## Rochelle Park Board of Education Executive Session/Work Session Minutes 7:00 P.M. Regular Meeting Minutes-7:30 P.M. October 19, 2017

#### I. Call to Order

#### II. Roll Call

Board Member	Present	Absent
Mrs. Maria Lauerman, Vice President	X	
Mrs. Shirley Abraham	X	
Mr. Sam Allos	X	
Mrs. Arlene Ciliento-Buyck	X	
Mrs. Teresa Judge-Cravello	X	
Mr. Matt Trawinski		X(arrived 7:05)
Mrs. Dimitria Leakas, President	X	

#### Others present:

Dr. Geoffrey W. Zoeller, Jr., Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Brian Cannici, Principal

Mrs. Lisa Fletcher, Interim Supervisor Curriculum & Instruction

**Personnel and Contractual issues** 

Mr. Joseph DeGrazio, Building and Grounds Supervisor

Mr. Stephen Fogarty, Fogarty & Hara

Mrs. Ellen Kobylarz, Board Secretary

**III.** Executive Session Announcement (if needed) The Board will reconvene in Public Session at approximately 7:30 P.M.

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

NOW HEREFORE 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public in an appropriately redacted form within a reasonable period of time after the privilege or confidentially is no longer applicable to such minutes.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portion of the executive session minutes will not be released until such time as the privilege or confidentiality is no longer applicable.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. Abraham, to open Executive Session at 7:03 P.M. Roll Call 6-0
Motion Carried

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mr. Trawinski, to close the Executive Session and enter the Work Session at 7:18P.M.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried

#### IV. Work Session

Board Member discussion session.

Discussion on Goals for 2017-2018

Board member evaluations are due at the November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Motion by Mr. Trawinski, seconded by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, to enter the regular meeting agenda 7:35 P.M.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried

## V. Flag Salute

## VI. 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, <u>The Record</u> and <u>The Our Town</u>, in accordance with Chapter 231,P.L.1975"

### VII. Superintendent's Report Dr. Zoeller reported the following:

- Mrs. Fletcher is here tonight to present our district assessment report. The scores
  noted in the presentation had a direct impact on the district getting out of Focus
  status.
- We will have resolutions on the agenda to approve a number of workshops, fieldtrips, the Nursing Services plan, special education placements.
- We will also have a resolution on the EVVRS report. Mr. Cannici will go into greater detail in his report on this matter.
- District Goals and a revised latchkey manual.

## VIII. Principal's Report Mr. Cannici reported the following:

- Fire Prevention Assemblies were held yesterday. He thanked the Fire Department volunteers, who dedicated their time to the students in raising awareness.
- School Picture day will be on October 25<sup>th</sup>
- Open Classroom visitation day will be held on Wed. November 8<sup>th</sup>. Letters will go home to parents next week with the schedules and details.
- October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month- Midland is raising money again this real for National Breast Cancer Foundation. He encouraged both staff and students to wear pink and make a donation on Friday October 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Violence and Vandalism data has been submitted under the electronic violence and vandalism reporting system (EVVRS) and we had zero reports.
- PTO- Oct 10<sup>th</sup> was their first meeting, thanked everyone for coming out. Thanked the Teachers and Mr. Cannici for attending the Trunk or Treat. Upcoming events-October 22 is the Halloween Dance. PTA is running a Hurricane relief Oct 28<sup>th</sup>, movie night November 3<sup>rd</sup>, Vender sale Nov 17<sup>th</sup>.

## **IX. Interim Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction Report** Mrs. Fletcher reported the following:

• District Testing Report presentation was given to the Board and members of the audience. The power point will be available on the districts website.

Dr. Zoeller and President Leakas thanked Mrs. Fletcher for her very informative report.

### X. Building & Grounds Supervisor Report Mr. DeGrazio reported on the following:

- Small group instruction room just has some punch list items to correct.
- Library furniture will be installed over teacher's convention
- Ballads and fencing on William Street is the next project to be addressed.

### **XI.** Reports – Board Committee Reports

### 2017 School Year

Building & Grounds-Mrs. Abraham didn't have anything further to add to Mr. DeGrazio's report Business, Finance, and Transportation-Mrs. Leakas mentioned the ongoing issues with one of the busses. She added that Mrs. O'Brien in the business is actively working on the problem and hopes to have it resolved shortly.

Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment - Mrs. Lauerman thanked Mrs. Fletcher for her presentation and stepping up in Mrs. Hurd's absence.

Legislative & Policy - Mrs. Judge Cravello spoke on bill S319 which looks to broaden the voting rights of representatives of sending districts who are eligible for membership on the receiving district board of education. Sending districts are still required to meet the 10% student population rule at the High School level. Rochelle Park currently does not meet that quota. Mrs. Cravello spoke on two other policies one regarding technology in schools and another on school district designs.

