

**Rochelle Park Board of Education  
Regular Meeting Minutes -7:30 P.M.  
January 5, 2018**

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Roll Call**

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Mr. Matt Trawinski, Vice President	<b>X</b>	
Mr. Scott Kral	<b>X</b>	
Mrs. Dimitria Leakas	<b>X</b>	
Mrs. Geraldine Minichetti	<b>X</b>	
Mr. Gerard Sorrentino	<b>X</b>	
Ms. Layla Wuthrick	<b>X</b>	
Mrs. Teresa Judge Cravello, President	<b>X</b>	

Others present:

- Dr. Geoffrey Zoeller Jr., Superintendent of Schools
- Mrs. Ellen Kobylarz, Board 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. Flag Salute**
- V. Superintendent’s Report**

**VI. Open Public Forum** (Pursuant to Board Policy 0167 – Public Participation in Board Meetings)

During this portion of the meeting, district residents and staff are invited to address the Board of Education on any topics specifically addressed in this agenda or on any other questions, comments, or concerns that may be in respect to the operation of their schools. The Board requests that individuals sign the speakers’ list giving name and address, and asks that all remarks be directed to the Board as a whole (not to individuals).The public is reminded that their remarks are being recorded.

The Board wishes to remind all attendees at its meetings that while it subscribes without reservation to the principle of keeping the community completely informed, it cannot respond to or discuss personnel matters. If a matter concerning a district staff member is of interest or concern to a resident, the matter should be referred to the Building Principal, Superintendent of Schools, or the Board of Education, either by telephone, letter, or email.

Each speaker’s statement will be limited to five (5) minutes in duration. The Public Forum will be limited to one (1) hour in duration.

Motion by Mrs. Leakas, seconded by Mr. Trawinski, to open public comment at 9:10 P.M.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried

Mr. Houser (Township Committee) congratulated all the incoming BOE members and also Mrs. Judge Cravello and Mr. Trawinski on their appointments as President and Vice President. He extended an invitation to the Township reorganization meeting being held on the upcoming weekend, adding that he looks forward to working with the Board.

Mrs. Abraham Forest Pl.- wished everyone the best of luck. Questioned the policies on the agenda, she wanted to know what was revised on 0164 and 0167. Mrs. Abraham went on to defend the fact that if the board discusses the items in the beginning then the public doesn't have the ability to voice their option after that discussion.

*President Judge Cravello explained that what is discussed on the caucus agenda will be on the regular agenda, therefore you have an opportunity to ask a question at the end of the caucus meeting or you could ask at the regular meeting.*

*Mrs. Leakas followed by asking how about ½ hour at the beginning and a ½ hour at the end. This way it's still one hour in total but it's broken up into two sections so the public will have a chance to speak twice. The board appeared to be agreeable to this.*

Motion by Mr. Kral, second by Mr. Trawinski, to close public comment at 9:19 P.M.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried

#### **VII. Items for Board Action-Resolutions**

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

## *School Board Recognition Month in New Jersey*

### *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS,** The New Jersey School Boards Association has declared January 2018 to be School Board Recognition Month, a time that all residents might acknowledge the contributions made by our local school board members; and

**WHEREAS,** The Rochelle Park Township Board of Education is one of more than 581 local school boards in New Jersey that sets policies and oversees operations for public school districts; and

**WHEREAS,** The Rochelle Park Township Board of Education embraces the goal of high-quality education for all New Jersey public school students; and

**WHEREAS,** New Jersey's local school boards help determine community goals for the education of approximately 1.4 million children in pre-kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade; and

**WHEREAS,** New Jersey's 4,800 local school board members, who receive no remuneration for their services, act as advocates for public school students as they work with administrators, teachers and parents for the betterment of public education; and

**WHEREAS,** School boards strive to provide the resources necessary to meet the needs of all students, including those with special needs; and

**WHEREAS,** Boards of education provide accountability to the public; they communicate the needs of the school district to the public; and they convey to school administrators the public’s expectations for the schools; and

**WHEREAS,** New Jersey can take pride in its schools, which rank among the nation’s best in indicators such as high school graduation rates, class size, college entrance exam participation, and Advanced Placement offerings and test scores. Now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That the Rochelle Park Township Board of Education, does hereby recognize the services of local school board members throughout New Jersey as we join communities statewide in observing January 2018 as SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That the Rochelle Park Township Board of Education urges all New Jersey citizens to work with their local boards of education and public school staffs toward the improvement of our children’s education.

