



REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026

"All Remsen students will Soar to Success!"

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Lou Allen, Jeannie Scouten, Tara Kennerknecht, Patrick Nolan

MEMBERS ABSENT: Stephanie Karis

OTHERS PRESENT: Timothy Jenny, John McKeown, Abigail Roberts, Jody Lamphere, Sanya Pelrah, Kurt Crossett, Dale Dening, Kelly Runninger, Carlleen Taylor, Benjamin Doty, Kyle Smith, Caryn Johnson, James Johnson

Mr. McKeown and Mr. Jenny facilitated a budget workshop from 6:00 pm to 6:20 pm

Meeting called to Order by Mary Lou Allen, Board President at 6:21 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance recited by all present.

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 this afternoon.

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Stephanie Karis.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the minutes from the meeting held on March 11, 2026, approve the agenda dated April 14, 2026; 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:

- Mr. Pietruch led the third graders in a Recorder Recital on March 18th. Students performed various songs for their parents. This is their first opportunity learning how to read music and play an instrument. They all did a great job!
- On March 19th several students in pre-k through sixth grade participated in the PTG Science Fair. So many interesting projects were on display. The students received a participation award and another award that was decided on by the judges. It was amazing to see all the different projects and how well the students presented their project to the judges.
- Students in 4th through 12th grade performed in a concert on March 25th to celebrate music and the arts in our school. The concert was a blend of large ensembles and soloists. It was an amazing night with outstanding performance from all involved. Congratulations to Mr. Pietruch, Mr. Dangler, and the students!
- Our March Team Workshop was on March 26th. We discussed vocabulary instruction and fluency. Teachers were provided with activities that can be used in the classroom. During our April workshop we will discuss comprehension and look at some reading date.
- We have finished our One School, One Book event. Students were treated to the movie based on the book on March 31st and April 1st. Thank you to the PTG for providing this opportunity to our students. Just this morning I received an email from The Strand talking about how great the kids behaved and how they loved having them all come.
- Our students in grades pre-k through 6th will have the opportunity to earn a free admission ticket to Water Safari. Students must read a minimum of 6 hours outside of school during a 4 week period. It is a great opportunity for our students to earn a free ticket and all they have to do is read!
- Upcoming Events
 - NYS Testing Kick-off: April 13th
 - NYS ELA Tests: April 14 & 15 (grades 3 & 4)
 - NYS ELA Tests: April 16 & 17 (grades 5 & 6)
 - Quarter 3 Evening of Excellence: April 22nd
 - Parent-Teacher Conferences: April 23 & 24 (½ day for students)
 - PTG Dance for Grades 4-6: April 24th
 - Remsen Cleanup Day: April 25th
 - Rams on the Move: Starts April 27th

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

- On March 26th, The Elevating Students Voices student group, along with their advisor, Mrs. Carlleen Taylor, presented to our staff. The students presented their work and findings regarding students' perception on various aspects, such as neurodiversity, microaggressions, and social media. They explained their work at ESV and how the goal is to help make school welcoming and equitable for everyone. This was a great opportunity for our staff to hear directly from our students on these important issues. It's great and very important when we get the opportunity to hear feedback from the students.
- Our recent production of *SpongeBob the Musical* was truly a success. The cast, crew, and advisors demonstrated exceptional dedication and creativity throughout the entire process. From the performances to the technical elements, the show highlighted the talents of our students and how the drama club strives to provide a great show year after year. I can't wait to see what their artistic endeavors will bring next year.