Personnel/Negotiations/Staff - Mr. Allos no report at this time

Special Education -Mrs. Ciliento Buyck no report

Technology -Mr. Trawinski no report

**Board Liaison Assignments:** 

NJSBA/BCSBA -Teresa Judge Cravello informed the Board members they could still go down to the convention for the day. Also BCSB is having their meeting on November 29<sup>th</sup>.

Joint Boards- Dimitria Leakas reported that he Joint Boards meeting was this past Tuesday, it was very informative. Unfortunately the invitations went out late for the meeting. Hackensack brings in recruiters from colleges throughout the year. They are having a college fair on October 24<sup>th</sup>.

November 13<sup>th</sup> is the 8<sup>th</sup> grade open house; Hackensack will be closed on November 7, 9 & 10. The play will be "Our Town".

Municipality- Sam Allos informed the board that he couldn't attend the township meeting last night. They asked two questions regarding Dr. Zoeller's salary and goals. Mr. Allos supplied that information.

Community- Matt Trawinski October 28<sup>th</sup> is the ragamuffin parade starting on Williams St. to Carlock Field. Rochelle Park Day at Carlock will start at noon on the same day. He asked that parents do not park on school grounds for the parade. Wednesday Oct 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>, is the Hurricane donation drive times 10-2 on Saturday. Rochelle Park food drive will be November 11<sup>th</sup> 10-2 at Shop Rite, and the Township Garage sale will be October 21<sup>st</sup>. 9-4. He diverted to Ms. O'Brien on the 5K. Ms. O'Brien thanked everyone involved with the 5K and supported the race. Had 155 participants, as well as volunteers, she stated that this town is special, in taking care of one another, like one big family. Thanked everyone who was involved from EMS, PD, Faculty and Staff at Midland. She looks forward to the next 5K.

President Leakas thanked Ms. O'Brien, for her hard work.

President Leakas read a statement regarding remarks made during the open public forum section of the agenda. She reminded the public that the Board cannot respond to statements made in regard to any internal personnel or students matters. She added that the Board will not be responsible for comments made by others. She recapped that while you are free to exercise your rights express your

*views* – There is no privilege covered by the Board and the Board cannot offer any protection by a third party.

# XII. 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. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Abraham, to open public comment at 8:00 P.M. Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

Mr. Cannici spoke presenting a formal statement regarding the increasing turmoil. He was not here to align with any parties, he stands here as a Principal who aligns himself with the children of this building. He spoke in general terms of the recent anger, personal attacks, and misinformation. He expressed his frustration when your hands are tied. The circumstances were highly unusual. The conflict lies that the real truth has not been told. He is puzzled by some claims that have been made out in the public by people who should not, could not, have access to all the facts. He understands the board's legal obligations. The truth will be revealed in time and he hopes the public will have a better understanding of what occurred. He understands the bond parents and students have with their teachers. A special bond that could last a lifetime, he supports the teachers, however, if and when it becomes necessary to enforce the policies and procedures of the Rochelle Park School District as required in his role as Principal he will not hesitate to act, everyone must be held accountable for their behavior; no one is above that accountability. We all work with and for the children; therefore we must live up to the highest standards. In the matter of the recent accusations regarding our Superintendent, he wants the public to know that he is fully aware of the ongoing discussion and the vote of nonconformance voiced by the RPEA has created a great deal of concern among the middle school parents and the citizens of Rochelle Park, it has cast a dark cloud over this district and town in a time that should have been a celebration of our schools accomplishments. With regard to the safety and security of the staff and students, he takes that very serious. He's not here to defend or condemn Dr. Zoeller. Once the facts are revealed he believes public will make an informed decision. Mr. Cannici stated he comes from a family of honorable men; men who were raised to respect woman and protect children, and defend them from harm's way. He is a man of integrity. The students and staff here are safe; he would not sit back and remain quiet. There are no acts of retaliation being made by the administration in this building, it's insulting, ridiculous. As the Principal of this school he has never been influenced by the Board. He is not a puppet or company man, he does what he thinks is right. In the last few years he has seen the public portion comments become much more personal. It is at a point where it is out of control. The recent events have made a perfect storm. He encouraged it to stop, it is ruining this town and will affect the students.

Sheryl Kurian -Marinus St. stated she was not taking sides as the facts are starting to come out and she is starting to put things together, she agrees it is a complicated situation. She wants people to know that eventual her sister sits on the board she is her own person. She is so saddened by what has happened in the last few months, people spending so much time trying to prove that they are right and others are wrong. She is sick by what she is seeing, the children have to come first, if you are upset with someone try to stand in their shoes and see their side, she believes that everyone has the best intentions and believes everyone has to have a part in fixing this discourse. She encouraged everyone to stop the nonsense, stop trying to justify your bad behavior. She begged the teachers and administration to get together for the children. Public respect who you voted for behind that table, they are doing their best. Let's start working together if you can't then you are part of the problem.

Miss. Bugler-Oak St read a statement in support of Mr. Hornes and how he helped her grow both as a student and as a person.

Mrs. Minichetti- Harvey Ave- Spoke about the good things at Midland and what makes the district special. The events bring our school as a community together. That would not be possible without the parents, teachers and administration working together. The recent events have cast a shadow over that. She believes we should be focusing on the future, commit to an era of respect, accountability. She pleaded with the Our Town to put positive things in the paper to help the school and community to come together.

Laura Giglio RPEA read a statement regarding the lack and mishandling of training during PARCC, from the district test coordinator, prompters were left alone which is a direct violation. PARCC manuals were not distributed properly. They should have been handed out earlier, mishandling of the test dates, PARCC testing window allowed for the test to be taken earlier instead of 3 days after her maternity leave started, and with no test coordinator in the building until May 15, 2017. She gave a synopsis of a pending grievance. The grievance had reached level 4 in June and complained that a meeting with the arbitrations has yet to take place. She stated we as teachers hold ourselves to higher standards, set by the state. She asked should not the district test coordinator and administer, shouldn't the administration hold that person to live up to those standards the state of NJ has put in place as well.

Mark Scully Marinus St. thanked the BOE and administrative team for their work. The board has been misrepresented in the township. He spoke of the accomplishments that have happened since Dr. Zoeller has come to Midland School. He stated it appears that there is a small group of people who have portrayed the town against Midland School. They have used rumors, charges, and accusations to put a cloud over this district. In 2012 Midland School was put in Focus status it didn't happen overnight, in fact it takes two years for that label to be placed on the district, and since that has now been removed. Some people like to take credit for that, but at the same time they are some of the people who put us in that position in the first place. When we were looking for a Superintendent the staff and public told the board they needed someone in administration with some stability, and they needed a solid curriculum. Dr. Zoeller put in new curriculum, more technology, and two straight audits with no recommendations. The budget has gone down in recent years. Dr. Zoeller has given back \$250,000.00 in tax relief. He paid the township back \$200,000.00 that was given to the district by mistake a few years ago, that the township auditors didn't pick up, and we still had tax relief. New curriculum is in place, from our consortium led by Mrs. Hurd allowing our students to take calculus in the High School. All textbooks have been updated except science. IPads have been donated to the PreK classes thanks to Dr. Zoeller working with a local business. Every classroom has a smart board, teachers have new laptops, and the students have access to laptop carts in their classrooms. Every classroom has Wi-Fi. This is what got us out of a focus school. We are now a Google classroom school and teachers are going to training. He noted that the RPEA has stood up here and stated they

are working in a hostile work environment. They stated that three members of the faculty have felt that they needed to retire. He asked those three to come forward and speak for themselves. He would love to hear about their accomplishments and also any complaints found in their personnel file. He asked why let the RPEA speak for you. To the Our Town, why are you only printing some letters, why are you not reporting the good, you are misrepresenting Rochelle Park. He asked the people running for the board to stop the negativity, instead share your visions for the future of the school. He is optimistic of the direction Midland School is going, added that the administration has us going in the right direction.

Mrs. Becker Central Ave spoke about experiences her children had at Midland, she mentioned the good as well as some unfortunate instances that occurred. She and her husband believe that their children should go to school in a safe environment and she didn't understand how the administration allowed this to go on. The RPEA claimed that three teachers have had to resign due to hostile work environment the one that caused hostility is her. Mrs. Becher read a passage from the mentioned teacher's separation agreement. President Leakas informed Mrs. Becker that her time was up. Mr. Fogarty asked the public to respect decorum here or they will be asked to leave.

Mrs. Rainone RPEA takes offence from Mr. Scully statements. If one is speaking of erroneous statements he should listen to his own. The RPEA stands united; are professional and provide a strong safe educational environment for the children of Rochelle Park. The RPEA is proud of the service they provide.

