

**Rochelle Park Board of Education  
Caucus Meeting– 6:30 P.M.  
October 6, 2014**

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

<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Mr. Mark Scully, Vice President	X	
Mr. Sam Allos		X arrived 7:10
Mrs. Arlene Buyck		X arrived 6:40
Mrs. Teresa Cravello	X	
Mrs. Maria Lauerman		X arrived 6:33
Mrs. Dimitria Leakas	X	
Mr. Jay Esposito, President	X	

Others Present:

Harry Groveman, Interim Superintendent,  
Christine Werner, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Brian Cannici, Acting 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 Caucus 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. Groveman reported the following:

- Thanked all involved with the 5K run and fun run held on Sept 28, 2014
- There will be a resolution on next week’s agenda to approve teacher professional development workshops. Field trips for classes in PreK and Kindergarten.
- Several Policies and regulation are up for revision and approval one policy is being abolished as per our policy company Strass Esmay Associates.
- Annual approval on the Nursing Services Plan and Violence and Vandalism report will be on the agenda for approval next week as well. 1 incident reported.
- Discussion on district goals and action plans associated with those goals. They will be finalized for approval at the regular meeting.
- The district is up for NJQSAC review this year. The Board and Dr. Groveman had a discussion regarding the submission of the districts SOA. Dr. Groveman sought approval at the caucus meeting due to reporting time constraints set by the DOE. There are 5 areas of assessment in QSAC and Dr. Groveman is recommending 100% compliance in 4 of the 5 areas with a 90% compliance in the operations section. Dr. Groveman stated with so many code mandates- he is not comfortable stating 100% compliance. In addition the district is looking into training that can be done online.

- Dr. Groveman gave the floor over to Mrs. Ferla and Mr. Cannici who presented a report on the district's testing results of the spring NJASK 2014 testing.

**V. Principal's Report** Mr. Cannici reported the following:

- Gave the board an overview on the staff development day scheduled for October 13<sup>th</sup>.
- October 6<sup>th</sup> kicks off Week of Respect, an annual week of awareness, education and action centered on harassment, intimidation and bullying. Students will participate in various activities throughout the week.
- The following week Mr. Cannici and Dr. Groveman will begin formal classroom observation.
- This week, students in grades 6-8 elected their 2014-15 student council. Mr. Cannici stated the students gave impressive speeches and ran fine campaigns.
- Congratulated the 5K committee members for a job well done.

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

- Resolutions on Comprehensive Maintenance Plan and Facilities checklist will be on the agenda for approval.
- Anticipates having the annual snow removal/plowing quote for the regular agenda.
- An overview of the referendum projects was given.
- The regular agenda will include monthly resolutions such as bills list, board secretary and treasure's reports, transfers as appropriate.
- The Annual Audit will be presented on November 10, 2014.
- Emergency Evacuation Bus drills for the High School students were successfully completed on Wednesday September 24, 2014. Hackensack's Principal stated it went very well.  
*Mrs. Leakas asked if the drills took place in the morning or afternoon. More students take the bus in the morning than in the afternoon.*
- Mrs. Werner gave the Board various information regarding the start of the 2015-16 budget process.

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

**VIII. Public Questions on the Resolutions (Agenda Items Only)**

During this portion of the meeting, the residents are invited to address the Board regarding agenda items only.

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, seconded by Mrs. Buyck, to open public comment at 7:35 p.m.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried

None

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Leakas, to close public comment at 7:36 p.m.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried

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

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

**POLICY# 4125 EMPLOYMENT OF SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS**

**1. RESOLVED, that applications be submitted to the County Superintendent of Schools in accordance with the revised statute N.J.S.A. 18A; 6-7.1 et.seq. requesting authorization for emergent hiring pending completion of Criminal History Check for the following individual for the reason indicated and on the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education appoint Amy O’Leary to the position of Part Time Special Education Classroom Assistant for the 2014-2015 school year at a salary of \$18.90 per hour, hours not to exceed 27.5 for part time positions.**

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

**POLICY #2631 NEW JERSEY QUALITY SINGLE ACCOUNTABILITY CONTINUUM**

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

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

**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. Leakas, seconded by Mrs. Buyck, to open public comment at 7:45 p.m.  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

Mr. Valenzuela- Becker Ave- questioned the meeting time. Website stated 7:30 pm. presented the Board of Education with volunteer certificates and thanked them for their service on behalf of the Township.

