

Rochelle Park Board of Education  
Regular Meeting Minutes 7:00 P.M.  
February 25, 2020

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

Board Member	Present	Absent
Mr. Scott Kral, Vice President	X	
Mr. Adib Abboud	X	
Ms. Christina Holz	X	
Mrs. Teresa Judge-Cravello	X	
Mr. Gerard Sorrentino	X	
Ms. Layla Wuthrick	X	
Mr. Matt Trawinski, President	X	

Others Present:

Dr. Richard Brockel, Interim Superintendent of Schools  
Mrs. Cheryl Jiosi, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Mrs. Cara Hurd, Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Mr. Michael Alberta, Principal  
Mr. Rex Leka, Building & Grounds Supervisor  
Mrs. Ellen Kobylarz, Board Recording Secretary  
Mr. Mark Wenczel, Board Attorney

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

**IV. Open Public Meeting 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”

**V. Joint Board discussion with Township Committee**

- 1) Mr. Kashmir asked about the quality of education in Rochelle Park, what is our school ranking compared to other districts?  
*Mr. Alberta responded by stating the school is making strides, ranking comes after assessment, and once the figures are released he would be happy to share them. The focus this year has been on improving Special Education and character development with regard to behavior and academics. The district recently partnered with Montclair State University. Mr. Alberta gave a presentation on this during his Principal’s report.*
- 2) Ms. Boniface brought up the idea of astro turfing the field at Midland.  
*Mr. Kral would like to see that as well, but the cost is prohibitive. He thanked the Township and Police Department for their help with the William Street parking issue.*

**VI. Public Comment (Board of Education & Township Items only)**

The Board of Education reserves the right to hold public comment on agenda items only, at its discretion, at its regular monthly public meetings in accordance with Bylaw 0167. Public comment

will be limited to three minutes per person not to exceed 30 minutes. Citizens should give their name and address when recognized to speak. Please be reminded that this meeting is being recorded.

Mrs. Lum- Terrace Ave- inquired about the meeting between the Town and the Board regarding the PILOT program.

*Dr. Brockel, explained that under attorney advisement he was not able to discuss the matter at this time. Mr. LiBassi reiterated that it was confidential for now, as soon as it can be made available, the public would be informed.*

Mr. Scully Oldis St.- stated he was happy to see the two boards meeting. He encouraged the Township to keep an eye on things from a financial perspective. Encouraged the township officials to stay involved.

*Ms. Boniface stated that the school board is a separate entity.*

*Mrs. Jiosi added that in the last audit there were no audit recommendations and all administrative costs were well within the guidelines set by the state.*

Mr. Valenzuela Becker Ave- asked the Board of Education if they ever considered videotaping the meetings and broadcasting them. He encouraged the board to pursue that avenue. He also wanted to know how the Superintendent search was handled was it through School Boards?

*Dr. Brockel responded by stating it was handled by a private search firm, the decision was based on cost and success rate. As far as videotaping the BOE meetings Dr. Brockel stated the district was not looking into doing that.*

Mrs. Leakas Powell Ave- Hoped that after many years of Administrative turnaround, the district can hire someone who will stay, it would go a long way in consistency with the hope scores would improve.

Mr. DeFalco Mariunus St. thanked the Board for their support for the recreation programs and the use of the school facilities.

At this time the Board took a short recess for the Township to close out their portion of the meeting and the Board of Education to regroup for the regular meeting. The Board reconvened at 7:33 PM