Mr. Seymour Marinus St. There seems to be a great divide as to what is right and what is wrong. He spoke of an incident where he was meeting at a client's house and apparently pictures were taken of him as he exited the house. He was meeting with a client a few weeks ago and that happened, by people in this room. The facts that we know, under this board, 44 out of 47 teachers have said they are not happy, they have said hostile work environment, harassment, retaliation. All he knows is that they are unhappy. Also know there have been teachers leaving here we don't know if they wanted to leave or they were forced out. You know the teachers you decide if you think they should have stayed or not. We know that for an entire year the teachers had no books, computer lab where students could not see for an entire year. The board has not responded. We all know, heard things in the past. Mr. Cannici has asked to end the turmoil. To the people who say the children are not being hurt by this, look around open your eyes, children see and hear everything. They know what is going on. They see how their role models act. They learn from that. We won't get reconciliation until we get dialog. He doesn't stand behind anonymity. He feels the board is hiding behind confidentially. The priority has to be the board keeps good teachers, disciplines when needed.

Ms. Torres Berdan St. Spoke about a teacher both her children had. She wanted to know what the children were thinking and asked a group of children what they feel about the situation, and what she heard was surprising to her. The student's didn't support the teacher and noted improprieties. Mr. Stack got up and commented on what she was saying.

Mr. Fogarty asked Mr. Stack to respect this decorum. We have no ability to restrain anyone's speech here.

Mrs. Verhasselt asked how they can say these things

Mr. Fogarty if you want to be recognized please come up to the podium. Anyone can come up and speak, direct your comments to the board. He noted that the Board President made a statement at the beginning of the open session, and as a public entity the board cannot restrain anyone from speaking. Ms. Torres continued adding that the Our Town newspaper is destroying this town by reporting their bias. She understands that they are trying to protect their child, but they are painting a terrible picture of this town. They also have a responsibility as a newspaper to publish the facts, good things

happening at the school. She spoke of an incident where two BOE members, reported two other Board members to the police. As elected officials you have a duty to our school and town. She asked what is going on. We are the joke of Bergen County this is effecting our property taxes and most importantly our children. People are not doing their homework and basing their option on inaccurate information. She was sincerely sorry for how some people are acting she thanked the administration and board for their service.

President Leakas informed Mrs. Torres that her time was running out.

Mr. Stack indicated everyone wants the facts. In our contract it states we are to have meetings with the board and RPEA. He added that the board is not getting the facts. He encouraged the board and RPEA to meet. There were grade books at the end of the year that weren't moved for two weeks. Training for the new textbooks was given two days before school started. He doesn't know when the grades are due for report cards, teachers are teaching in the halls, and you say that everything is running fine. Things are not. We were given laptops with google chrome with no training on how to use them. As far as these wonderful things they are not trickling down to the teachers.

President Leakas asked if Mr. Stack was aware that we (BOE) asked for a meeting.

Mrs. Giglio stated that they would meet if we were going to talk about bringing Mr. Hornes back and without Dr. Zoeller present.

President Leakas asked again if the RPEA would agree to meet.

Mrs. Giglio said with the full board and their full board.

President Leakas was fine with that.

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, seconded by Mrs. Abraham, to close public comment at 9:05 P.M.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried

XIII. Items for Board Action-Resolutions

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

#### **ROUTINE MATTERS RESOULTIONS R1-R12**

#### POLICY #0168- APPROVALS OF BOARD MINUTES

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

#### October 3, 2017 Special Executive Meeting Session

Motion by Mrs. Judge Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman, Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

#### POLICY#5200 ATTENDANCE

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

Enrollment Left Entered

Midland School 474

Hackensack H.S. 136

Academies/Technical Schools 17

Totals 627

Pupil Attendance	<b>Teacher Attendance</b>		
Possible Days 7574	Possible Days 974		
Days Present 7364.5	Days Present 963		
Days Absent 209.5	Days Absent 9		
% Present 97.2%	<b>% Present</b> 99%		
% Absent 2.8%	% Absent 1%		

Motion by Mrs. Judge Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman, Roll Call 7-0 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 September 2017 for the Rochelle Park School District.

Fire Drill September 26, 2017 Security Drill September 28, 2017

Motion by Mrs. Judge Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman, Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

## POLICY #5512.01 HARRASSMENT INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING

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

#### September 2017

Reported Cases: 1

Number of Cases open: 0 Number of Cases closed: 1

Number of Incidents determined to be HIB: 0

Motion by Mrs. Judge Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman, Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

#### POLICY# 8461 REPORTING VIOLENCE AND VANDALISM

R5. RESOLVED: that the Board of Education accepts the report and acknowledges the public presentation by the Superintendent of the 2017-2018 Midland School #1 Violence and Vandalism data submitted under the Electronic Violence and Vandalism Reporting System (EVVRS).

Motion by Mrs. Judge Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman, Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

#### POLICY #5307 NURSING SERVICES PLAN

R6. RESOLVED: that on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the Nursing Service Plan for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion by Mrs. Judge Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman, Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

## POLICY #2340- FIELD TRIPS

R7. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following field trip request:

Mrs. O'Brien to accompany the Elective 6-7 grade students to the "Museum of Modern Art" on October 10, 2017 at a cost of \$30.00 per student to be borne by the parents.

Mrs. Sobeck, Mrs. Hani, Ms. Fernandes, Mrs. Gerber and Mrs. Antista to accompany the Kindergarten classes to the "Rochelle Park Fire Department" on October 26, 2017 at no cost.

Motion by Mrs. Judge Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman, Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

## POLICY #5120 NEEDS ASSESSMENT\_ PUPILS

R8. RESOLVED: that on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following special education placement for the 2017-2018 school year.

## **Addition of Related Services**

CASE# 9457382021

**CLASSIFICATION: Mild Intellectual Impairment** 

**PLACEMENT: Cresskill Public School** 

RELATED SERVICES: Speech and Language Therapy 1x/week for 30 min @

\$50/30 min

Motion by Mrs. Judge Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman, Roll Call 7-0
Motion Carried

### POLICY #6350 - CONTRACTS

R9. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves Kiker Learning as a consultant to provide full-day training on February 20, 2018 on Google Drive and Google Sites to all faculty, per the attached proposal.

Motion by Mrs. Judge Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman, Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

## POLICY #2631 NEW JERSEY QUALITY SINGLE ACCOUNTABILITY CONTINUUM

R10. RESOLVED: that the Board of Education upon recommendation of the Superintendent does hereby authorize the Superintendent of Schools to submit the Statement of Assurance and DPR files to the Commissioner of Education in Compliance with the provisions of N.J.A.C.6A:30-3.2(f).

Motion by Mrs. Judge Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman, Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried

#### Policy #1210 BOARD-SUPERINTENDENT RELATIONS

R11 . RESOLVED: that the Board of Education upon recommendation of the Superintendent adopt the Board's 2017-18 District Goals per the attached:

Motion by Mrs. Judge Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman, Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

R12. RESOLVED: that the Board of Education upon recommendation of the Superintendent adopt the revised Latchkev manual as per attached:

Motion by Mrs. Judge Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman, Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

### PERSONNEL RESOULTIONS P1-P7

### POLICY #3240 - PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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

Liz Nam to attend "Admissions Presentation Breakfast" on September 26, 2017 in Paramus at no cost to the district for registration.

Daniela Barbieri & Christina Durkin to attend "Handle w/Care" on September 26, 2017 at no cost to the district for registration.

Sheryl Meyers to attend "NJ American Academy of Pediatrics School Health Conference" on October 17, 2017 at a cost to the district of \$195.00 for registration.

Liz Nam to attend "A basic Guide to Intervention and Referral Services" on October 11, 2017 at a cost to the district of \$149.00 for registration.

Nancy Oliver to attend "Introduction to Google Drive" on October 19, 2017 at a cost to the district of \$75.00 for registration.

Liz Nam to attend Learn about McKinney-Vento on October 20, 2017 at no cost to the district for registration

Laurel Hanczaryk to attend "BELS & School's Out, Are you still working" on October 23, 2017 at no cost to the district for registration.

Liz Nam to attend "Applied Technology High School, School Counselor Showcase" on October 25, 2017 at no cost to the district for registration.

Susan Carney to attend "Differentiating Lessons with Google Apps" on October 30, 2017 at a cost to the district of \$75.00 for registration

L. Hanczaryk, B. Purcell, J Grossman, N. Sacco, A. Sherry, and C. Hurd to attend "Google Level 1 Bootcamp" on November 13-14 at a cost to the district of \$225.00 per registration.

Kristen Gonzalez to attend "North Jersey Genesis User Group Meeting" in Fair Lawn on November 15, 2017 at no cost for registration.

Allison Sherry, Bob Stack, and Cheryl Roskowinski to attend "NGSS Aligned Engineering Challenges for Elementary students" on November 17, 2017 at a cost to the district of \$150.00 for registration

Susan Carney to attend "Go Google in the Elementary Classroom" on December 12, 2017 at a cost to the district of \$75.00 for registration

Bob Stack and Lisa Fletcher to attend NGSS Implementation Roundtable in Montclair on December 13, 2017 at a cost of \$30.00 per registration.

Liz Nam to attend "Section 504 Explained" on February 13, 2018 at a cost of \$150.00

The following workshops are through the Northern Valley Curriculum Center at a cost of \$185.00 per workshop for registration.

