolved to approve the **Student Field Trip/District Events/Miscellaneous** requests as listed below.

B. Be it resolved to approve the **Revised 2025-2026 School Calendar**, due to unused snow/emergency days. The last day of school for students and staff will now be Thursday, June 18th instead of Monday, June 22nd.

C. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approves the Child Study Team request to provide home instruction and Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy for student #17180333, for up to 10 hours per week over a period of 13 weeks, through KDDS TOO, Inc. North Jersey Outreach, at a total cost not to exceed $27,300.

Student Field Trips

GRADE	TEACHERS	DATE	TIME: DEPART/RETURN	DESTINATION	# of Pupils	# of Staff	Cost Per Pupil	District Cost	JUSTIFICATION FOR TRIP
1	Yobs Jacinto Schwarz	6/12/26	8:45-11:00am	Rockaway Borough Police Dept. & Heady Park	67	9	$0	$0	To provide students with an opportunity to see, understand, and observe what our local police department does while and work on social skills playing together at the community park.

District Events List / Miscellaneous

School Activity	Loc./School	Date/Time	Participants	District Cost	Adm./ Teacher/ Coach/ Advisor
ESL Family Night	Lincoln School	6/9/26 6:30-8pm	Students/Families		Holmes, Caliendo, Principal
Night of the Arts	Thomas Jefferson	5/21/26 6:30-8pm	Students/Families		Isenberg
Baseball/Softball Dine to Donate	Thomas Jefferson	4/14/26	Students/Families		Onischuk
Championship Culture	Thomas Jefferson	4/17/26	Students/Families		Samuels

10. Technology and Buildings & Grounds:

A. N/A

11. Policy and NJDOE

A. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept and approve the following Superintendent's HIB decision(s) in the following instances as numbered:
-Tracking Number 304774_TJM_02242026- Conclusion- Unfounded

12. Consent Agenda: ALL PASSED

A. Move and Vote on all Agenda Resolutions & Recommendations in One Motion:

Roll Call Vote:	Moved & Seconded By:	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Recuse	Not Present
Mr. Dougherty	**Seconded**	**X**				
Mrs. Dorgilles		**X**				
Mr. Graf, President		**X**				
Ms. Dahl, VP	**Moved**	**X**				
Mrs. Hernandez		**X**			**11 A.**	

13. New Business/Any Other Items/Board Comments for the Good of the Order:

Ms. Dahl- Comments about TJ parent returning from military deployment.

14. Public Hearing: Limited to 3 minutes each.

None

Please state your name.

The President will open the floor for the Board to hear the public and then close the floor.
Please direct all dialogue to the President. Board replies are not required.

15. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting:

A. Tuesday, May 5, 2026

The public portion of the Meeting will begin at 7:30 pm in the Cafeteria of Thomas Jefferson Middle School. Meeting start time will most likely change to 6:30 pm.

16. Executive Session II (if necessary) -N/A

~~Be it resolved, that the Board enter into Executive Session (Private) for the purpose of discussing _____, the nature of which will be made public only when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.~~

~~***Moved by: Seconded by: Voice Vote:***~~

~~**THE BOARD ANTICIPATES BEING IN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR APPROXIMATELY ____ MINUTES.**~~
~~**BOARD ACTION _____ BE TAKEN AFTER THIS SESSION CONCLUDES.**~~

17. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting:

With no further business before the Board, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Moved by: Hernandez Seconded by: Dahl Voice Vote: ALL