## **VII. Reports**

- A. Interim Superintendent- Dr. Brockel announced that since we have used no snow days he was contemplating using the first one for Easter Monday, he will wait on a final decision based on what happens with the recent virus going around.
- B. Business Administrator- Mrs. Jiosi reported that she is currently working on next years budget. State Aide figures are due out on Thursday. The district will be adding a meeting on March 10<sup>th</sup> to approve the submission of the budget to the Department of Education. The Atlantic conversion was finished over the weekend Dr. Lahullier was on site with the technicians.
- C. Director of Curriculum and Instruction Mrs. Hurd reported that the teachers are using the Link it online assessment tool. Dr. Lahullier, Ms. Nam and Mrs. Hurd will be attending the district testing training. They are also working on being able to test all the students on the same day. Testing will start on May 4<sup>th</sup>. That first week will be a week of testing ELA & math, next week reserved for makeups and the third week will be for science.
- D. Principal Mr. Alberta reported on the Montclair State University Climate Survey results as well as various events going on at the school such as the upcoming Torch Run, new this year is a logo contest for the tee shirts. The run will be open to all 4-8 grade students. The multipurpose room's sound system was recently updated with the funds raised through the Boosterthon program.  
*President Trawinski thanked Mr. Alberta asked if the program with Montclair would continue*

*and pointed out that there are assembly programs on character ed that can be brought to the school as well.*

*Mrs. Judge Cravello thought this was a great opportunity, seeing the data brings out more awareness on the subject.*

E. PTO- no report

F. Board Committees, as needed:

Finance Mr. Abboud noted that budget season is here.

Facilities Mr. Kral stated that school improvement plans are ongoing.

Policy Mrs. Judge Cravello stated that policy is done each quarter. She congratulated Ms.

Wuthrick on being Scouter of the Year.

G. Board Liaison:

NJSBA/BCSBA Ms. Holz attended a recent Law workshop where she met the Interim County School Superintendent.

Joint Boards Mrs. Judge Cravello commented on the Hackensack calendar being released

Liaison to the Township Committee Mr. Kral noted that 4 teams made the Basketball playoffs to be held March 4<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Trawinski added that the soccer program is looking for people to join.

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

Routine Matters Resolutions R1-R15

#### **R1. Approval of Minutes**

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the minutes of the following meetings:

December 10, 2019 Regular & Executive  
January 7, 2020 Annual Reorganization Meeting  
January 14, 2020 Special Executive Meeting  
January 15, 2020 Special Executive Meeting  
January 21, 2020 Special Executive Meeting  
January 28, 2020 Regular & Executive Meeting  
February 18, 2020 Special Executive Meeting

#### **R2. Attendance**

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the attendance report for the month of January 2020 as listed:

<u>Enrollment</u>		<u>Left</u>	<u>Entered</u>
Midland School	500		1-7 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Hackensack H.S.	133.5		
Academies/Technical Schools	29		
Totals	662.50		

<u>Pupil Attendance</u>		<u>Teacher Attendance</u>	
Possible Days	10498	Possible Days	1176
Days Present	9890	Days Present	1142.5
Days Absent	608	Days Absent	33.5
% Present	94.2%	% Present	97.1%
% Absent	5.8%	% Absent	2.9%

#### **R3. Emergency & Crisis Situations**

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education

approves the following Fire and Security drills held in the month of January 2020 for the Rochelle Park School District.

Fire Drill January 7, 2020  
Security Drill January 27, 2020

R4. Harassment Intimidation and Bullying

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following HIB Report for January 2020 on behalf of the Rochelle Park School District.

January 2020

Reported Cases: 2

Number of Cases open: 0

Number of Cases closed: 2

Number of Incidents determined to be HIB: 0

R5. Field Trips

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board of Education approves the following trips for the 2019-2020 school year:

<b>Grade / Place</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Cost per child</b>
Pre-K- Brook hallow Barnyard	May 8, 2020	\$22.50
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade- Medieval Times	April 24, 2020	\$50.00

R6. School Calendar

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the 2020-2021 school calendar as presented.

R7. Job Descriptions

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the extracurricular job descriptions.

R8. Applied Behavioral Analysis Parent Training Workshops

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board approves the contract with Region II to provide Applied Behavioral Analysis Parent Training workshops at a cost of \$225 per student for the 2019-2020 school year.

R9. SPECIAL EDUCATION 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the revision of student ID CST0934 extended school year contract from \$5125.50 to \$6030.

R10. Pre- K Tuition for the 2020-2021 School Year

RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the tuition rate of \$5000 for the integrated preschool program.

R11. School Play Admission Charge

RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the advance ticket price of \$3 and at the door ticket price of \$5 for the school play.

R12. Special Education 2019-2020 School Year

RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following students for the 2019-2020 school year programs as mandated by the student's IEP.

Student ID	Placement	Cost
CST0145	Sage Day 2/7/20 to 6/30/20	\$62,415 prorated

R13. Special Education 2019-2020 School Year

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the revision for student ID CST1234 additional services contract based on the student's IEP requirements not to exceed \$2400 for the 2019-2020 school year.

R14. SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board approves a Psychiatric Evaluation with Dr. Ester Friedman for student CST ID # 2560 at a cost of \$600.

R15. TRAFFIC STUDY

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board accepts a proposal from Neglia Engineering to perform a school circulation and parking layout study at a cost of \$4,730. *There was some discussion among Board members as to what they would like to see. President Trawinski would like something visual not just written.*

R1-R15

Motion Mrs. Wuthrick Second Mr. Kral  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motions Carried

**Personnel Resolutions P1-P9**

P1. Professional Development

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the participation of the persons named at the following workshops/conferences:

Faculty	Name of Workshop	Date	Cost
Rex Leka	Building and Grounds Convention	3/22-25/2020	\$830.00
Cara Serpineto	Finding the Right Approach Part 1	3/2/2020	Going in place of a previous approved workshop
Cara Serpineto	Part 2- Recognizing Wellness	3/27/2020	Going in place of a previous approved workshop
Liz Nam	2020 Statewide Assessment district test coordinator and District Technology Training	2/26/220	.00
Donna Centrella	Extraordinary Administrative Professional	3/11/2020	\$149.00

Angela Jacobus	Google Certified Trainor	2/26/2020	.00
Cheryl Jiosi	2020 NJASBO Annual Conference	6/2-6/2020	\$775.00
Jessica DiCori	CST Best Practices and Common Missteps to watch out for	3/11/2020	.00
Ellen Lender	CST Best Practices and Common Missteps to watch out for	3/11/2020	.00
Nancy Oliver	Conferring in the workshop Model	3/10/2020	Previously approved change of date
Lauren Cherello	Conferring in the workshop Model	3/10/2020	Previously approved change of date
Kaileigh Zander	101 Therapy strategies to increase your effectiveness as a Speech Pathologist	3/10/2020	\$275.00
Sheryl Meyers	Bleed Control Kits & Training for School Districts	2/18/2020	.00
Steven Lahullier	School Safety Specialist Basic Training	March 5,12,19 & 26, 2020	.00

P2. Crossovers

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following faculty crossover as of February 1, 2020

Tara Mizzoni BA to BA+15 Step 2

P3. Home Instruction

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves Elaine Rainone for Home Instruction (max 10 hours per week) salary in accordance with the master contract for the 2019-2020 school year.

P4. Retro payment

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the retro payment of \$2828 to employee ID # 00463.

P5. Hiring Non-Certificated Staff

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves Jennifer Pinto to the Substitute Cafeteria/Playground Aide list starting February 19, 2020 for the remainder of the 2019- 2020 school year at the rate of \$11.00 per hour.

P6. Hiring Non-Certificated Staff

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves Justine Daubner to the Substitute Cafeteria/Playground Aide list for the remainder of the 2019- 2020 school year at the rate of \$ 11.00 per hour (pending criminal history review)

P7. Substitutes

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following individuals to the list of Substitute Teachers for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year at the rate of \$85.00 per day.

Ilana Rodriguez

P8. UNPAID LEAVE

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the request of employee #40246 to take an unpaid leave for March 11-13, 2020.

P9. Related Services Providers

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following service providers for the 2019-2020 school year.

Provider	Service
Dr. Anand	Psychiatrist
Dr. Bases	Developmental Pediatrician
Dr. Feldman Bases	School Neuropsychological Evaluations
Dr. Meyer	Optometric Physician

P1-P9

Motion Mrs. Holz, Second Mr. Sorrentino  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**Finance Resolutions F1-F11**

F1. Bill List

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the payment of bills for January 29, 2020.

A. Regular Bills- Fund 10	\$ 112,770.09
B. Referendum Account-Fund 30	\$ 49,367.30
C. Afterschool Program -Fund 61	\$ 120.00
TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR January	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$162,257.39

F2. Bills List

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the payment of bills for February 1, 2020.

A. Regular Bills- Fund 10	\$438,628.18
B. Federal Grant - Fund 20	\$15,524.97
C Cafeteria - Fund 60	\$13,776.72
D. Afterschool Program -Fund 61	\$13,022.59

Total for the month of February	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$480,952.46

F3. Additional Bills List in February

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Rochelle Park Board of Education authorizes a second check run for the month of February 2020 with the amounts to be approved at the March 2020 meeting.

F4. Secretary & Treasurer's Reports

RESOLVED, that on the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent the Rochelle Park Board of Education accepts, and affixes to the minutes, the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Financial Reports for the month of January 2020.

F5. Student Activities

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts, and affixes to the minutes, the Student Activities report for the month of January 2020.

F6. Transfers

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts, and affixes to the minutes, the line item transfers for January 2020.

F7. Certifications

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, as per New Jersey Administrative Code and New Jersey Statutes Annotated legislation and requirements, the following statement is approved:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(c), I certify that as of January 2020 no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8.1, and

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6a:23-2.11(c), I certify that as of January 2020 no budgetary line item account has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C.6:20-2.11 (a).

Cheryl Jiosi, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

F8. Payroll Authorization

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the payroll for January 2020 as follows:

January 2020	
Fund Gross Payroll	
Fund 10	533,893.94
Fund 20	6,639.49
Fund 61	15,510.18

F9. Approval of Semi Waiver

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 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 2020-2021, and

WHEREAS, the Rochelle Park Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that its projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid eligible classified students.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education hereby authorizes the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Bergen an appropriate waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A23A-5.3 for the 2020-2021 school year.”

F10. New Era Technology

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board approves the quote with New Era Technology for additional cameras at a cost of \$17,528.

F11. Facility Use

RESOLVED, on the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the 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 activities at any time which may cause changes to the calendar.

Group/Organization	Use/Purpose/Room	Dates	Rental Fee
*Maywood/ Rochelle Park Girls Softball	Field- Sat 10AM to 8PM Sun 12:PM-6PM M/F 5PM 8PM	March 14, 2020-July 31, 2020	None

\*Not to conflict with the Midland School Teams

F1-F11

Motion Mrs. Judge Cravello Second Mr. Kral  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motions Carried

**IX. Public Comment (Agenda and non-agenda items)**

The Board of Education reserves the right to hold public comment on agenda and non-agenda items, at its discretion, at its regular monthly public meetings. Public comment will be limited to three minutes per person not to exceed 30 minutes. Citizens should give their name and address when recognized to speak.

Mrs. Leakas Powell Ave- on the matter of the traffic survey she hopes the board looks at the lot itself.

**X. Announcements**

The next Board of Education meeting will be held on March 24, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. in the Library/Media Center.

**XI. Executive Session**

Be it resolved that the Rochelle Park Board of Education will convene in Executive Session to discuss confidential matters which include contracts and legal matters.

Motion Mr. Abboud, Second Mr. Sorrentino, to open at 8:27 P.M.  
Roll call 7-0  
Motion Carried

Motion Mr. Sorrentino, Second Mr. Abboud to close at 9:39 P.M.  
Roll call 7-0  
Motion Carried

## **XII: Additional Motions**

Based on the result of conversations held by the Board in Executive Session, additional resolutions may be introduced and approved at this time.

### **A1. Service Provider**

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Rochelle Park Board of Education accepts the cost proposal for asbestos testing services for potential construction work with AHEAR Consultants at a cost not to exceed \$5800.00.

Motion Mr. Kral, Seconded Mr. Abboud  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

## **XIII. Adjournment**

Motion Mr. Kral, Second Mr. Abboud 9:40 P.M.  
Roll call 7-0  
Motion Carried