Daniela Barbieri	Sp.Ed. Breaking the Code for General Education Teachers	April 5, 2018
Joan Gutkowski	Finding the Right Approach to the Emotional/Behavioral Student	March 9, 2018
Nicoletta Sacco	The Mainstream Needs of English Language Learners (PK-12)"	October 5, 2017
Angela Jacobus	Using Technology When Teaching Writing: More than Just a Fancy Typewriter (5-12)"	October 6, 2017
Christine Raimondi	Using Desmos in the Algebra 1 Classroom (6-12)	October 6, 2017
Nancy Sobeck	Bringing NGSS into the Elementary Classroom	October 10, 2017
Denise McCormick	Mindset and Moves: Strategies that help Readers	November 1, 2017
Angela Jacobus	Mindset and Moves: Strategies that help Readers	<b>November 1, 2017</b>
Susan Carney	Digital Portfolios as a Tool for Student Growth	November 27, 2017
Cathleen Hernando	Digital Portfolios as a Tool for Student Growth	November 27, 2017
Francine Hamilton	Digital Portfolios as a Tool for Student Growth	November 27, 2017
Jessica Calderone	Nonfiction Notice & Note: Strategies for Nonfiction	November 30, 2017
Barbara Purcell	Nonfiction Notice & Note: Strategies for Nonfiction	November 30, 2017
Liz Nam	Defining the Times: Sex and Gender in Society	December 4, 2017
Kaitlin Gallagher	Strategies and Tools For Student Engagement, (3-12)	December 12, 2017
Nicoletta Sacco	ELL Teacher Summit: supporting Students and Teachers	December 13, 2017
Joanna Hani	Launching The Writing Workshop (Pk-4)	December 14, 2017
Nancy Sobeck	Launching the Writing Workshop (Pk-4)	December 14, 2017
Donna Johnson	Launching the Writing Workshop(Pk-4)	December 14, 2017
Emily Kotwica	Google Classroom (Pk-12)	January 10, 2018
Susan Carney	Leveraging Technology in the Blended Learning Classroom	January 31, 2018
Kristin Colucci	Supportive Classroom Strategies for Students with Sensory	<b>February 8, 2018</b>
Denise McCormick	Supportive Classroom Strategies for Students with Sensory	February 8, 2018
Liz Nam	Finding the Right Approach to eh Emotional/Behavioral Student	March 9, 2018
Stephanie Fernandez	Launching the Writing Workshop (PrK-4)	December 14, 2017
Lisa Fletcher	Using Article of the Week Crazy Writing Week and pop-up	February 15, 2018
Lisa Fletcher	DBQ Making the Most of a Cross-Curricular Experience (5-8)	February 28, 2018
Meaghan Mallon	DBQ Making the Most of a Cross-Curricular Experience	February 28, 2018

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried

P2. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education approve the following student aide in conjunction with her program at BCC, for the fall semester.

Melinda Monnachio

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

P3. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education approves the following mentors for the 2017-2018 school year.

Cathy Hernando - Brianna Gomez Christine Raimondi - Christopher Panepinto

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

P4. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education approves the following as Library Volunteers for the 2017-2018 school year.

Pat Legory Geraldine Minichetti Michele Ramirez

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

P5. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education approves the following people to the positions on the extracurricular list as stated below for the 2017-2018 school year, stipend per the RPEA/RPBOE contract.

Jessica Calderone- Gymnastic Coach Robert Hoffman- Assistant Baseball Coach

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

P6. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education approves Francine Hamilton to the position of Substitute Teacher in the Latchkey Program at the rate of \$22.00 per hour for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried P7. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education approves an employee whose name is on file be granted their requested leave under the Family Medical Leave Act and the New Jersey Family Leave Act for twelve (12) weeks beginning October 17, 2017 and ending January 9, 2018. This leave is without pay and with medical benefits less the employee's required contributions.

Motion was withdrawn at the request of the employee. The Board therefore did no vote on this resolution.

### FINANCE AND INSURANCE-RESOULTIONS F1-F11

Upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator to the Superintendent

#### POLICY #6460 PAYMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES

## F1. RESOLVED: that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approve the October 2017 Bill List as approved, attached and listed below:

A. Regular Bills- Fund 10	\$1,023,557.62
B. Referendum -Fund 30	\$2,140.00
C. Cafeteria - Fund 60	\$23,672.35
D. Afterschool Program Fund 61	\$16,563.35
E. Debt Service Fund 62	\$250.00
<b>Total for the month of October</b>	\$1,066,183.32

#### TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS

#### **ATTACHMENT 1**

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

F2. RESOLVED: that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the authorization of multiple check runs in the month of October with the total to be approved at the next Board of Education Meeting to be held on November 16, 2017.

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

## F3. RESOLVED, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the September 2017, payroll as follows:

Fund	Gross Payroll	Employer Share of Social Security	Employer DCRP Contribution	Total Payroll Expense
Fund 10	509,467.85	6,990.72	602.20	517,060.77
Fund 20	-	-		-
Fund 61	2,002.90	153.22		2,156.12
Fund 61	2,002.90	153.22		2,156.12

	\$	\$	\$	
Total	511,470.75	7,143.94	602.20	519,216.89

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

#### **Transfers**

F4. RESOLVED, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the line item transfers for August 2017 and September 2017.

**ATTACHMENT** 

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

F5. RESOLVED, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education accepts the Board Secretary's Report for the months of August 2017 and September 2017.

ATTACHMENT

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

#### POLICY # 6820 - FINANCIAL REPORTS

#### **Monthly Budgetary Line Item Status Certifications**

F6. 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 August 30, 2017 and September 30, 2017 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 Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

## F7.RESOLVED: The Rochelle Park Board of Education will offer the following plans for open enrollment 2018:

Aetna Freedom 10 NJ Direct 10 NJ Direct 15 Horizon HMO NJ Direct 1525 Horizon HMO 1525 NJ Direct 2030 Horizon HMO 2035

NJ Direct HD 1500

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

# F8. Award of Contract for on-call Electrician Services for 2017-2018 - "that the Board approve the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Rochelle Park Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") authorized the use of competitive contracting for on-call electrician services pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A: 18A-4.1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 5:34-9.1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Board received one (1) proposal for the electrician services; and

**WHEREAS,** the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary has evaluated the proposal and prepared a comprehensive report in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.3(d) and N.J.A.C. 5:34-4.5, which report was made available to the public at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to this award and is attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board is desirous of awarding the contract for the on-call electrical services to Charles Hoyt at rates per the attached proposal form;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board hereby awards the contract for on-call electrician services to Charles Hoyt.

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

*Dr. Zoeller explained the hourly rate is \$125.00 per hour.* 

## POLICY#7410 MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

F9.

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Education requires New Jersey School Districts to submit three-year maintenance plans documenting "required" maintenance activities for each of its public school facilities, and

**WHEREAS**, the required maintenance activities as listed in the attached document for the various school facilities of the Rochelle Park Board of Education are consistent with these requirements, and

Whereas, all past and planned activities are reasonable to keep school facilities open and safe for use or in their original condition and to keep their system warranties valid,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education hereby authorizes the school business administrator to submit the attached Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for the Rochelle Park Board of Education in compliance with Department of Education requirements.

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

#### POLICY#7510 USE OF FACILITIES

F10. 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 as well as make adjustments due to construction.

Group/Organization	Use/Purpose/Room	Dates	Rental Fee
<b>Township of Rochelle</b>	Multi-Purpose Room	11/1/2017-3/30/2018	None
Park-Basketball		Monday/Friday	

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried F11. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approve the concept of a Township of Rochelle Park sponsored Farmer's Market to be held in the Midland School parking lot on Saturday's from June 30, 2018 to October 27, 2018 pending final approval by the Board of a detailed plan from the Township to be discussed and modified with the Superintendent of Schools.

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

Dr. Zoeller explained that the board was approving the concept of a farmer's market on school property, but that further discussion regarding the actual workings of the request would have to take place before the board could fully approve the project going forward.

## XIV. 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. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Abraham, to open public comment at 9:09 P.M. Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

Mrs. Verhasselt – Forest Pl. GATE program was changed a few years ago. It was a very successful program. The percentages went down. Did that have an effect on it? She asked Mr. Fogerty why if the public asks a question regarding personnel they are told it can't be discussed but tonight people from the public spoke about personnel items. The Board reads a statement every month prior to the opening of the public portion of the meeting. She is confused by what can and cannot be said. Mr. Fogarty clarified once again that the **board** cannot engage in discussion regarding personnel or students. The board cannot have any interactive discussion with the public. As a board we can discourage it and not respond to it. If a person comes to the podium the board can discourage people from discussing personnel matters but it cannot restrain any speech of any speaker. The public does it at their own risk.

Miss Greico Peek St. Spoke about her and her siblings experiences at Midland. She flourished in Mr. Cannici's class, Mrs. Fletcher and Mr. Alino's classes, but along with the good she remembers other times, other teachers who were not so caring, she gave several instances which supported her claims.

Mrs. Pardo W. Oldis St. stated that when the board hired Dr. Zoeller they believed that everyone needs a second chance, and if the board believes in second chances then she believes Mr. Hornes deserves one too.

Mrs. Pascarella Theim Ave. stated that the truth always comes out. She read a front page article from the Our Town on October 12<sup>th</sup> newspaper. In the article there was mention of a 60 page document that was very informative, and included a letter pertaining to the violations that occurred. Finally she wanted it to be known that Mr. Hornes is the son of the newspaper's owners.

Mrs. Rainone & Mrs. Giglio had not planned to make another statement but in lieu of what was being said at the meeting they felt they need to make the following statement. "Mr. Cannici began with a statement; honesty, unity and respect. They want respect and believe tonight that mutual respect was not given. They do care about the community, school, parents, and deeply about the students. Mrs. Rainone asked for the two groups to come together, this needs to stop. She stated this is her school, our school, and we (RPEA) stand side by side with linked arms and they stand strong. We will not apologize for our statements. She stated that the union is willing to talk to the Board.

President Leakas- the Board is more than willing to meet as there are a lot of things that need to be discussed. As a parent she is very proud of the teachers here. Personally she has helped in the classrooms; she does it because she cares. She cares about the administration here and wants the two groups to come together and work things out.

Mr. Fuller Chestnut St- there are too many rumors going around, notably regarding a vote of no confidence not just against Dr. Zoeller but other administrators as well. He would like an answer to this, what were the grounds. He is sick of hearing rumors.

President Leakas stated the board cannot answer that question. The vote did not come from the Board.

Mrs. Pascarella Theim Ave- she was happy to see the union extend a hand, she is hoping it will end tonight. She liked coming to Board meetings and wants the truth and for the district to move forward.

Mrs. Wuthrick South Dr. asked if the PARCC testing PowerPoint would be on the school website. Dr. Zoeller stated it will, it is something that is done every year.

Mr. Houser reported on several township events coming up, such as, town wide garage sale, Ragamuffin parade, Rochelle Park Day, and the Township food drive at Shop Rite.

Mr. Cannici read a quote by Abraham Lincoln

Mrs. Lewicki- Forest Pl. She talked about how this situation encompassed this small town. She is now hopeful that it can be settled and the community and school can go back to where we were before.

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to close public comment at 9:35 P.M. Roll Call 7-0 Motion Carried

Statement read by President Leakas- I pledge to all of you we are so much better than this. I have been a member of this board for 5 years. No decision has been made in haste. We do not always agree with administration. We have committee meetings closed to the public where we hash everything out in detail; questioning ourselves and administration until we can assure ourselves we are making the

best decisions. I have always put the district ahead of all even my family and friends. There have been personal decisions that have divided us, and completely understand the frustration that we are not legally permitted to discuss these matters in public. It frustrates us as well, and at one time we sat in the audience as well. Parents have asked if we have reached out to the teachers union and we did, that request was denied. We have known each other for a long time and there is no reason for us not to talk. She supports the administration and faculty in their dedication in moving this district forward. It is unfortunately that the recent events and the lack of knowledge and facts had divided us. It only fuels the lack of trust and anger which is not healthy. We have known each other for years and we need to talk to each other not through each other.

Mrs. Abraham addressed the accusations of harassment leveled against her and Mrs. Buyck stating it has been extremely frustrating to them that they cannot discuss the issues. She wanted to state her side of the story and has video to confirm what occurred. She lives on the same block as Mr. Trawinski. Mrs. Buyck was over Mrs. Abraham's house they were outside by Arlene's car talking to her husband. She explained a conversation she had with another neighbor who is also a past Midland Teacher. The event didn't warrant a police report, newspaper article or circulation around Facebook. The Our Town also stated they offered to publish her side of the story but that she did not respond. She stated that is not true and has a date and time stamped email that proves otherwise. She volunteers for this job. It saddens her that it has come to this point. She wouldn't under normal circumstances even mention it. She understands the public's frustration over not having the answers. With the interim administrators we declined in scores. Since this administration has taken over we have gotten out of focus status. If we aren't all willing to put aside these disputes for the children, then what are we doing here? She would like you to all know that these board trustees have the best interests in the children. She fears that the politics will supersede all the good that is being done here.

Mrs. Ciliento Buyck addressed the Board, administration and public. In her statement she resigned from the board of education effective on this date due to personal reasons. She has kept her promises that she made when she ran for the board of education. She has made this decision with regard to what is best for her family.

The Board accepted with regret by affirmation the resignation of Mrs. Ciliento Buyck from the Rochelle Park Board of Education effective October 19, 2017.

#### XV. Announcements

The next Regular Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 16, 2017 at 7:30 P.M. in the Media Center. An Executive Meeting may be held prior to the Regular Meeting at 7:00 P.M.

The Board of Education may elect to go into a second executive session at this time.

## XVI. 2<sup>nd</sup> Executive Session Announcement (not needed)

#### **XVII. 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.

## XVIII. Adjournment

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to adjourn meeting at 9:56 P.M. Roll Call 7-0
Motion Carried