

**Rochelle Park Board of Education  
Caucus Meeting - 7:30 P.M.  
March 5, 2012**

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

Board Members	Present	Absent
Mr. Robert Verhasselt, Vice President	x	
Mr. Sam Allos	x	
Mrs. Teresa Cravello	x	
Mr. Jay Esposito	x	
Mr. Mark Scully	x	
Mrs. Maria Lauerman	x	
Mrs. Patricia Bilka, President	x	

Others present:

- Bert Ammerman, Interim Superintendent
- Matt McGrath, Interim Principal
- Ellen Kobylarz, Board Recording 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 Star Ledger, The Record and Our Town, in accordance with Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.

**IV. Superintendent’s Report – Mr. Ammerman reported:**

- There will be a resolution to approve several workshops run by the Department Of Education. E. Rainone, A. Cahill & B. Loverich to attend “Professional Learning Communities”. L. Fletcher, B.Stack, & D.Repka to attend “Making Meaningful Connections” and J. Grossman will visit an exemplary Middle School “Black River” in Chester NJ.
- The Department of Education was in today for “NJQSAC”. John, Matt & Mr. Ammerman, spent 3 to 4 hours with the committee. They were very impressed with the new website. Mr. Ammerman told the committee that the Board was very supportive regarding the changes and they were also impressed with the facilities. They expressed concerns regarding development of a plan to replace Mr. Ammerman.
- There will be a resolution to approve the 2012 baseball/softball schedule on the regular meeting agenda
- Registration for Pre-School is ongoing. We have 3 children registered for Preschool. Kindergarten registration was held in early February. There are 45 children registered with another 6 that have inquired about the program.
- With the school board elections taking place in November and the re-organization not until next January the board needs to approve meeting dates past April 2012. There was a

discussion regarding the dates. Until the end of 2012, there will be meetings once a month, on the second Monday of every month with an exception when school is closed.

- There will be a resolution on the agenda to approve a maternity leave replacement for a 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher

**V. Business Administrator's Report** – Mr. Ammerman reported:

- In your folders you will find financial statements from Mr. DiPaola.

**VI. Principal's Report-** Mr. McGrath reported:

- Curriculum and Instruction- Students in all grade levels who scored between 180 and 200 have been identified. The district will now include additional instructional time for the 6<sup>th</sup> graders. There will be a focus on content through Social Studies and Language Arts classes. Additional support will be given by Mrs. Oliver.
- Mr. McGrath thanked the PTA for their support with regard to the Safety Patrol. The money donated will be used to purchase umbrellas.
- Midland Idol was a smash hit. Mr. McGrath was impressed by the level of talent, poise and confidence each student possessed. He thanked Mr. Esposito, Mrs. Lauerman and Mrs. Hernando. The audience was great and he was pleased to see so many teachers in attendance.
- The PTA will work closely with the media specialist, Mrs. Ebersbach on the week-long Book Fair, beginning on March 5<sup>th</sup>.
- The PTA will sponsor a basketball game between the Harlem Wizards and a team comprised of teachers, police officers, fire fighters and other community members.
- Art Educations of NJ is sponsoring their annual Youth Art Month. Midland School under the direction of the Art Teacher Mrs. O'Brien has 48 students participating. Two students from Midland School were chosen to represent Bergen County in the elementary division. Randiel Hernandez in third grade and Kathryn Davis in fifth grade. Mr. McGrath suggested that the students be recognized at a board meeting.
- Mr. McGrath would also like to recognize the Safety Patrol members.
- Mr. McGrath stated it had come to his attention that before and after school cars were parked on the basketball courts. That will no longer be allowed and was addressed in the letter sent to parents on February 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Mr. McGrath thanked Mr. Ammerman and Ms. Budanskaya for the new website. Teachers have been trained and their websites are included. He has received nothing but positive feedback from parents and staff.

**VII. Reports – Committee Action Items** - Deferred to regular meeting

**VIII. Items for Board Action - Resolutions (If needed)**

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

**IX. Other Business:** NONE

**X. Open to the Public** - 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 8:03 p.m.  
Roll Call 7-0

Mrs. Leakas- 41 Powell Ave, RP, expressed her concern for Mr. Mike, stating he has been instrumental at drop-off. They do so much more and are such a comfort. They truly care about the kids.

*Mr. Ammerman- Mike has a special passion for Rochelle Park*

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, seconded by Mr. Esposito, to close public comment at 8:04 p.m.  
Roll Call 7-0

**XI. Announcements:**

**The next Regular Meeting will be held on Monday, March 12, 2012 at 8:00 PM in the Media Center. The Special Public Hearing on the 2012-2013 Budget will be held on Wednesday, March 28, 2012 at 7:00 P.M. 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/ HIB/Pupil

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 Mr. Scully, seconded by Mr. Esposito, to open Executive Session at 8:04 p.m.  
Roll Call 7-0

Motion by Mr. Scully, seconded by Mr. Esposito, to close Executive Session at 8:42 p.m.  
Roll Call 7-0

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mr. Allos, to resume Caucus Meeting Agenda at 8:42 p.m.  
Roll Call 7-0

**XIII. Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. Verhasselt, seconded by Mrs. Cravello, to adjourn meeting at 8:42 p.m.  
Roll Call 7-0

Respectfully Submitted:

Ellen Kobylarz  
Board Recording Secretary