

**Rochelle Park Board of Education
Caucus Meeting Minutes - 7:30 P.M.
March 3, 2014**

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

Board Members	Present	Absent
Mr. Mark Scully, Vice President	X	
Mr. Sam Allos	X	
Mrs. Arlene Buyck	X	
Mrs. Teresa Cravello	X	
Mrs. Maria Lauerman	X	
Mrs. Dimitria Leakas	X	
Mr. Jay Esposito, President		X (arrived 7:35)

Others present:

- Dennis McDonald, Interim Superintendent
- Christine Werner, Business Administrator/Bd. Secretary
- Cara Hurd, Principal
- Ellen Kobylarz, Board Recording Secretary

III. Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, and 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 Our Town, in accordance with Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.

IV. Superintendent’s Report- Dr. McDonald reported the following:

- Resolutions on the agenda for workshops/conferences, Ms. O’Brien, 2014 NJAHPERD Annual Conference, Mrs. Hamilton and Mrs. Stephens, Annual conference – reading/writing. Mrs. Oliver, Ms. Esposito and Mrs. Genovese- Dyslexia, Train the Trainer.
- Attached for the Board approval is the baseball/softball schedule
- Field trips- 5th grade to Medieval Times, Teen Arts trip has a change of date.
- As of February 24th- 32 children have been registered for Kindergarten next year.
- School Calendar’s will be approved, a revised 2013-2014 and new 2014-2015 school calendar.
- Congratulations to the students who made the honor roll.
- The district has received notification from the NJ Dept. of Education with regard to the Midyear Budget review. Kudos to Mrs. Werner and Mrs. Hurd in achieving district compliance with the state efficiency standards.
- Parent notification letters have been sent out for the extended day program. It is designed as a six week program for students in grades 3-8.

- Dr. McDonald sent letters to the Fire Chief and Superintendent of the Public Works Dept. thanking them for their assistance in removing the ice damming on the building and moving ice/snow mounds in the parking lot.

V. Business Administrator's Report Mrs. Werner reported the following:

- Bergen County School Boards will be holding a meeting on Tuesday, March 4th. If any board member would like to attend please contact Mrs. Werner.
- Mrs. Werner discussed the tentative summer/fall 2014 project schedule. This is in conjunction with the school referendum projects.
- Standard and Poor's reviewed the district's financial standing pertaining to bonding for the referendum projects. Standard and Poor's has assigned its "AA" rating to the district.
- Notice of sale for the district \$6,514.00 school bonds will be published in The Bond Buyer and The Record on March 5, 2014. Bid award date is March 12, 2014.
- Standard resolutions will be on the agenda
- Transportation committee met, discussed numerous problems with bussing. Mrs. Werner contacted the NJDOE, SBJC, First Student and Mr. Fogarty, the board's attorney. Discussion followed.

VI. Principal's Report- Mrs. Hurd reported the following:

- Mrs. Meyers and the Honor Society Students collected Pennies for Patients. This was a 3 week fundraiser to help raise money for Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The initial goal was to raise \$1500.00 and currently we have raised over \$4200.00.
- Two Principal Tea's will be scheduled for the month for grades 3-5 and 6-8. All meetings will be held in the Media Center.
- Gymnastics show will take place on Thursday evening at 7PM with two morning shows on Friday.
- Baseball and softball tryouts will begin this month.
- Melanie O'Dea a Special Ed Specialist with RAC provided professional development on Co-Teaching models for the entire staff on February 18th.

VII. Student Recognition Ceremony

SPELLING BEE

1. WHEREAS, Matthew Paddock, Samantha Ang, and William Sanchez, student's at Midland School #1, placed first, second and third, in the Midland School Spelling Bee and, NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Rochelle Park School District Board of Education, recognize and commend Matthew, Samantha, and William for their outstanding achievement.

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, seconded by Mr. Allos

ROLL CALL 6-0

Motion Carried

GEOGRAPHY BEE

2. WHEREAS, Theo Leakas, Olivia Vladyka, Faith Keener and Alyssa Nguyen student's at Midland School #1, placed first, second, third and fourth, in the Midland School Geography Bee and, NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Rochelle Park School District Board of Education, recognize and commend Theo, Olivia, Faith, and Alyssa for their outstanding achievement.

Motion by Mrs. Leakas, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman

ROLL CALL 6-0

Motion Carried

VIII. Reports – Committee Action Items – Deferred to regular meeting.

IX. Items for Board Action - Resolutions

X. Other Business:

XI. Open to the Public (Any Item)

During this portion of the meeting, the residents are invited to address the Board with any questions, comments or concerns that may be in respect to the operation of their school.

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mr. Scully, to open public comment at 7:45 p.m.

ROLL CALL 7-0

Motion Carried

Calendar discussion- the Board of Education had an open discussion regarding the number of snow days used in this school year and how to make the days up in the calendar. The Board encouraged public input. Three options were discussed (1) two days during Spring break + one at the end of the year (2) all three days during spring break, (3) 3 day's at the end of the school year. After a lengthy discussion the Board decided to go with option (2).

Mrs. Vladyka- Peek St- Thanked the teachers and staff who came out and supported the 8th grade class at their recent fundraiser.

There was a discussion regarding the PARCC testing, upper grade math textbooks. Dr. McDonald stated that the district is looking into new textbooks for the upper grades. Teachers have gone to trainings in order to prepare. The District has purchased equipment such as head phones for the PARCC testing, it is a tech driven test and the district is preparing for that. 8th Graders will participate in a pilot program this year of the PARCC testing.

Mr. Allos stated he is putting together a committee to look at school uniforms.

Dr. McDonald commented that it was nice to see students in the audience and have them participate in the discussions. They asked very pertinent questions and it's good that they are involved in their community.

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Leakas, to close public comment at 8:22 p.m.

ROLL CALL 7-0

Motion Carried

XI. Announcements:

The next Regular Meeting will be held on Monday, March 10, 2014 at 7:30 PM in the Media Center.

XII. Executive Session Announcement (if needed)

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

_____ Personnel _____.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board shall move into Executive Session to discuss the above referenced matter(s).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the minutes of the executive session will provide as much information as possible without violating any applicable privilege or confidentiality so that the public can understand what was discussed and when available what the Board decision was.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the minutes of the executive session will be released to the public in an appropriately redacted form within a reasonable period of time after the privilege or confidentiality is no longer applicable to such minutes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the redacted portion of the executive session minutes will not be released until such time as the privilege or confidentiality is no longer applicable.

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to open Executive Session at 8:24 p.m.

ROLL CALL 7-0

Motion Carried

Motion by Mr. Scully, seconded by Mrs. Cravello, to close Executive Session at 9:29 p.m.

ROLL CALL 7-0

Motion Carried

Motion by Mr. Scully, seconded by Mr. Allos, to resume Caucus Meeting Agenda at 9:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL 7-0

Motion Carried

XIII. Adjournment

Motion by Mrs. Leakas, seconded by Mrs. Buyck, to adjourn meeting at 9:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL 7-0

Motion Carried