

Rochelle Park Board of Education
 Caucus Meeting Minutes - 7:00 P.M.
 April 12, 2018

- I. Call to Order and Flag Salute
- II. Roll Call

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

Others present:
 Dr. Geoffrey W. Zoeller, Jr., Superintendent of Schools
 Mrs. Cara Hurd, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
 Mr. Brian Cannici, Principal
 Mr. Joseph DeGrazio, Building and Grounds Supervisor
 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. Superintendent’s Report Dr. Zoeller reported the following:

- The following workshops are on the agenda for approval. Mrs. Carney to attend Google Certified Educator Level 2 on May 8th, and Ms. Barbieri to attend Assessment Strategies for Design on May 23rd.
 - There will be a resolution for the PreK students to visit the Bergen County Zoo. We may have a date for the 7th grade trip as well.
 - There will be a special education placement on the agenda.
 - The 2018/2019 school calendar.
 - A number of polices, regulations, and bylaws for a first reading.
- President Judge Cravello asked for an update on the issuing of Chrome books for middle school students. Dr. Zoeller stated about 2/3 have been handed out.
 President Judge Cravello added that Midland School is now one of a few middle schools to offer this to the students.*

V. Director of Curriculum & Instruction’s Report Mrs. Hurd reported the following:

- Next curriculum writing session for Media/Technology will be on April 24th
- Mrs. Hurd spoke on the PARCC training and makeup dates
- Test Administrator small group training sessions are being held.

- Infrastructure trials were held, test administrator manuals distributed
- PARCC steering committee meetings are continuing this allows for open lines of communication with all stakeholders involved.

President Judge Cravello thanked Mrs. Hurd for the effort she is putting into this.

VI. Principal's Report Mr. Cannici reported the following:

- Parent/Teacher Conferences will take place on April 18th
- 3rd Marking Period Report Card Distribution will take place on April 27th
- 'Pennies for Patients' Campaign will run April -27th. This is in conjunction with Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Our local hero is Grace Abraham. *President Cravello stated it was a good cause and thanked Mr. Cannici, faculty and staff.*
- Spring evening concert will be held on April 25th
- Spring concert Assemblies will take place on April 26th
- L.E.A.D. graduation May 2nd at 7 PM
- **PTO-** Mrs. Reardon announced that this month's spotlight teachers are Mrs. Weiner and Ms. Johnson. She highlighted all the upcoming events such as Chili cookoff, Talent show, and Family gym night. The scholarship applications are due back by April 30th.

VII. Building & Grounds Supervisor's Report Mr. DeGrazio reported the following:

- The elevator has been repaired.
- The parking lot potholes have been filled.
- The three handi life chairs have been installed at the top of each stair case.
- Spring cleanup is underway

Mr. Kral asked if the basketball courts could be cleaned, there seems to be a lot of rocks on the court.

Mrs. Minichetti mentioned the fencing along the driveway. There is a piece that is damaged. Is that fence ours or the residents. Mr. Trawinski asked if we have conformation if the fence is on our property.

Mr. DeGrazio will check into it.

VIII. Reports – Board Committee Reports

2018 School Year

Personnel/Negotiations Gerald Sorrentino – nothing to report

Business, Finance, and Transportation Teresa Judge Cravello – finances are good, budget will be sent over to the county.

Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment, and Technology Dimitria Leakas – all staff will be trained, the PARCC steering committee is meeting weekly. Media curriculum is currently being revised. Mrs. Leakas asked Dr. Zoeller to explain the Chrome book arrangement, he gladly explained it. *Mr. Kral thanked Dr. Zoeller and the administration for this initiative.* Mrs. Leakas thanked the teachers involved with the last Coffee with the Superintendent.

Special Education Layla Wuthrick – commented on the good job that the district has done in retaining students in district, therefore saving the taxpayers further expense. The Rethink program will be replaced. Dr. Zoeller will tackle Special Education job descriptions in the next few weeks.

School & Community Relations Geraldine Minichetti – youth art month is going on around the state, ten of our student's work will be showcased in the area art exhibits, both in Hackensack and Trenton. For the YAM in Trenton only eight students are chosen, Midland had two make the cut. Mrs. Minichetti mentioned many upcoming events going on in the Township.

