

**Rochelle Park Board of Education
Caucus Meeting–6:30 P.M.
April 2, 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	(6:40PM)
Mrs. Maria Lauerman	x	
Mr. Mark Scully		x
Mrs. Patricia Bilka, President		x

Others Present:

- Bert Ammerman, Interim Superintendent
- Ellen Kobylarz, Board Recording Secretary
- Matthew McGrath, Interim Principal

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 Star Ledger, The Record and Our Town, in accordance with Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.

IV. Superintendent’s Report –Mr. Ammerman reported the following:

- T. Budanskaya to attend a workshop on Cisco Systems on March 28, 2012, at no cost to the district for registration
- S. Sacco, B. Weiner, L. Oles, L. Fletcher to accompany the Band and Chorus to the Senior Center on May 10, 2012 at a cost to the district for busing.
- The district has three unused snow days for this school year. I am recommending to take those days the Friday before Memorial Day. Tuesday after Memorial Day, and the ½ day on June 5th primary election day. If something happens before the Memorial Day break and we need to use a day, I recommend that we then take it away from the Memorial Day break,
- DARE Graduation is set for April 18, 2012 9:30 AM
- Mr. Ammerman will be attending the SNAP Conference on April 18, 2012.
- There will be an addendum to the regular agenda, 2 resolutions will be added: Jeanmarie Corrigan is requesting to take a Maternity Leave starting May 11th for the remainder of the school year. Dot Slotwinski has put in her letter of retirement from the district and there will be a resolution to accept her letter. “I speak for the board in wishing her well in her retirement”.

- The administration is in the process of putting together a master schedule for next year which will likely result in personnel changes.

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

- There will be a resolution on the agenda to purchase a tractor. Mr. Ammerman thanked Bob Verhasselt for his help in acquiring this piece of equipment.

VI. Principal's Report – Mr. McGrath reported the following:

- Ms. Loverich, Mr. Calabro, Mrs. Colucci and Mrs. Raimondi are revising the Math Curriculum. They will review books and resource materials from the Singapore Math Program.
- Mrs. Repka, Mrs. Fletcher, Ms. Schwarz and Mrs. McCormick are revising the Language Arts Curriculum. They will review books and materials that are part of the same sequence currently used in grades six through eight Reading Street.
- The Professional Development Committee has begun work on revising the current Professional Development Plan for submission to the County office by May 15th.
- The eighth graders visited the State House in Trenton as part of their yearlong inquiry into our government which will culminate with the trip to Washington DC later in the year.
- Under the direction of Mrs. Jennifer O'Brien, forty eight Midland School students had their artwork on display at the Ciaro learning Center in Hackensack during March. Two student artists, third grader Randiel Hernandez and fifth grader Kathryn Davis took their award winging pieces to Trenton for state competition and we are awaiting the results.
- The sound of Music was a tremendous success. Under the direction of Mrs. Weiner, Mrs. Mesce and Mrs. Fletcher, our student performers put on four amazing shows. A special thank you goes Mr. & Mrs. Pascarella, Mrs. Lauerman, Mr. Esposito, Mrs. Leakas, Mrs. McElroy, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Feinroth, Mrs. Lauria, Mrs. Minichetti and Mrs. Gonzales for all their help.

Mr. Ammerman also stated he was impressed with the kids. "The teachers did a wonderful job- was something nice. Mr. Ammerman received a nice letter from a parent and the board will get a copy in this Friday's Facts." Mr. Ammerman went on to comment on the Singapore math, stating it was the closest to the core standards and he hopes to be able to have the teachers trained K-5 on a ½ day in June. He also stated that another committee will be formed regarding the new teacher evaluation system that the state is requiring to be put into place by the 2013-2014 school year. He stated we have several teachers going for their masters in administration and this would be a great opportunity for them to get involved in the process. The new evaluation system will have to be worked out. It will be a challenge for everyone. There is also a cost factor to implement. Mr. Ammerman stated all committees, Professional Development, Curriculum reviews are all working hard.

- Mr. McGrath touched on a workshop he and Mrs. Oles attended regarding testing. They both had a meeting with the teachers to discuss the outcome and relay information to the teaching staff.

Mr. Ammerman at this time mentioned the March 28th budget presentation by Mr. DiPaola. "John did a wonderful job, the board now has a good appreciation for the way the district is headed"

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

VIII. Items for Board Action - Resolutions -None

IX. Other Business

X. 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 Mrs. Cravello, to open public comment at 6:40 p.m.

Roll Call 5-0

Motion carried

NONE

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Cravello, to close public comment at 6:45 p.m.

Roll Call 5-0

Motion carried

XI. 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. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello, to open Executive Session at 6:46 p.m.

Roll Call 5-0

Motion carried

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mr. Esposito, to close Executive Session at 7:45 p.m.

Roll Call 5-0

Motion carried

Motion by Mr. Esposito, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to resume Caucus Meeting Agenda at 7:46 p.m.

Roll Call 5-0

Motion carried

XII. Announcements:

The next Caucus and Regular Meetings will be held on Monday, May 14, 2012, at 7:00 PM with the Public Meeting immediately following.

XIII. Adjournment

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to adjourn meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Roll Call 5-0

Motion carried