- On March 19, we held the annual Senior Switch Day. This is a great opportunity for seniors to work with (and dress like) a staff member.
- On March 21, Remsen had another great showing at the Utica University Science Fair. Trent Jenny won Runner-up Grand Champion of the Senior Division, with a prize of a trophy, certificate and a half-tuition scholarship to Utica University for one year, placed third in the Senior Division of Natural Science, and won the ACS Student Chapter Award in Chemistry. Daniel Burdell and Tucker Scouten won Grand Champion of the Junior Division, with a prize of a trophy, certificate and a \$500 tuition scholarship for one year at Utica University, and placed first in the Junior Division of Physical Science. Additionally, Alexandria Flint and Blair Smith placed second in the Junior Division of Physical Science. This year marks the fifth year in a row that Remsen has won Grand Champion at the Junior Level.
- The Music in Ours Schools Month Concert was held on March 25th. It was wonderful to hear and see the progress of our young musicians. The concert featured soloists and small groups as well as the larger ensembles. Many of the students who performed solos will perform these solos in the upcoming NYSSMA Solo Festival. Additionally, the new audio system was used for the first time at a school event, and the improved quality was noted and appreciated.
- The SAT was hosted at the high school on April 1st for any student who wanted to take this exam, and there was no charge to the students. Providing this opportunity during the school day at Remsen not only allows students a more comfortable and familiar testing environment, but it also removes possible obstacles such as scheduling, transportation, and financial burden.
- Clubs and Activities
 - 12th Grade- The seniors have a busy month ahead of them. There are two fundraisers currently in progress. The Krispy Kreme sales and the Applebee's pancake breakfast. The prom committee is hard at work developing prom tickets, flyers, and finalizing menu decisions and decorations. They are also preparing for the senior trip, which is to take place May 15th through 17th in Cleveland, Ohio. Looking further ahead, caps and gowns are being ordered. They are also thinking about the end-of-year events, such as the senior sunset, senior picnic and senior-staff softball game.
 - 11th Grade - The junior class is in the middle of the Krispy Kreme fundraiser. They are working on next year's prom location, themes and menus.
 - 10th Grade- The sophomore class hosted the Spring Fling dance on March 27th. The students had a great time and made some great memories. They will be having another bake sale during parent-teacher conferences on April 23-24, and they are planning a field trip in June to go on a hike and have a picnic.
 - Battle of the Books - At the March 18th regional Battle of the Books Competition, Remsen placed 3rd out of 8 high school teams. This was a noteworthy accomplishment, especially since this was Remsen's first time attending. The team competed, watched others compete, had lunch, took a tour of Herkimer's library led by their head librarian, and had the opportunity to interact with students from other schools. The team was also invited to attend an author visit from John Schu (Louder than Hunger) on May 21st in Holland Patent. The team will be doing a book study/book club read of this book in preparation for the author visit. This was an exciting first year for the club.

- Diversity Club - They will use their presentation from this month's high school Team Workshop as their Summit Project, which is a requirement for the Elevating Student Voices program. This year's summit will be at Hart's Hill Inn on April 22nd. They plan to be part of next year's ESV as well. Additionally, they held their Shamrock Shake fundraiser on St. Patrick's Day. Because there was a 2-hour delay, the students learned about being adaptable and flexible to ensure this was a success.
- FFA - They are working on planting for the annual plant sale, and state convention planning is in the works.
- Journalism Club - The 4th issue of the school newspaper is complete, and they will start the 5th issue by the end of April. They recruited three 7th-graders to write short stories and book reviews.
- National Honor Society - They held a parents' night out for the elementary students on March 23rd. NHS students hosted various activities, such as games in the gym, puzzles, coloring, and board games, and everyone was treated to a few snacks.
- Student Council - Student Council served their fellow students and community members by selling snacks at the school musical. They also provided the candy prizes for the Crochet Club's egg hunt, and they are currently making plans for this year's Olympic Day.

Athletic Directors Report given by Dale Denning included the following:

- Modified sports began April 13th
- CSC AD Meeting is being held at Waterville HS on April 15th
- Varsity Golf Senior Night will take place prior to the start of the match between Remsen, Little Falls and Poland on Monday, April 20th at Alder Creek Golf Course. Remsen will be honoring our 2 female golfers this year: Ellie Secor and Makayla Wilcox.
- We would like to give a big thank you to the Bear Creek Golf Course for letting our team use their course for two weeks at no charge while we waited for winter to leave the Alder Creek Golf Course.
- The Final Spring 2026 roster numbers are:
 - Boys Varsity Track - 25
 - Girls Varsity Track - 22
 - Varsity Golf - 9