Motion by Mr. Trawinski, second by Mrs. Leakas,  
 Roll Call 7-0  
 Motion Carried

**ROUTINE MATTERS RESOLUTIONS R1-R7**  
**POLICY #0168- APPROVALS OF BOARD MINUTES**

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

- November 16, 2017 Regular Meeting and Executive Session
- December 14, 2017 Regular Meeting and Executive Session

**POLICY#5200 ATTENDANCE**

**R2. RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education approves the attendance report for the month of December 2017 as listed:

<u>Enrollment</u>		<u>Left</u>	<u>Entered</u>
Midland School	480	-	-
Hackensack H.S.	136		
Academies/Technical Schools	17		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>633</b>		

<u>Pupil Attendance</u>		<u>Teacher Attendance</u>	
Possible Days	7680	Possible Days	864
Days Present	7375.5	Days Present	827
Days Absent	304.5	Days Absent	37
% Present	96.0	% Present	95.7
% Absent	4.0	% Absent	4.3

**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 December 2017 for the Rochelle Park School District.

**Fire Drill December 19, 2017**  
**Security Drill December 20, 2017**

**POLICY #5512.01 HARRASSMENT INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING**

**R4. RESOLVED:** that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the following HIB Report for December 2017 on behalf of the Rochelle Park School District.

**December 2017**

Reported Cases: 2

Number of Cases open: 0

Number of Cases closed: 2

Number of Incidents determined to be HIB: 0

**POLICY #2340 – FIELD TRIPS**

**R5. RESOLVED:** on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approves the eighth grade class trip as follows:

**Class of 2018**  
**8th Grade Class Trip**

**DATE:** Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**DEPARTURE:** Midland School -Wednesday, June 6, 2018- approx. 7:00 A.M.

**DESTINATION:** Washington, D.C.

**ITINERARY:** Visit Arlington National Cemetery, National Archives (pending availability), Dinner at California Pizza kitchen, Lincoln Assassination Tour, visit the National Zoo, tour US Capital Building (pending availability), US Supreme Court, Library of Congress, Jefferson Memorial, WWII Memorial, Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial, FDR Memorial. dinner at Hard Rock Cafe, performance of “Shear Madness” at the Kennedy Center, U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum (pending ticket availability), lunch at Ronald Regan Building.

**RETURN DEPARTURE:** Washington D.C. Friday, June 8, 2018-approx. 2 P.M., with an estimated time of arrival at Midland School 8:00 P.M.

**COST:** To be borne by the parents

**R6. RESOLVED:** on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following field trip requests:

Mr. Grossman, Mr. Panepinto, Mrs. Rainone, and Mrs. Fletcher to accompany the 8<sup>th</sup> graders to Trenton on March 23, 2018 at a cost of \$8.00 per student to be borne by the parent/guardians.

Mrs. Weiner, Mrs. Fletcher, and Dr. Sacco to accompany the TAG Vocal Music group to New Brunswick on May 30, 2018 at a cost to the district of \$150 and bus costs TBD to be borne by the parent/guardians.

**POLICY #4125 EMPLOYMENT OF SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS**

**R7. RESOLVED:** that on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the submission of the Statement of Assurance regarding the use of paraprofessional Staff for the 2017-2018 school year, to the New Jersey Department of Education.

Motions R1-R7

Motion by Mrs. Minichetti, seconded by Mrs. Leakas  
Roll Call 7-0 for motions R2-R7  
R-1 Motion carried 4-0-3 (by doctrine of necessity – due to the # of new Board members- Mr. Kral,  
Mr. Sorrentino, Ms. Wuthrick abstained)  
Motions Carried

**PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS P1-P2**  
**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. Sacco to attend NJTESOL Spring Conference on May 30, 31, 2018, in New Brunswick, at a cost to the district of \$279.00.**

**Mrs. Cara Hurd to attend Mandatory PARCC District Test Coordinator Training on February 28, 2018 at no cost to the district.**

**Mrs. Weiner to attend ‘NJMEA Music in Service Conference’ in East Brunswick on February 22 & 23, 2018 at a cost to the district \$200.00.**

**P2. RESOLVED:** that on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves tuition reimbursement for courses taken during the fall of 2017-2018 school year as follows:

Daniela Barbieri	3 Credits	\$986.07
Jennifer O’Brien (PE)	3 Credits	\$986.07
Jennifer O’Brien (ART)	6 Credits	\$489.00
Meaghan Mallon	3 Credits	\$565.00
Kristen Colucci	3 Credits	\$244.50
Angela Jacobus	6 Credits	\$1,974.14

**POLICY #0130 BYLAWS & POLICIES**

**P3. RESOLVED:** on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the first reading of the following Bylaw/Policies:

0164 - Conduct of Board Meetings

0167- Public Participation at Board Meetings

Motions P1-P3  
Motion by Mr. Sorrentino, seconded by Mrs. Leakas  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motions Carried

*Board discussion ended with the modification to the bylaws to read one hour open public at the end of the caucus meeting, two thirty minute open public sessions at the regular meeting for 1 hour in total. Mrs. Leakas had suggested the idea of the split session, after hearing from the public. President Judge Cravello thought it was a good compromise.*

**FINANCE AND INSURANCE-RESOLUTIONS F1-F3**  
**POLICY #6460 PAYMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES**

**F1. RESOLVED: that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approve an additional December 2017 Bill List as attached and listed below:**

<b>10 – General Fund</b>	<b>\$11,578.59</b>
<b>20- Federal Grants</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>30 – Referendum Account</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>61 – Afterschool Program</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>10 – General Fund</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR December</b>	<b>\$11,578.59</b>

ATTACHEMENT

**F2. RESOLVED: that the Rochelle Park Board of Education authorize a check run for the month of January 2018 with the amounts to be approved at the February meeting.**

**POLICY# 7510 Use of Facilities**

**F3. 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 as well as construction at any time.**

<b>Group/Organization</b>	<b>Use/Purpose/Room</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Rental Fee</b>
<b>Midland School Class of 2018</b>	<b>Media Center</b>	<b>1/16/18, 2/27/18, 3/28/18, 4/24/18</b>	<b>None</b>

Motions F1-F3  
Motion by Mr. Trawinski, seconded by Mrs. Minichetti  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**VIII. Open Public Forum** (Pursuant to Board Policy 0167 – Public Participation in Board Meetings)

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Each speaker's statement will be limited to five (5) minutes in duration. The Public Forum will be limited to one (30) minutes in duration.

Motion by Mrs. Leakas, seconded by Mrs. Minichetti, to open public comment at 9:32 P.M.  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

Mr. Scully Oldis St-stated he appreciates the board's consideration for the public, in opting for two open sessions during regular meetings.

Motion by Mrs. Minichetti, second by Mr. Trawinski, to close public comment at 9:35 P.M.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried

#### **IX. Announcements**

**The next Board of Education Caucus Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 8, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. The Regular Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 15, 2018 also at 7:00 P.M.**

*Vice President Trawinski reminded everyone of the Knights of Columbus Dance on January 12, 2018*

*Mrs. Leakas wished everyone a happy and healthy new year and also thanked Mr. Brown.*

*President Judge Cravello stated Joe and his men did a wonderful job during the snow storm.*

#### **X. 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:**

**Contract Negotiations and Personnel Matters**.

**NOW HEREOF 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. Leakas, seconded by Mr. Trawinski, to open Executive Session at 9:36 P.M.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried

Motion by Mr. Kral, seconded by Mrs. Leakas, to close Executive Session and resume the Regular Meeting Agenda at 10:28 P.M.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried

#### **X. Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. Kral, seconded by Mr. Trawinski, to adjourn meeting at 10:29 P.M.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried