

**Rochelle Park Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes – 7:30 P.M.
February 11, 2013**

- I. Call to Order and Flag Salute**
- II. Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried**

Board Members	Present	Absent
Mr. Jay Esposito, Vice President	X	
Mr. Sam Allos		X (arrived 8:05)
Mrs. Teresa Cravello	X	
Mrs. Maria Lauerman	X	
Mrs. Dimitria Leakas	X	
Mr. Mark Scully		X
Mrs. Patricia Bilka, President	X	

Others present:

- Bert Ammerman, Interim Superintendent
- Vincent Occhino, Interim Business Administrator /Board Secretary
- Ellen Kobylarz, Board Recording Secretary

III. Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P. L. 1975 Announcement – by Board President

In accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, I wish to announce that:

“The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. Notices announcing the date, time and place for this Regular Meeting were sent to all concerned individuals, associations and sent to the The Record and The Our Town, in accordance with Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.”

IV. Superintendent’s Report- Mr. Ammerman reported:

- There was a large group of students from Mr. Grossman’s classes that were in attendance; Mr. Ammerman explained to the audience how the Board of Education meetings are conducted.

V. Business Administrator’s Report Dr. Occhino reported:

- Updated budget handouts were given to the Board Members for 2013-2014 budget.
- There is a resolution on the agenda for a waiver to participate in the SEMI program.

VI. Public Questions on the Resolutions (Agenda Items Only)

During this portion of the meeting, the residents are invited to address the Board regarding agenda items only.

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Leakas, to open public comment at 7:38 p.m.
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

NONE

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, seconded by Mr. Esposito, to close public comment at 7:39 p.m.
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

VII. Items for Board Action - Resolutions

Note: Resolutions marked with an asterisk are as a result of Executive Session Discussion.

ROUTINE MATTERS R1-R6

POLICY #0168 – APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

R1. RESOLVED, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the minutes of the following meetings:

A. January 21, 2013 Regular Meeting & Executive Session

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mr. Esposito
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

POLICY #5200 - ATTENDANCE

R2. RESOLVED: that the Board of Education approves the attendance report for the month of January 2013 as listed:

<u>Enrollment</u>		<u>Left</u>	<u>Entered</u>
Midland School	458	1-Grade 2	2-Kindergarten
Hackensack H.S.	143.5		2-Grade 1
Academies /Tech	<u>16</u>		1-Grade 2,
			1- Grade4, 1-Grade6
Total	617.5		1-PSPSH
<u>Pupil Attendance</u>		<u>Teacher Attendance</u>	
Possible Days	9161	Possible Days	846
Days Present	8993	Days Present	803
Days Absent	623	Days Absent	43
% Present	98.1%	% Present	94.9%
% Absent	1.9%	% Absent	5.1%

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mr. Esposito
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

Policy #8420 – EMERGENCY & CRISIS SITUATIONS

R3. RESOLVED: that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the following Fire and Security drills held in the month of January of 2013 for the Rochelle Park School District.

**Fire Drill – January 31, 2013
Security Drill- January 9, 2013**

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mr. Esposito
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

Policy #5512.01 – HARASSMENT- INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING

R4. RESOLVED: that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the following HIB Report for January 2013 on behalf of the Rochelle Park School District.

January 2013

Reported Incidents: 6

Number of Incidents determined to be HIB: 1

Number of Incidents determined not to be HIB: 5

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mr. Esposito
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

POLICY #5120 NEEDS ASSESSMENT - PUPILS

R5. RESOLVED: that on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following special education placements and related services for The remainder of the 2012 - 2013 school year:

Case# 10-04

Classification: ED

Placement: BCSS- Brownstone

Effective 1/22/2013

Tuition: \$296.00 per day for the remaining 98 days of the school year- total \$29,000.00

Transportation: waived by parent

Related Services: Counseling, Speech

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mr. Esposito
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

R6. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education does hereby adopt the 2012-2013 board goals.

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mr. Esposito
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

PERSONNEL P1-P6

POLICY #3240 – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

***P1. RESOLVED:** on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approves the participation of the persons named at the following workshops/conferences:

Mrs. Weiner to attend “New Jersey Music Ed Association Conference” in E. Brunswick on February 21, & 22 at a cost of \$150.00 for registration to be paid by the district.

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, seconded by Mr. Esposito
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

***P2. RESOLVED:** that on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves Angela Jacobus to receive \$31.00 per hour not to exceed \$3,000.00 for conducting NJ ASK Preparation classes.

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, seconded by Mr. Esposito
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

***P3. RESOLVED: that on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following salary crossovers retroactive to date indicated below:**

<u>Employee Name</u>	<u>Date of Crossover</u>	<u>Changes</u>
Nancy Oliver	February 1, 2011	BA+15 to BA+30
Thomas Hornes	February 1, 2011	BA to BA+15
Nancy Oliver	September 1, 2011	BA+30 to MA
Donna Johnson	September 1, 2012	BA+15 to MA
Jennifer O'Brien	September 1, 2012	BA+15 to BA+30
Christine Raimondi	September 1, 2012	MA to MA+15
Thomas Hornes	September 1, 2012	BA+15 to BA+30

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, seconded by Mr. Esposito
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

***P4. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approves the hiring of umpires for the spring 2013 Baseball/Softball season at a cost of \$50.00 per game not to exceed \$1,000.00 per season.**

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, seconded by Mr. Esposito
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

POLICY # 4125 EMPLOYMENT OF SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS

***P5. RESOLVED: that on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Rochelle Park Board of Education appoint the following personnel to the following positions for the 2012-2013 school year at the hourly rate as stated:**

Raymond Soff Jr.	- Latchkey Lead Assistant \$20.00
Patricia Daubner	- Latchkey Lead Assistant \$20.00
Vilma Barrios	- Latchkey Assistant \$18.00
Lorraine Jakubik	- Latchkey Assistant \$18.00

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, seconded by Mr. Esposito
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

***P6. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approves the following substitute teachers for the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year at a rate of \$85.00 per day:**

Samantha D'Aloisio-Schmunk

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, seconded by Mr. Esposito
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

FINANCE F1-F8

FINANCE AND INSURANCE

Upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator to the Superintendent:

POLICY #6421 – PAYMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES

F1. RESOLVED, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the February 2013 Bill List as approved by the Finance Committee, attached and listed below:

	Amount
A) Regular Bills – Fund 11	\$219,948.21
B) Regular Bills – Fund 20	\$2,734.00
C) Lunch Prgm – Fund 50	\$13,914.93
D) Enterprise - Fund 51	
TOTAL ALL BILLS	<u>\$236,597.14</u>
February Void Ck	
TOTAL	\$236,597.14

ATTACHMENT 1

Motion by Mrs. Leakas seconded by Mrs. Cravello
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

POLICY #6510 – PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION

F2. RESOLVED: that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the February 2013 payroll in the amount of \$411,504.36.

Motion by Mrs. Leakas seconded by Mrs. Cravello
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

POLICY # 6820 – FINANCIAL REPORTS

Monthly Budgetary Line Item Status Certifications

F3. RESOLVED, that the Board Secretary for the Rochelle Park Board of Education certifies that pursuant to NJAC 6A:23-2.11 (c) 3, as of December 31, 2012, that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of NJAC 6A:23-2.11(a); and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education certifies that pursuant to NJAC 6A:23-2-11 (c) 4 that after review of the board secretary’s and treasurer’s monthly financial reports and the advice of district officials, we have no reason to doubt that no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of NJAC 6A:23-2.11 (b).

Motion by Mrs. Leakas seconded by Mrs. Cravello
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

Board Secretary’s Report

F4. RESOLVED: that the Rochelle Park Board of Education accepts the Board Secretary and Treasurer’s Financial Report for the month of December 2012.

ATTACHMENT 2

Motion by Mrs. Leakas seconded by Mrs. Cravello
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

POLICY#6660- STUDENT ACTIVITY FUND

F5. RESOLVED: that the Rochelle Park Board of Education accept the Student Activity Fund Financial Reports for the months of January 2013.

ATTACHMENT 3

Motion by Mrs. Leakas seconded by Mrs. Cravello
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

POLICY #6111 – SPECIAL EDUCATION MEDICAID INITIATIVE (SEMI) PROGRAM

F6. Whereas, NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district’s participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2013-2014 , and

Whereas, the Rochelle Park Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that participation in SEMI would not provide a cost benefit to the district based on the projection of the district’s available SEMI reimbursement for the 2013-2014 budget year

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education hereby authorizes the School Business Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Bergen an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A23A-5.3 for the 2013-2014 school year.

Motion by Mrs. Leakas seconded by Mrs. Cravello
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

F7.BE IT RESOLVED that the Rochelle Park Board of Education continue its membership in the Bergen County Region V Council for Special Education for the remained of the 2013-2014 school year; and does hereby accept, adopt and agree to comply with the Region V Bylaws; designates the Superintendent as its representative to Region V; and empowers him to cast all votes and take all other actions necessary to represent its interests in Region V. The Board further approves the Joint Transportation Agreements for all Rochelle Park students who are transported through Region V.

Motion by Mrs. Leakas seconded by Mrs. Cravello
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

POLICY #7510 – USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

F8. RESOLVED, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the application for use of school facilities made by the following groups/organizations listed below. The Board reserves the right to schedule school activities at any time.

Group/Organization	Use Purpose/Room	Date	Rental Fee
Class of 2013	Car Wash –Parking lot	May 18, 2013	None
Midland School #1 PTA	Exec Board Meeting- Library	March 7, 2013-April 4, 2013	None
Rochelle Park Recreation- Adult Basketball	Gym/Multi-Purpose Room	Thursday nights- February/March 7:9:30	None
Girl Scouts of America	Classroom	2/27-3/13-3/20-4/2-4/17	None

Motion by Mrs. Leakas seconded by Mrs. Cravello
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

VIII. Reports – Committee Action Items

Finance- President Bilka reported: The committee met earlier in the evening. Items discussed were facility improvements, funds in reserve, and additional credits to degree. Copies of the budget revisions were handed out to the other board members. Budget is under the 2% cap. President Bilka explained to the students in the audience the budget process. As well as explaining that if the Board stays below the 2% cap a public vote on the budget is not necessary. In the past the public would vote on the school budget regardless of the amount, if the public voted the budget down, the Township would be involved in determining the school budget for the upcoming year.

Education- Mrs. Lauerman reported: Mrs. Leakas, Mrs. Hurd and Mrs. Lauerman will meet with members of the RPEA. Mrs. Lauerman will report on that meeting next month.

Transportation- Mrs. Cravello reported: Transportation will be on the website for the upcoming exams. No problems were reported with the impromptu half day on Friday. If any issues do come up with regard to transportation Mrs. Cravello asked that parents please call Nathalie in the board office ext. 113.

Building & Grounds- Mr. Esposito; Thanked the custodians for having the grounds ready during Friday's snow storm & the town for plowing the Williams Street lot. Recent heat problems have been repaired.

Community & School Activities- Mr. Esposito reported: The different recreation associations will be voting on their prospective President's & VP's and a list will be given to the board. The Valentine's Day dance is this Friday.

Legislation- President Bilka reported: on an Anti-Big Brother Act. Schools who issue lab tops to their students can record the activity on that computer. Also with regard to Anti-Bullying a task force found three issues that need to be addressed: 1) greater clarification of bullying 2) better training for Anti-Bullying personnel 3) Greater flexibility in investigating cases.

Policy- Mrs. Lauerman had nothing to report with regard to policies

Mr. Ammerman stated that his office has received policy updates and the committee will be meeting before next month to review said policies.

Board/Staff Relations- Mrs. Lauerman had nothing to report for Board/Staff Relations.

Negotiating- President Bilka reported: that the negotiation process for the next contract is due to start very soon. The Board has prepared their items and has given several meeting dates to the RPEA.

