

**Rochelle Park Board of Education
Caucus Meeting Minutes – 7:00 P.M.
September 17, 2012**

- I. Call to Order and Flag Salute**
- II. Roll Call 7-0**

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

Others Present:

- Bert Ammerman, Interim Superintendent
- Vincent Occhino, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary
- Ellen Kobylarz, Board Recording Secretary
- Cara Hurd, 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 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:

- **Enrollment – we have six less students this year compared to last.**
- **The teacher’s had 2-1/2 day workshop presentations for Grades K-5 Language Arts and a full day workshop – Grades K-5 for the new Go Math series**
- **This Sunday, Mr. Ammerman will attend a Emergency Management meeting.**
- **Earlier today, the Lang. Arts Committee presentenced the new curriculum to the Education Committee and tonight the Board will approve the Language Arts Curriculum. Next month the Math Committee will present the new Math curriculum to the Education Committee and then the Board will approve the Math curriculum.**
- **Several workshops will be approved on New Teacher Evaluation, Handle with Care recertification workshop and the School Nurse to attend an annual health conference.**
- **Resignations: Ms. Masina Puleo as the Speech Teacher as of the end of September and Mrs. Jeanmarie Marrano as a Special Education Classroom Assistant.**

- **Appointments:** Jennifer O'Brien as the Softball Coach, Ms. Sarah Vafegh as the new Speech Teacher, and Mrs. B. DeSimone as a Special Education Classroom Assistant.
- Mrs. Hurd will discuss our classification as focus school at the regular meeting.
- **Transportation-** There was an issue with the high school transportation. The error occurred due to a combination of things. We send Hackensack a list with all our Graduating 8th graders on it; this was done in April last year. By the end of June we have a better idea where the students are going and therefore sent a second list to Hackensack removing the students going to private high schools. The list that was returned to the business office had all the students on the list. The result was that students who were not going to Hackensack received bus passes. Mr. Ammerman stated he was confident in the fact that new procedures have been put in place and that going forward this will not be an issue.
Mrs. Cravello- questioned the location of the Joint Boards Meeting in Hackensack.
Mr. Ammerman- stated we would look into it.

V. Principal's Report Mrs. Hurd reported:

- Back to school night will be September 27, 2012
- Mrs. Hurd thanked the PTA for a wonderful job done at the Welcome Back Tea.
- Mrs. Hurd touched on the morning drop off, stating that it has been going very smoothly.

VI. Business Administrator's Report Dr. Occhino reported:

- New payroll procedures are in place. From now on the payroll register must be signed.
- He corrected an amount on the regular agenda resolution #F6 \$3920.00 should replace the amount if \$1,262.00
- The board will approve a resolution for IDEA funding- this money is allocated for out of district students.
- There will be an addendum on the agenda to approve the tuition amount. This is something that has to be done each year.

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:

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.Cravello, seconded by Mr. Verhasselt, to open public comment at 7:22 p.m.

Roll Call 7-0

Mrs. Leakas- 41 Powell RP- Thanked everyone for the new comers tea

Mrs. Crane- 41 Marinus RP- Was concerned the first two days of school with the younger student's lining up in the cafeteria. She stated it was very confusing and believes it could be better organized. Two students were left behind on the first day of school. She sent an e-mail to Mrs. Hurd.

Mr. Ammerman- stated it was the first time he had heard this. Starting October 1st.there will be weekly meetings with key personnel to address areas of concern.

Mrs. Crane- inquired about the three Kindergarten classes only having one aide, how is she to do it all.

Mr. Ammerman stated that class sizes are smaller and therefore don't require an aide. The Kindergarten aide is there for the classroom without a bathroom. She certainly works with the other classrooms if needed. That is a scheduling issue that the three Kindergarten teachers should work out.

Mrs. Kral- 189 W. Oldis St- asked about the playground

Mr. Ammerman – deferred her to the regular meeting.

Mrs. Abraham- 135 Forest Place- RP- stated two Friday's ago her daughter's classroom was very hot. Child was upset, due to being hot and sweaty. Stated there was no air, only one fan in the room. Wanted to know what could be done.

Mr. Ammerman- stated that the fan can't be in the room. He will issue a memo to the staff and the fans will be removed. He further stated not much can be done; there are no plans to install air conditioning. There are other areas in the school that have a greater need. The temperature hasn't been bad. Mr. Ammerman stated he has been walking around the building. June may be an issue.

Mrs. Abraham- Children are cranky- not paying attention when it's too hot. Doesn't want to see her daughter get lost in the 1st Grade.

Mr. Ammerman- sympathized with Mrs. Abraham, stating it was a legitimate concern, not disagreeing with her.

Mrs. Abraham-can we work towards an answer.

Mr. Ammerman- stated he was open to suggestions.

Mrs. Abraham- suggested ceiling fans or window units, could air conditioning be put in the budget for next year.

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mr. Allos, to close public comment at 7:33 p.m.

Roll Call 7-0

XI. Announcements

The next Caucus/ Regular Meeting will be held on Monday, October 8, 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:

Personal, Litigation, _____.

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 Mr. Scully, to open Executive Session at 7:34 p.m.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion by Mr. Esposito, seconded by Mr. Allos, to close Executive Session at 8:26 p.m.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion by Mr. Cravello, seconded by Mr. Verhasselt, to resume Regular Meeting Agenda at 8:27 p.m.

Roll Call 7-0

XIII. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Esposito, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to adjourn meeting at 8:28 p.m.

Roll Call 7-0