



REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 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, Deborah Geci, Abigail Roberts, Jody Lamphere, Sanya Pelrah, Benjamin Doty, Kurt Crossett, Kelly Runninger, Carlleen Taylor

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

Pledge of Allegiance recited by all present.

Presentation given by Mrs. Carlleen Taylor for the Class of 2027 Senior Trip to Boston.

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 Patrick Nolan.

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

- Many camps were held for our students. Some of the camps included were the Crafty Campers, Rams Academy, Creative Readers, Camp Read a Lot, STEAM, and Brick by Brick Legos. Students were involved in creating crafts, experiencing a hot air balloon, and attended a drone experience at SUNY Poly.
- Several teachers and myself participated in a book study titled 7 Mighty Moves by Lindsay Kemeny. This was an asynchronous book study led by Michele O'Connor. Great discussion was had throughout the 4 weeks.
- Our new cohort of pre-kindergarteners will be screened for speech, academics, and motor skills on August 18, 19 and 20. Thank you to Mrs. Frost, Ms. Maguire and Mrs. McQueeney for their help with screenings.
- Fliers were sent out to our incoming pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students. We will hold our annual orientation days on August 26th. Students will come in to see their classrooms, meet their teachers, and participate in com activities.
- Upcoming Events
 - Pre-K Screening -August 18-20
 - New Staff Days - August 24-26
 - Pre-K/K Orientation - August 26
 - Superintendent's Conference Days - September 1-2
 - First Day of School - September 3

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

- A team of teachers, Principal Lamphere and I are currently interviewing art teacher candidates. I am looking forward to welcoming our new art teacher to the Remsen Team!
- I appreciate that our custodial staff has remained flexible and resilient, adjusting to the needs of the building, be it the construction projects or the busyness of the summer programs; they have stayed focused on preparing the building for the new school year. Having a building that is clean, safe, and ready to welcome out students and staff is essential for a successful start to the school year.
- Ms. Dineen worked diligently and closely collaborated with me to ensure student schedules were finalized. They were made available to students and families by the beginning of August, which allows them to plan accordingly for the school year.
- Teachers were offered again this year additional paid curriculum mapping hours over the summer. Those who were able to take advantage of this opportunity were appreciative.
- The BOCES summer school program at Remsen will conclude on August 13. Students wishing to retake a Regents Exam will have the opportunity to do so at the High School on August 18th and 19th.
- I am excited to welcome our students and families to Back-to-School Night on September 2nd. This event provides a great opportunity for students and families to reacclimate with teachers, school staff, and each other, while gathering information about extracurricular activities and exploring displays from local community organizations.
- In addition, Ms. Dineen will host informational sessions for several grade levels throughout the evening, including seniors at 5:00, seventh grade at 5:45, and ninth grade at 6:15 in the high school library. Families are encouraged to enjoy hot dogs, hamburgers and salad throughout the evening. I look forward to this fun, engaging, and positive way to kick off the 2026-2027 school year!

See attached Athletic Directors Report.

Facilities Report given by Ben Doty include the following:

- The high school and elementary teams have been busy with summer deep cleaning, room maintenance and painting.
- The grounds team has been busy with mowing and regular maintenance.
- Construction Update:
 - Rooms 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10, all windows and flooring are complete. The windows to the main entry along with the library window and door are replaced. Along with the window in the hall across from the cafeteria and the entry/exit to the courtyard.
 - The driveway and parking lot demo has continued at the elementary school.
 - The high school stairs tread and painting are mostly complete.
 - The high school gym floor has been sanded and some of the damaged areas have been repaired.

Transportation Report was given by Kurt Crossett included the following:

- We are almost done with summer programs, the last day of busing students will be August 14th.
- We are gearing up for next year's busing runs. We have most runs planned out but are waiting on a few placements of special ed students.
- On August 12th we are DOT inspecting buses, 14, 19, 20, 21 and 99.

A brief discussion for the upcoming 2026-2027 schedule for BOE curriculum presentations occurred with Mrs. Allen suggesting UFLI and Capstone Projects. Mrs. Jenny suggested project tours for the Board Members once the construction projects are complete.

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Jeannie Scouten.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from meetings held on July 14, 16 and 30, 2026. 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.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the 2025-2026 tax levy in the amount of \$5,845,683.00.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Patrick Nolan.

WHEREAS, Section 30-2.9 of the rules of the NYS Board of Regents requires certification of Lead Evaluators for the purpose of conducting evaluations of teachers and principals in accordance with the requirements of Section 3012-d and 3012-e of the NYS Education Law, which governs annual professional performance reviews; and

WHEREAS, the individuals identified below have successfully completed the training requirements prescribed under Section 03-2.9(b) of the Rules of NYS Board of Regents; now, therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby certify that the following individuals have successfully met the requirements prescribed by the NYS Board of Regents as qualified lead evaluators:

1. Timothy Jenny
2. Jody Lamphere
3. Sanya Pelrah

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the updates to the Athletic Code of Conduct Policy #7036 due to the recent New York State changes to the Athletic Placement Process.”

Tara Kennerknecht asked what the changes were. Mr. Jenny explained the changes.

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Tara Kennerknecht.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the 2026-2027 tax rates per thousand (excluding library levy) as follows:

Town of Ohio	\$21.920623
Town of Russia	\$19.523054
Town of Steuben	\$26.031730
Town of Boonville	\$29.057569
Town of Forestport	\$24.989509
Town of Remsen	\$41.650002
Town of Trenton	\$32.880933

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the Senior Class overnight Field Trip from May 14, 2027 to May 16, 2027.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Jeannie Scouten.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Anthony Dangler as a mentor for the new Art Teacher for the 2026-2027 school year.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Tara Kennerknecht.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Amy Piaschyk as a mentor for the new Physical Education Teacher for the 2026-2027 school year.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Emily Laurey as a co-mentor for the new Elementary School Counselor Long Term Substitute for the 2026-2027 school year with a split stipend.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Meghan Dineen as a co-mentor for the new Elementary School Counselor Long Term Substitute for the 2026-2027 school year with a split stipend.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Jeannie Scouten.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Dennis Quackenbush of Remsen, NY as a long-term substitute bus driver at the hourly rate of \$26.27 retroactive to July 1, 2026.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint John McKeown of Rome, NY as a per diem interim Business Administrator at the hourly rate of \$68.16 and daily rate of \$511.01 effective August 12, 2026.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of education approve Kelly Runniger for two unpaid leave days on November 19 and 20, 2026.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Patirck Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Laura Boyd of Utica, NY as part-time french teacher at 0.80 full-time equivalent (FTE) for the 2026-2027 school year per the attached memorandum of agreement.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Gary Winghart, the District’s Technology Curriculum Coordinator, as the Drone Club advisor for the 2026-2027 school year paid at the year three stipend amount of \$1,438.00.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Jeannie Scouten.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Gary Winghart, the District’s Technology Curriculum Coordinator, as the Lego Club advisor for the 2026-2027 school year paid at the year three stipend amount of \$1,438.00.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Jeannie Scouten.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Jennifer Martin as the Elementary School-Based Intervention Team Coordinator for the 2026-2027 school year at an annual stipend of \$3,000.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Carolyn Manna of Whitesboro, NY as a substitute teacher at the daily rate of \$120 and once certification is completed then paid at a daily rate of \$150, effective September 1, 2026.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Christopher Olney of Cold Brook, NY as grounds worker at the hourly rate of \$18.00 effective August 12, 2026, pending fingerprint clearance.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Casey Gates of Remsen, NY as a substitute grounds worker and substitute cleaner at the hourly rate of \$16.00 effective August 12, 2026, pending fingerprint clearance.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second by Tara Kennerknecht.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Raine Stevens of Whitesboro, NY as a substitute teacher at the daily rate of \$110 effective September 1, 2026.”

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Patrick Nolan.

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the resignation from Joseph Crossley effective August 31, 2026.”

4 yes 0 no

Information & Correspondence

Mr. Jenny gave a reminder of the great Back to School Night on September 2nd, the elementary school is held 4:30 to 5:30 pm and the high school is 5:30 to 6:30 pm.

Soaring to Success- Board of Education Roundtable Remarks

Round Table Remarks

Tara Kennerknecht- I just can't believe we are already starting a new school year already, this past year and summer went by so fast!

Mrs. Allen - Stated she would like to give appreciation to all the teachers and assistants who worked the summer camps, its great to give the kids these opportunities and it wouldn't happen without them. Mr. Rob Smith did a great job this summer keeping up and a big thank you to all the custodians and student cleaners, they all did a lot of work cleaning a painting this summer and it all looks great. Kurt did a great job with the buses for summer camps and getting the buses ready for the new school year to begin.

Mr. Jenny - We are very fortunate to have the contractors we had, there will always be surprises with work and construction, but all the contractors did a great job taking care of everything. It was great to see the general contractors, electrical, plumbing, mechanical and site contractors all working together and moving forward in the right direction. We are very grateful for them all. Thank you to the principals for coordinating all of the summer events and everyone for the summer camps, and summer classes/testing, and always having a smile on your faces while doing it. It was a great summer with a lot of work completed. All the elementary classrooms were able to be finished before students returned along with the elementary offices. The area between the gym and primary wing should be completed before school starts along with all the paving. The curbing was delayed which set back the paving but it has come and the workers stayed later to get it all set and we are now moving forward.

Motion by Tara Kennerknecht, second by Jeannie Scouten to enter into executive session at 6:53 p.m. to discuss Superintendent evaluation and goals.

The medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation.

4 yes 0 no

Motion out of executive session by Jeannie Scouten, second Tara Kennerknecht at 7:55 p.m.

4 yes 0 no

Motion by Jeannie Scouten, second Tara Kennerknecht to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

4 yes 0 no