Mrs. Grieco- Peek St. inquired about the new bids for Hackensack High School busing.  
*President Esposito stated he would look into it.*  
Mrs. Grieco- stated she sent an email to Mrs. Werner and never received a response.

Mrs. Kroplick Forest Pl. Inquired on the feasibility study.  
*Dr. Groveman stated that issue has been tabled.*

Mrs. Quappa E Passaic St- Questioned the lowest sub groups on the testing presentation. She stated that students don’t have their own room- instead they go to different rooms, sometimes with bigger decks. They need structure  
*Mr. Cannici answered by stating the 3<sup>rd</sup> Pre K was added, that created space issues, in addition to adding more resource teachers. Mr. Cannici stated he has spoken to the teachers; no negative impact on learning, furniture is being addressed.*

Mrs. Quappa questioned why it was not done prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school.

*President Esposito asked Mrs. Quappa to make an appointment with Mr. Cannici to discuss the issue further.*

Mr. Borchard Forest Pl- asked where we are with the Superintendent search, timeline for the next phase.

Mrs. O'Rourke Forest Pl asked what the #of candidates is.

*President Esposito explained that they can't discuss it.*

*Mr. Scully added it is the most private thing we do as a Board.*

*President Esposito stated they finished the first round.*

Mrs. Abraham Forest Pl- inquired about the heating and cooling- where does that issue stand has the bidding been paused.

*Dr. Groveman stated the board has yet to take action and noted it will be done in a timely manner- board will have to investigate further.*

Mrs. Maurer Patton Ct. why the discussion would be in private

*Dr. Groveman explained legal issue- risk type of system- hot water steam/ hot water.*

Mrs. Maurer- inquired about the new roof patch job.

Mr. Valenzuela asked in the superintendent's report did you touch on Midland Park- how did that come about- who approached who?

*President Esposito stated that a Midland Park BOE member knew the contract was coming up and approached us. If we can get a better situation don't we want to have the best.*

Mr. Valenzuela asked with regard to the Whitehall presentation- how did that come about.

*President Esposito stated the board did a RFP to look at other area high schools. Whitehall applied they stated in their presentation Midland Park, and the fact that the board would have to name another district for the study to be done. The board was under the impression that you do the RFP first then other district is selected.*

Mr. Valenzuela asked if Dr. McDonald brought Whitehall here and how did they come up with Midland Park.

*President Esposito stated Dr. McDonald- President Esposito at this point ended the conversation due to the fact that the motion was tabled and not moved forward; it made the conversation a moot point to continue.*

Mr. Valenzuela- inquired as to why Dr. McDonald was no longer in the district- and asked if he was still employed here.

*President Esposito stated it's a personnel issue can't discuss it- nothing with students.*

Mr. Borchard- Forest Place asked if White hall was the only person who applied.

Mr. Valenzuela asked when the RFP went out.

Mrs. Maurer Patton Ct- stated attorney didn't say only one

*Dr. Groveman stated the RFP hires a company*

Mr. Valenzuela- again asked when the RFP was sent out

*Mrs. Werner stated July*

*Mr. Scully stated RPF went out – Whitehall only company- Board was under the impression it was good for numerous other districts not limited to one.*

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello, to close public comment at 8:15 p.m.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried

**XII. Announcements**

The next Regular Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 6:30 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:

Personnel/Legal

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 Mrs. Cravello, to open Executive Session at 8:18 p.m.  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

Motion by Mrs. Leakas, seconded by Mrs. Cravello, to close Executive Session at 10:10 p.m.  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

Motion by Mr. Scully, seconded by Mr. Allos, to resume Regular Meeting Agenda at 10:11p.m.  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

*Mrs. Cravello informed the Board of Education that she has been asked by Hackensack High School to be a part of their career and advisory committee as a parent.*

**XIV. Adjournment**

Motion by Mrs. Buyck, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to adjourn meeting at 10:12 p.m.  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried