

**Rochelle Park Board of Education  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
November 12, 2012**

- I. Call to Order and Flag Salute**
- II. Roll Call 6-0 motion carried**

Board Members	Present	Absent
Mr. Robert Verhasselt, Vice President	x	
Mr. Sam Allos	x	
Mrs. Teresa Cravello	x	
Mr. Jay Esposito		(left 8:00)
Mrs. Maria Lauerma	x	
Mr. Mark Scully	x	
Mrs. Patricia Bilka, President	x	

Others Present:

- Bert Ammerman, Interim Superintendent
- Vincent Occhino, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary
- Cara Hurd, Principal
- 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 Star Ledger, The Record and The Our Town, in accordance with Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.”

**IV. Superintendent’s Report- Report was given at Caucus**

**V. Presentation of the District’s Testing Report**

- *Mr. Ammerman presented the District Testing Report*  
*Mr. Scully- inquired about the DFG FG standing*  
*Mr. Ammerman – explained how districts are categorized and the DFG FG figure is the mean average for all the schools that fall in that category.*  
*President Bilka- asked about the data was it one class over time or one grade over time.*  
*Mr. Ammerman explained the weighted average slide included 5 years same grade.*  
*Grade cluster data slide- represents same students over a 5 year period.*  
*President Bilka- asked when they changed the standards*  
*Mr. Ammerman explained in 2010- scores across the state dropped in fourth grade*  
*President Bilka- asked if that could explain the 20% drop.*  
*Mr. Ammerman – stated it could be. Mr. Ammerman went on to explain the increase in numbers the following years; he attributed that to the teachers Ms. Schwarz & Ms. Loverich, and followed with the reasoning behind moving the two teachers into 5<sup>th</sup> grade.*  
*Vice President Verhasselt- inquired about the 4<sup>th</sup> grade scores and the fact that they seemed to dip down.*

*Mr. Ammerman- stated that there are some new teachers in that grade as well, if the numbers don't go up then he will have to look at that area and make changes accordingly.*

Mrs. Rizzo -76 Becker Ave -inquired about Midland School Special Education students compared to other special education students.

*Mr. Ammerman- the numbers are small.*

Mrs. Abraham- 135 Forest Pl- what about out of district students are they included in the numbers.

*Mr. Ammerman- We should not be held responsible for students out of district, however, State of NJ tells the district "don't send you students there".*

Mrs. Rizzo- 76 Becker Ave- asked if the special education students take the same test as the regular students. If so then she feels that's not fair.

*Mr. Ammerman stated yes they do take the same tests. NCLB stated by 2014 every student would pass. Now they are focusing on personal growth and not holding to proficient, just growth. That's the direction the state is now going in.*

Mrs. Minichetti- 48 Harvey Ave- asked about the moving of personnel, what is that due to?

*Mr. Ammerman- explained-2 levels- K-5 teachers have to know all areas. Middle school teachers specialize in one area. We have recognized the expertise and so we have tried to tap into that to see if it works.*

Mrs. Leakas- 41 Powell Ave- the rest of student's middle of the road are we doing anything for them?

*Mr. Ammerman- NJ ASK Prep for 7<sup>th</sup> graders only.*

Mrs. Abraham-135 Forest Pl- inquired about the 4<sup>th</sup> grade issue.

*Mr. Ammerman- reiterated that everything was addressed and we will have to see if it works.*

**VI. Business Administrator's Report- Report was given at caucus**

**VII. 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 Mr. Scully, seconded by Mrs. Cravello, to open public comment at 8:24 p.m.

Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

Mrs. Minichetti- 48 Harvey Ave- asked with regard to the calendar- could you take away good Friday- due to vacations already planned.

*Mr. Ammerman- stated it would be a problem.*

Mrs. Abraham-135 Forest Pl- asked if the new calendar would be up on the website.

*Mr. Ammerman stated it would be on the website and sent home.*

Mrs. Rizzo – 76 Becker Ave- How will it affect the children who miss, will they be penalized.

*Mr. Ammerman- stated they would be allowed to take the work with them.*

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to close public comment at 8:45 p.m.

Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

**VIII. Items for Board Action - Resolutions**

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

**ROUTINE MATTERS R1-R7**

**POLICY# 0168 – APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**

**R1. RESOLVED:** that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approve the minutes of the following meetings:

- a. October 8, 2012 Caucus Meeting & Executive Session
- b. October 8, 2012 Regular Meeting & Executive Session

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

**POLICY #5200 - ATTENDANCE**

**R2. RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education approve the attendance report for the month of October 2012 as listed:

<u>Enrollment</u>		<u>Left</u>	<u>Entered</u>
Midland School	448		1-2 <sup>nd</sup> Grader
Hackensack H.S.	144.5		2- 7 <sup>th</sup> Graders
Academies/ Technical Schools	11		
<b>Total</b>	<b>603.5</b>		

<u>Pupil Attendance</u>		<u>Teacher Attendance</u>	
Possible Days	8944	Possible Days	940
Days Present	8653	Days Present	920.5
Days Absent	291	Days Absent	19.5
% Present	96.7	% Present	97.9
% Absent	3.3	% Absent	2.1

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

**Policy #8420 – EMERGENCY & CRISIS SITUATIONS**

**R3. RESOLVED:** that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approve the following Fire and Security drills for October 2012 for the Rochelle Park School District.

- October
- Fire Drill –October 15 , 2012
- Security Drill- October 5, 2012

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

**Policy #5512.01 – HARASSMENT- INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING**

**R4. RESOLVED: that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approve the following HIB Report for October 2012 on behalf of the Rochelle Park School District.**

**October 2012**

Reported Incidents: 1

Number of Incidents determined to be HIB: 0

Number of Incidents determined not to be HIB: 1

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

**POLICY #2631 NEW JERSEY QUALITY SINGLE ACCOUNTABILITY CONTINUUM**

**R5. RESOLVED: that the Board of Education accepts the report and acknowledges the public presentation by the Superintendent of the 2012 District Testing Report.**

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

**R6. RESOLVED: that the Board of Education upon recommendation of the Superintendent does hereby authorize the Superintendent of Schools to submit the State ment of Assurance to the Commissioner of Education in Compliance with the provisions of N.J.A.C.6A:30-3.2(f).**

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

**POLICY #2230 CURRICULUM GUIDES**

**R7. RESOLVED: that on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following curriculum guides as presented and on file in the office of the Superintendent.**

**Music  
Art**

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

**PERSONNEL P1-P4**

**POLICY #3240 - PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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

S. Meyers to attend "Obesity Prevention in NJ" on December 11, 2012 at a cost to the board of \$45.00 for registration. (Title 11 funded)

T. Genovese, S. Vafegh, M. Leccese, R. Redlick to attend "Integrated Therapy in the General Ed Preschool Classroom" on November 14, 2012 at a cost to the board of \$11.00 per registration.

A. Jacobus to attend “Standards Solution-Train the Trainer” on November 29, 2012 at a cost of \$299.00 for registration.

Motion by Mr. Scully, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

**POLICY #4111 – HIRING- CERTIFIED PERSONNEL**

**\*P2. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education appoints the following personnel to the listed extra-compensation positions for the 2012-2013 school year stipend to be determined upon the settlement of the master contract for the 2012-2013 school year.**

Indoor Soccer Coach- S. Ramirez  
Gymnastics Coach - S. Ramirez

Motion by Mr. Scully, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

**POLICY #9180 - SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS**

**P3. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approve, with grateful appreciation, the following Library Volunteers and Student Volunteers for the 2012-2013 school year:**

Maria Cox- Library  
Emely Montavan – (Pending Criminal History) Library  
Justine Daubner- Student Latchkey

Motion by Mr. Scully, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

**POLICY #2340 – FIELD TRIPS**

**P4. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approve the following field trip request:**

Mrs. Weiner, Mrs. Fletcher & Mrs. Oles to accompany the Chorus to the Bristol Manor Nursing Home in Rochelle Park on December 13, 2012. Mrs. Weiner, Mrs. Fletcher, Mrs. Oles, Mrs. Aiello, Dr. Sacco and one instructional aide will also accompany the Chorus and Instrumental Band to the Rochelle Park Senior Center on the same day at a cost to the district for busing.

Motion by Mr. Scully, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

**FINANCE F1-F5**  
**FINANCE AND INSURANCE**

**Upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator to the Superintendent:**

**Board Secretary’s Report**

**F1. RESOLVED:** that the Rochelle Park Board of Education accepts the Board Secretary’s and Treasurer’s financial reports for the month of September 2012

**ATTACHMENT**

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

**POLICY#6660- STUDENT ACTIVITY FUND**

**F2. RESOLVED:** that the Rochelle Park Board of Education accept the Student Activity Fund Financial Reports for the month of September 2012.

**ATTACHMENT**

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

**POLICY #6510 – PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION**

**F3. RESOLVED:** that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approve the October 2012 payroll in the amount of \$ 383,569.38.

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

**POLICY #6421 PURCHASES BUDGETED**

**F4. RESOLVED:** that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the September Bills list ending September 30, 2012 as approved by the Finance Committee, attached and listed below:

**ATTACHMENT 1**

<b>A. Regular Bills-Fund 11 (Voided Check)</b>	<b>\$60.00</b>
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$60.00</b>

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

**POLICY #7510 USE OF FACILITIES**

**F5. RESOLVED:** that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approve 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
Midland School #1 PTA Fundraiser for PTA- Carnival/Tricky Tray	Auditorium- Gym	February 2, 2013- February 9, 2013 as a snow/storm day.	None
Maywood/Rochelle Park Girls Softball Softball winter workouts	Auditorium/Gym	Monday nights 6-8 pm from Jan. 7, 2013 to March 18, 2013 when school is in session and when there are no conflicts with school functions.	None

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

### **POLICY #8210 - SCHOOL YEAR**

A1. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approves the revisions to the School Calendar for the 2012-2013 school year as submitted.

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, seconded by Mr. Verhasselt  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

### **VIII. Reports – Committee Action Items**

**Finance- President Bilka** asked Dr. Occhino if there were any checks, Dr Occhino responded that they would be forth coming.

**Education – Mrs. Lauerma**n- reported that tonight the board approved Music and Art Curriculum.

*Mr. Ammerman explained that the curriculum up for review is a directive from the State of New Jersey and must be done for NJQSAC compliance.*

**Transportation- Mrs. Cravello**- reported that the school is working on putting the transportation information on the website.

*Mr. Ammerman- explained that things were stalled with the storm, but he will be meeting with Dr. Occhino and Mrs. Trippeda to get the information up on the website.*

**Building & Grounds- Mr. Verhasselt**- Cost to repair the playground is not as expensive as we first thought. The heat is on in the building- distribution seems to be better.

**Community & School Activities – Mr. Scully**- Soccer season is wrapping up, football seems to be over. Basketball signups will be occurring at Sacred Heart. Mr. Scully was impressed with the student volunteers at Rochelle Park Day, the student’s didn’t need much prompting. Two actually

dressed up and marched with the kids in the parade. They were there all day from setup to cleanup.

*Mr. Verhasselt asked what the condition of the town field was.*

Mr. Scully stated it seems to be in working, safe condition. Personally he thought the turfing could consist of a larger area, drainage is bad. Originally when it was put in the proportions are wrong for the soccer field.

*Mr. Verhasselt commented on the fact that the town is spending ¾ of a million on the field without taxpayer input.*

**Legislation- President Bilka** -Nothing to report

**Policy- Mr. Allos**- Nothing to report

**Board/Staff Relations- Mrs. Lauerman**- Nothing to report

**Negotiations- President Bilka**- Contract was sent to RPEA on October 16, waiting for word from the RPEA.

**Joint Boards Coordination- Mrs. Cravello**- Hackensack's 8<sup>th</sup> grade open house will now be November 20<sup>th</sup>. The high school will host a college career night. The Hackensack regular Board Meeting will take place on November 13, 2013- National Junior Honor Society induction 11/15/12 at Hackensack. The Thanksgiving game will be home at Hackensack and they will play Teaneck.

**Bergen County School Boards- Mrs. Lauerman**- Next meeting December 4<sup>th</sup>, River Edge, 7PM topics Negotiations- Sunshine Law, ethics.

**New Jersey School Boards- Mrs. Lauerman**- Delegate Assembly this Saturday- Mrs. Lauerman is unable to attend but asked other board members if they would like to go.

**Municipal Alliance Liaison- Mrs. Cravello**-Mr. Kazimir was sworn in as councilmen & Mrs. Ouellette was reelected. The Township regular meeting will be held on November 19, Mrs. Cravello wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a Happy Birthday to President Bilka.

## **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 Mr. Scully, seconded by Mr. Verhasselt, to open public comment at 8:58 p.m.  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

NONE

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to close public comment at 9:00 p.m.  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

## **X. Announcements**

**The next Caucus Meeting will be held on December 10, 2012 at 7:00 PM in the Media Center, and the next Regular Meeting will be immediately following the Caucus.**

## **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

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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 Mrs. Cravello, seconded by Mr. Scully, to open Executive Session at 9:01 p.m.  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mr. Scully, to close Executive Session at 10:13 p.m.  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello, to resume Regular Meeting Agenda at 10:14 p.m.  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried

## **XII. Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. Scully, seconded by Mr. Scully, to adjourn meeting at 10:14 p.m.  
Roll Call 6-0 motion carried