Building/Grounds/Safety Matt Trawinski - The board will be interviewing candidates for the Architect of Record, seven companies submitted proposals, the committee narrowed it down to two. He is also looking into a couple of safety items and will bring them back to the board.

Policy/ Legislative Scott Kral – Asked for an update on the flyers being sent home does it make a difference. *Mrs. Reardon stated people are please that they are getting flyers. President Judge Cravello thanked Dr. Zoeller and the board for bringing this back.*

Board Liaison Assignments:

Joint Boards- Dimitria Leakas – Hackensack is looking to replace the roof on the gym and also replacing the turf on the field. She also mentioned upcoming events at the high school.

NJ/BC School Boards- Geraldine Minichetti – a meeting was held on March 29th, the subject was advocacy. *President Judge Cravello explained what happened at the meeting Senator Gordon was present the next meeting will be May 31st. There was a discussion on the need for Cyber bullying awareness. Mr. Trawinski attended a rally in Hackensack, it was student driven, added that the prosecutor’s office has training tapes. Mr. Cannici stated he would look into it, President Judge Cravello asked to also look into a bullying workshop. Mr. Michael Fowler was mentioned, Mrs. Hurd stated that the character ed. meeting his name was brought up as well. Ms. Wuthrick stated that he was just at their school and he is amazing. All agreed it would be great to have him back. Mrs. Reardon stated that PTO does have some money for that type of program.*

Municipality-Teresa Judge Cravello – gave an overview of a meeting that she attended with Dr. Zoeller and key township people over the farmers market. Going over things like garbage pickup, site manager.

IX. Items for Board Action- Resolutions (If Needed)

- None at this time

X. Other Business

XI. 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 Mr. Trawinski, seconded by Mrs. Minichetti, to open public comment at 8:21 P.M.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried

Mr. Allos Parkway- He mentioned that the prior board had initially suggested the Chrome books, he was glad to see it to fruition. He organized a bullying program last year and would be more than happy to put Dr. Zoeller in touch with them again if the board is interested. *Dr. Zoeller stated that program was very well received and thanked Mr. Allos for doing that.* The farmer’s market, he is happy to see that project going forward. Thanked the administration and the board, commented on how nice it is to see the two bodies of government working together.

Mrs. Abraham Forest Pl. Spoke on the Pennies for Patients campaign. In addition to boxes in each

classroom for change, there are also can's outside the media center for dare's, such as someone will get a pie in the face, another will be duct taped to the wall, and lastly, they are trying to get a live pig to kiss. She urged everyone to support this project and to make sure cancer is eradicated.

Mr. Scully Oldis St. He noticed that the teacher of the year gets a primo parking space and asked what does the assistant of the year get? *Dr. Zoeller stated the administration will talk about it, the para program came later.* He inquired about the services of the architect, would the old architect still oversee projects that he started and is that appointment considered personnel since it's being held in executive session? Mr. Scully stated he would like to see the presentations done in public. *Dr. Zoeller stated once someone is chosen then he could ask them to introduced to the public.*

Mrs. Reardon Chestnut St. Mentioned safety and if having a retired officer in the school would be an option. *Dr. Zoeller explained that both he and Mr. Cannici are constantly looking at safety within the district, but that it's not something that should be talked about in public. There was a brief discussion on this topic.*

Mrs. Rainone asked if the board was following up in Care Plus. *Dr. Zoeller stated that money was put into the budget for next year and he was looking at other avenues as well.*

Motion by Mr. Kral, seconded by Mrs. Leakas, to close public comment at 8:59 P.M.
Roll Call 7-0
Motion Carried

XII. Announcements:

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday April 19, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. in the Media Center.

XIII. 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: Architect Interviews, Personnel, Student Disciplinary Matters.

NOW HEREOFRE 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. Minichetti, seconded by Ms. Wuthrick, to open Executive Session at 9:00 P.M.

**Roll Call 7-0
Motion Carried**

Motion by Mr. Sorrentino, seconded by Mr. Trawinski, to close Executive Session and resume the Regular Meeting Agenda at 12:14 P.M.

Roll Call 7-0
Motion Carried

XIV. Adjournment

Motion by Mr., Kral, seconded by Mrs. Wuthrick, to adjourn meeting at 12:14 P.M.
Roll Call 7-0
Motion Carried