Preliminary Roster Numbers

- Modified Baseball - 14
- Modified Softball - 13
- Modified Track and Field - 18 (7 girls and 11 boys)
- Spring Coaches
 - Modified Baseball - Joseph Crossley
 - Modified Softball - Sarah Helmer
 - Modified Track & Field - Chloe Williams
 - Boys Varsity Track - John Bunker
 - Girls Varsity Track - Dan O'Bryan
 - Varsity Golf - Katey Secor
- Volunteer Assistant Coaches
 - Varsity Golf - Ben Doty, Shannon Meeker
 - Modified Softball - Ben Doty, Meghan Spadaro

NYSPPHSAA Transgender Policy

The NYSPHSAA advises schools to place students on interscholastic teams that most appropriately aligns with the student's gender identity in accordance to tryout or participate on an interscholastic team because of their gender identity. (see attached for Rules & Regulations regarding transgender students)

Please see attached Facilities Report.

Transportation Report was given by Kurt Crossett included the following:

- The DOT came on April 10 and 18, 2026 and all buses passed inspection.
- We finally received bus number 21 on March 20, 2026. The bus was on the road the same day and currently is transporting students.

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Patrick Nolan.

“BE IT RESOLVED, that in compliance with the provisions of Section 3012(e) 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 Caryn Johnson of Remsen, NY be appointed to tenure in the Teacher Assistant 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 September 1, 2026.”

Mrs Allen stated she gets the pleasure of working with Caryn in Mrs. Becker's classroom and she does such a wonderful job with all the students.

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Jeannie Scouten.

“BE IT RESOLVED, that in compliance with the provisions of Section 3012(e) 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 Kyle Smith of Boonville, NY be appointed to tenure in the Art Teacher tenure area, who holds a valid New York State Certificate permitting him to serve in the aforesaid tenure area, the Board of Education of the Remsen Central School does hereby make this appointment effective September 1, 2026.”

Mrs. Allen stated she also has the pleasure of seeing Kyle work with the students and he does a fantastic job. Mrs. Allen also stated that he has done a great job adapting with not having a classroom due to the construction happening.

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Patrick Nolan, second by Tara Kennerknecht.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from meetings held on March 5, 6, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 31, and April 1, 2, 2026. Please be reminded that discussion of specific IEP should be referred to Executive Session.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education adopt the budget for the 2026-2027 school year in the amount of \$16,115,375.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Jeannie Scouten.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education declare the following items as surplus and approve disposal or donation of the same:

- 6 Scrim light fixtures
- 12 par light fixtures
- Middle Atlantic audio rack

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Tara Kennerknecht.

WHEREAS, on or about April 9, 2019, the School District entered into an Agreement with Kuehne Construction (“Kuehne”) to complete the 2018 Capital Outlay Project at the Remsen Elementary School (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, the flooring manufactured by Sika Corporation, successor by merger to Schonox, HPS North America, Inc. (“Schonos”), and installed during the Project by Corporate Flooring”), a subcontractor to Kuehne, failed in 2023; and

WHEREAS, on June 6, 2025, the School District commenced a civil action against Kuehne and Schonox in New York State Supreme Court, Oneida County with Index No. EFCA2025-001996 (hereinafter, the “Lawsuit”); and

WHEREAS, the School District, Kuehne, Schonox, King + King Architects, LLC, and Corporate Flooring wish to revolve the Lawsuit through a settlement agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has considered the terms of a proposed settlement agreement and seeks to approve the same.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Remsen Central School District as follows:

1. The Board hereby approves of the proposed settlement agreement between the School District, Kuehne, Schonox, King + King Architects, LLC, and Corporate Flooring, and authorized the School District Superintendent, or his designee, to take all necessary actions and to execute any necessary documents on behalf of the Board of Education upon the recommendation of legal counsel necessary to effectuate/finalize the same.
2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Patrick Nolan.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Remsen Central School District (the “Board”) has considered the effect upon the environment of the proposed 2026-2027 Capital Outlay Project work, including but not limited to the following:

The 2026-27 capital outlay project will consist of toilet and/or bathroom improvements at the High School.

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the scope of the project and has further received and considered the advice of its architects with respect to the potential for environmental impacts resulting from the proposed action; and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the Proposed Action with respect to the Type II criteria set forth in 6 NYCRR Part 617.5(c), now therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education as follows:

1. The Proposed Action does not exceed thresholds established under 6 NYCRR Part 617, the State Environmental Quality Review Act , (SEQRA).
2. The Board hereby determines the Proposed Action as a Type II action in accordance with the SEQRA regulations.
3. No further review of the Proposed Action is required under SEQRA.
4. This resolution shall be effective immediately.

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the attached grant donations from Adirondack Community Foundation to the International Club and Foreign Language Classes in the total amount of \$4,000.00.”

Mrs. Allen stated it looked like the students had a really nice time on their trip, and they all behaved well!

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Jeannie Scouten.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve unpaid leave for Lacey Carino on March 23, 2026.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Tara Kennerknecht.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve unpaid leave for Laura Quinn on March 16 - 19, 2026.”

Mr. Jenny stated that Mrs. Quinn had the opportunity to participate in a program to work on receiving her teacher assistant certification.

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Tara Kennerknecht.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Jenny Tyre of Remsen, NY as a substitute teacher at the daily rate of \$150.00 retroactive to March 31, 2026.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the resignation from Benjamin Doty effective April 14, 2026.”

Mr. Allen stated thank you for doing such a wonderful job with our grounds.

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Benjamin Doty of Forestport, NY to the position Senior Custodian effective April 15, 2026 at an annual salary of \$60,000 .”

Mr. Jenny stated we are very excited and grateful Ben is taking this new position, we can't wait to see all you will accomplish for the team.

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Jeannie Scouten.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Timothy Clark of Woodgate, NY as a substitute cleaner at the hourly rate of \$16.00 effective April 15, 2026.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Patrick Nolan, second by Tara Kennerknecht.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Shannon Meeker of Remsen, NY as a volunteer assistant varsity golf coach for the spring 2026 season.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Benjamin Doty of Forestport, NY as a volunteer assistant varsity golf coach for the spring 2026 season.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, Jeannie Scouten.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Kaitlyn Galinski of Rome, NY as a substitute teacher at the daily rate of \$110.00 effective April 15, 2026, pending fingerprint clearance.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Jeannie Scouten.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Benjamin Doty of Forestport, NY as a volunteer assistant modified softball coach for the spring 2026 season.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Tara Kennerknecht.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Meghan Spadaro of Remsen, NY as a volunteer assistant modified softball coach for the spring 2026 season.”

4 yes 0 no

Information & Correspondence

Mr. Jenny stated a reminder that the Special Board of Education Meeting will be held April 28th in the Elementary Library to vote on the BOCES budget and BOCES Board of Education members.

Soaring to Success- Board of Education Roundtable Remarks

Board of Education Five-Star Service Recognition - Maria Ultsch was the winner drawn for the month of March and received a \$35 Stewart's gift card.

Mrs. Allen stated congrats to Maria, she has done a great job and is really good with the kids, we are glad to have her.

Round Table Remarks

Mr. Jenny - Stated he had the chance to go up to The Strand to enjoy a movie and while up there the owner Bob Card made it a point to let him know how great the elementary students all were when they came to see Mr. Poppers Penguin and he loved having them come. Congratulations to Caryn and Kyle for receiving tenure! Ben Doty, welcome to the team as our Senior Custodian, we appreciate all that you do for our school. Not only has he handled the grounds but he is a volunteer coach for multiple sports and a bus driver. You are always looking for ways to help the students and it's greatly appreciated! Mr. Jenny stated it is that busy time of year with all the annual reviews for the CSE students. High fives to Fay Harper for doing such a great job and managing all of the meetings on top of her other day to day work. High fives also to all the teachers for making time in their days and schedules to also attend all of those meetings as well. And high fives to Laura for organizing and taking care of all the correspondence with the parents and teachers. Maria is doing an amazing job as our elementary nurse and we are so glad she chose to be part of the Remsen team!

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Jeannie Scouten to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 p.m.