Joint Boards- Mrs. Cravello reported: the High School PTSA meeting is on Feb 13th, HHS will be closed for winter break on February 18th. Bio tests will be given on May 21-22. HHS Fashion show is April 2nd, tickets on sale now \$55.00. Contact the High School if interested.

Bergen County School Boards- Mrs. Lauerman reported Mrs. Cravello, Mrs. Leakas & Mrs. Lauerman attended a panel meeting. The topic was school security. Mrs. Lauerman handed out worksheets from the meeting which provided school district with recommendations.

Mr. Ammerman stated that the board will discuss this at the next caucus, 1 or 2 of the suggestions may not be able to be done. At a recent meeting Mr. Ammerman attended he stated Mr. Molinelli (Bergen County Prosecutor) offered to have a person from his department come into the schools and assess the security.

New Jersey School Boards- Mrs. Leakas encouraged all board members to take advantage of training sessions NJSB has online.

Municipal Alliance Liaison- Mrs. Cravello reported that she attended a 9/11 meeting regarding the monument the committee is working on.

Mrs. Lauerman asked if there is a drawing of what the monument would look like.

Mrs. Cravello stated yes.

Mrs. Lauerma asked if it was different from what the board saw before.

Mrs. Cravello stated that in the new design the steel is inside the monument itself. She did not remember the exact measurements of the monument. It is still in the tentative stages.

IX. Open to the Public (Any Item)

During this portion of the meeting, the residents are invited to address the Board with any questions, comments or concerns that may be in respect to the operation of their school.

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, seconded by Mrs. Leakas to open public comment at 7:45 p.m.

Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

Mr. Kareem Jazzim - 53 Central Ave inquired as to when the bells will be working again.

Mr. Ammerman stated that a part was needed. The district received a proposal this morning and should be done by the end of this week.

Mrs. Grieco 46 Peek St- inquired about the youth academy, (usually held spring recess week, this year two days were taken back due to the October storm).

Mr. Ammerman stated that he spoke to Officer Arendacs. The district will excuse the absence on Monday because that is orientation. Students would report to school on Tuesday and then to the youth academy the rest of the week. Officer Arendacs agreed that would be ok. That is with the assumption that there are no more snow days.

Mrs. Laface- 55 Chestnut St. Pre-K program went to register and found out that there were only 7 slots. She e-mailed Mr. Ammerman and now understands the makeup of the class but still wanted to know if spots would be available in the future.

Mr. Ammerman confirmed that the class is made up of Regular Ed and Special Ed students. The district has to hold open a certain number of slots for Special Ed students. As we get closer to the start of school and we see that we don't need all those spots then we will go to the waiting list and offer the slots to the people on that list first.

Mrs. Laface- stated she was told by other parents that if you called ahead you could have been put on the list. She asked why is that part not public (you call ahead and your name gets on the list).

Mr. Ammerman stated he will speak to the person in charge. Last year with latchkey, The parents thought it was automatic. Mrs. Cuomo is very conscientious. He did not believe you could call ahead. He will check if enrollment can be increased or if there was enough of an interest the district may start another class. Split enrollment would still factor into each program.

Ms. Lauren Abrams- 238 Howard Ave- inquired as to why this year there will only be two gymnastics shows instead of 3. The younger students will not have an assembly.

Mr. Ammerman stated that too many programs were being held during the day and it was taking away from instructional time. We are trying to separate middle school and elementary programs. We decided to compromise and have assemblies during the day according to elementary and middle school classification. There are exceptions like Michael Fowlin. It was an important workshop for the 5th grade students to see so we made an exception to the rule. But an exception cannot be the rule.

Ms. Abrams asked can we have the third.

Mr. Ammerman stated no.

Mr. Kareem Jazzim- 53 Central Ave asked if we can we have middle school soccer and lacrosse.

Mr. Ammerman explained that at his first meeting he was here the baseball and softball programs were reinstated. There are budgetary reasons that make it not affordable at this time. Say you have the numbers (enrollment) but now is not the right time, going forward if you had the support you could petition the board. Mr. Ammerman stated the town has a soccer program.

Mrs. Abraham- 135 Forest Pl. asked if the playground was up and running and if the students could use it.

Mr. Ammerman stated it was done but we are waiting until the weather is better before students can go on.

Mrs. Abraham stated that the district worked on the heating situation last year but her child stated it's still cold.

Mr. Ammerman stated it was a problem with the steam traps that needed to be corrected and there's a problem in one hallway. The district is working on resolving this issue.

Mr. Raymond Vasquez- 63 Susquehanna Ave. requested if the 6th, 7th & 8th graders can go on the playground.

Mr. Ammerman- reiterated, when the weather is better and within the age limitation allowed on the playground by the manufacturer.

Mr. Vraj Vyas- 162 W. Oldis St. questioned why the district doesn't recycle.

Mr. Ammerman- stated it was a good question.

President Bilka thought it would be a good issue for one of the school clubs to take on, maybe Student Council.

Mrs. Lauerma stated that at this upcoming field day there will be a new competition involving recycling.

Ms. Brittney Coppabinco-22 Becker Ave inquired about backpacks. Recently the students have not been allowed to carry backpacks around the school.

Mr. Ammerman explained that Mrs. Hurd was following the directive of the fire department inspector.

Ms. Lauren Abrams- 238 Howard Ave with regard to the backpacks asked if we could find another solution.

Mr. Ammerman referred her to Mrs. Hurd.

Mr. Vraj Vyas- 162 W. Oldis St. - asked if drawstring bags could be used instead.

Mr. Ammerman referred him to Mrs. Hurd.

Mrs. Laface- 55 Chestnut St asked with regard to the heat situation, why wasn't an e-mail sent home.

Mr. Ammerman stated if it was more than one day he would have sent something home. Parents that signed up for the e-alert system (about 40%) get messages. If more parents signed up the district could put out simple statements. Otherwise no letters are being sent home. Come the fall, you will see even less things coming home.

Mrs. Laface- stated with the delayed opening some didn't get the announcement. She saw parents arriving early to school. What happened to the reverse 911 system?

Mr. Ammerman stated the easiest way to contact a large group of people is the e-alert system; Parents can also go on the news, and the school website. Hopefully, after coming to school early they went home and signed up for the e-alert system.

Ms. Alexandra Lehmbeck- Central Ave- asked why the students can't have bottles of water in class.

Mr. Ammerman- simply stated it is school procedure but can happen in emergency situations. We did this last spring when water fountains were turned off.

Mr. Kareem Jazzim- 53 Central Ave- questioned why the lunch is so expensive.

Mr. Ammerman stated that was dictated by the food company. Law dictates the portion size.

Motion by Mrs. Lauerma, seconded by Mrs. Cravello, to close public comment at 8:24 p.m.

Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

X. Announcements

The next Caucus Meeting will be held on Monday, March 4, 2013 at 7:30 P. M. in the Media Center. The Regular meeting will be held on March 11, 2013 at 7:30 P.M. The Special Budget Hearing will be held on Monday March 25, 2013 at 7:30 P.M. in the Media Center.

XI. Executive Session Announcement (if needed)

WHEREAS, the Rochelle Park Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the “Board”) will convene in Executive Session to discuss confidential matters which include:

Personnel HIB

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board shall move into Executive Session to discuss the above referenced matter(s).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the minutes of the executive session will provide as much information as possible without violating any applicable privilege or confidentiality so that the public can understand what was discussed and when available what the Board decision was.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the minutes of the executive session will be released to the public in an appropriately redacted form within a reasonable period of time after the privilege or confidentiality is no longer applicable to such minutes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the redacted portion of the executive session minutes will not be released until such time as the privilege or confidentiality is no longer applicable.

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Leakas, to open Executive Session at 8:24 p.m.
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to close Executive Session at 9:00 p.m.
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

Motion by Mrs. Leakas, seconded by Mrs. Cravello, to resume Regular Meeting Agenda at 9:01 p.m.
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried

XII. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Esposito, seconded by Mr. Allos, to adjourn meeting at 9:02 p.m.
Roll Call 5-0 Motion Carried