ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
MARCH 12, 2025 – REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF TENTATIVE BUDGET / REGULAR MEETING

5:00 pm – Public Session — **Copeland Middle School – Cafeteria**
Immediately into Closed Session — **Copeland Middle School – Faculty Room**
7:30 pm – Public Session — **Copeland Middle School – Cafeteria**

Details for how to access the Public Meeting through remote means will be posted on the district website at www.rocktwp.net. The Public is strongly encouraged to participate. Community members can watch the meeting live online. Members of the public are encouraged to attend in person to provide public comment.

VISION
Rockaway Township Schools…Opening minds, openings worlds, so every child's potential becomes a reality and challenges become opportunities for personal success!

MISSION
To nurture a supportive culture embracing individual diversity that will ensure academic, social and emotional success for all.

2024-2025 BOARD GOALS			
GOAL I	GOAL II	GOAL III	GOAL IV
Ensure continued academic excellence by: a. Supporting and publicizing the newly-implemented and revised curriculum documents and academic programming for all learners. b. Appraising the effectiveness of ELA and Math programming in which achievement is measured through triannual reports that are shared publicly.	Maintain a safe and supportive school district culture by: a. Fostering inclusivity, equity, and a culture of mutual respect for all students and staff. b. Providing the resources to support a school environment conducive to social and emotional health and increased, cohesive service-learning initiatives.	Support operational excellence that is sensitive to the ever-growing needs of an expanding school community by: a. Utilizing community discussion data to communicate and promote the benefits of the Referendum to invest in our learners and enhance functional space. b. Ensuring a consistent approach to the implementation of security across the district. c. Determining and executing next steps for analyzing, designing, and investing in facilities to maximize and enhance functional space.	Promote community outreach and enhanced communications by: a. Building new partnerships and growing existing relationships in order to effectively reach all stakeholders. b. Clearly and effectively communicating the roles and responsibilities of the Board.

2024-2025 DISTRICT GOALS				
GOAL I	GOAL II	GOAL III	GOAL IV	GOAL V
By June 2025, the district will increase the percentages of students meeting or exceeding expectations on the NJSLA in ELA and Mathematics by at least 5% across all grade levels (4-8; grade 3 is baseline) compared to the 2023-2024 school year baseline, through data-based articulation, targeted interventions, and both internal and external professional development.	Provide additional common, and consistent learning experiences in mathematics, literacy, and science to foster increased engagement.	Improve the climate and culture in each school and reduce chronic absenteeism through the implementation of: a. Character Strong SEL Program b. Improved HIB Processes c. We Dine Together at CMS d. PAAWS at CMS e. Unified Sports at CMS f. Climate and Culture Surveys	Reinforce a positive and effective practice of community outreach that is transparent, trusting, and collaborative. (Academy Nights)	Plan and implement a Referendum that will address both capacity and educational needs well into the future of the Rockaway Township School District.

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER
ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT
PUBLIC NOTICE
CLOSED SESSION
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
CMS THEATRE COMPANY – THE WIZARD OF OZ
STONY BROOK STUDENT RECOGNITION
PUBLIC DISCUSSION

I. **COMMUNICATIONS**
II. **APPROVE MINUTES**
III. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**
IV. **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**
V. **EDUCATION REPORT**
VI. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
VII. **RECOMMENDED ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION**
- A. **Personnel**
- B. **HIB**
- C. **Education**
- D. **Administration**
- E. **Finance**
- F. **Policy**

VIII. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**
- A. **Old Business**
- B. **New Business**

IX. **ADJOURNMENT**

Call to Order
_____called the meeting to order at _____pm.

Attendance Roll Call						
Mrs. Anderson	**Mrs. Curelaru**	**Ms. McGeary**	**Mrs. Mezik**	**Ms. Richardson**	**Ms. Tourne**	**Dr. Tomasini**

Others in Attendance				
Dr. Corbett	Mrs. Slamb	Board Attorney	Visitors	Press

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT
The New Jersey "Open Public Meetings Act" was passed to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed and acted upon. In accordance with the provision of the "Act", the Rockaway Township Board of Education has caused notice of the date, time, and place of said meetings to be published in "The Daily Record," "The Star Ledger," and be posted in all schools in the district, in the Municipal Building of the Township and the Township Library.
Does any Board Member wish to object to the conduct of this meeting for the purpose as stated in the public notice?

PUBLIC NOTICE
All documentation and materials considered by the Board of Education as part of this agenda are available for public review and comment. Members of the public are invited to come to the Board of Education building, off Green Pond Road, during the regular business hours of 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday, if they wish to inspect any of the referenced items.

Pledge of Allegiance			
Motion to waive Pledge until Open session by:		**Seconded by:**	
Show of hands to waive Pledge			

RESOLVED, that in accordance with the "Open Public Meetings Act," the Rockaway Township Board of Education will meet in closed session to discuss matters involving personnel, litigation, acquisition of real property, security, negotiations, receipt of governmental funds, the content of said discussions will be disclosed to the public at such time and extent as is required by law.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion to go into closed session by:		**Seconded by:**	
Show of hands to enter closed session			
Closed Session starts at _____ pm.			
Motion to come out of closed session by:		**Seconded by:**	
Show of hands to end closed session			
Closed Session ends at _____ pm.			
Reconvene at _____ pm			

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CMS THEATRE COMPANY – THE WIZARD OF OZ

STONY BROOK STUDENT RECOGNITION

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

During the course of the board meeting, the Rockaway Township Board of Education offers members of the public an opportunity to address issues regarding the operations of the Rockaway Township Public Schools. The Board reminds those individuals who take this opportunity to identify themselves by name and address and to limit their comments to items listed on the agenda and/or items directly related to the operations of the School District. Issues raised by members of the public may or may not be responded to by the Board. All comments will be considered and a response will be forthcoming if and when appropriate. The Board asks that members of the public be courteous and mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking, Specifically, comments regarding students and employees of the Board are discouraged and will not be responded to by the Board. Students and employees have specific rights afforded by the laws of New Jersey. The Board bears no responsibility nor will it be liable for any comments made by the members of the public. Members of the public should consider their comments in light of the legal rights of those affected or identified in the comments and be aware that they are legally responsible and liable for their comments.

In accordance with Board Policy 0167, public discussion is limited to fifteen (15) minutes with a three (3) minute limit per member of the public. The Board President shall have the right to modify the length of public discussion, as he/she deems appropriate.

Open First Public Comment			
Motion to open public comment by:		**Seconded by:**	
Show of hands to open public comment			

Close First Public Comment			
Motion to close public comment by:		**Seconded by:**	
Show of hands to close public comment			

I. COMMUNICATIONS

Andre Demino	Native American Guardian's Association
Maigen OConnor	Need Clarification on Projected Enrollment for School District
Donna Marie Suszynski	Title IX protects girls and women again
Amanda Wadleigh	Celebrity Day
Sophia Freire	Mr. McGovern's costume
Gretel Raibeck	Concern with Dwyer Principal
Kurt Kalata	Mr. McGovern at Dwyer
Inga Donskaya	Poor choice of an outfit
Hannah Lablans	Concerned Parent in District regarding Principal's Costume Choice at Dwyer
Patty Ochs	Politics in our school
Dan Dubofsky	Principal McGovern
Karen Lambert	Concern about incident at Dwyer
Kristin Dunne	Dwyer Principal
Mary Paulson	Concern regarding Event at Catherine Dwyer School
Dani Bratton	Concerns regarding Mr. Michael McGovern's choices yesterday
Sarah Gramma	Concern Regarding Social Media Post and Student/Staff Privacy
Jean Crumby	Dwyer Elementary School Celebrity Day
Rebecca Villareale	Supporting Michael McGovern
Kurt Kalata	Celebrity Day at Dwyer
Newal Rimawi	Celebrity Day at Dwyer
Jessica Brienza	Celebrity Day at Dwyer – We Support Mr. McGovern

Donna Suszynski	Celebrity Day at Dwyer
Amber McCormack	Celebrity Day at Dwyer
April Matera-Patiro	Support for Mr. McGovern
Amna Samad	Dwyer incident
Victoria DePinto	Celebrity Day at Dwyer
Paul Sepanski	Principal McGovern
Scott Livingston	Costume choice
Dana Taboadela	Celebrity Day
Kurt Kalata	Letter to the Dwyer Family
Inga Donskaya	Disappointment
Alexis and Andrew DeVita	In support of Mr. McGovern
Hannah Lablans	Unacceptable Response from Dwyer Principal
Dan Dubofsky	Dwyer Principal follow-up
Scott Livingston	Donald Trump look alike disgrace
Kristina Peebles	Disappointed
Francesca Angela Nordin	Human Trafficking Web Conference 4.10.25 for Student Teacher and Pre-Service Admins
Jennifer Hernandez	Pregunta

II. APPROVE MINUTES

Approve Minutes			
Motion to approve the minutes by:		**Seconded by:**	

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approved the minutes of February 12, 2025.

Approve Minutes Roll Call						
Mrs. Anderson	**Mrs. Curelaru**	**Ms. McGeary**	**Mrs. Mezik**	**Ms. Richardson**	**Ms. Tourne**	**Dr. Tomasini**

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/HIB UPDATE

IV. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

V. EDUCATION REPORT

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

VII. RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION

A. Personnel			
Motion to approve Personnel Items by:		**Seconded by:**	

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approved the following personnel resolutions.

A.	Appointment						
	Position	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Start Date Eff.**	**Date Term.**	**Discussion**
1.	PT Custodian	Michael Allison	$27,166.00 (Step 4) + $1,500.00 +$800.00 (prorated) = $29,466.00	SB	**2/18/25	6/30/25	Reassignment to night hours Night differential stipend added
2.	Grade 2 Teacher	Lauren Anderson	$62,295.00 BA+15 (Step 1) (prorated)	CAD	**2/18/25	6/6/25	Reassignment of Leave Replacement from AI Teacher to Grade 2 Teacher at CAD (Replacing Employee 6833)

3.	Academic Intervention Teacher	Christina Bielski	$62,670.00 BA (Step 2) (prorated)	BWD	4/22/25	6/30/25	Extended Leave Replacement (Replacing Employee 6027)
4.	Substitute Nurse	Megan Fernandez	$48.00/hr.	DIST.	24-25 SY		For After School Programs As needed
5.	District Mentor	Amy Hoffnagle	$550.00 per year	BWD	24-25 SY		
6.	Bus Assistant	Terry Jenkins	$21.35/hr. (Step 1)	TRANS.	***3/13/25	6/30/25	As needed Training to be Bus Driver Step frozen for 25-26 school year Pending fingerprint approval
7.	After School Club	Ivan Kaltman	$50.00 per session	SB	3/19/25	5/7/25	Pay-to-Play Chess Club 2 sessions per week (24 students) 14 total sessions
8.	Special Education MD Teacher	Debbi Katcher	$62,920.00 BA+30 (Step 1) (prorated)	KDM	4/22/25	6/13/25	Leave Replacement Pending physical/Mantoux and fingerprint approval (Replacing Employee 6789)
9.	Academic Intervention Teacher	Dawn Montesano	$61,670.00 BA (Step 1) (prorated)	KDM	**3/3/25	6/30/25	Leave Replacement (Replacing Employee 6948)
10.	ESY Program Coordinator	Jessica Mucerino	$3,946.00 per phase	DIST.	3/13/25 6/30/25	6/30/25 8/15/25	Phase I Phase II
11.	District Mentor	Kathleen Nangle	$550.00 per year	CAD	24-25 SY		
12.	Bus Mechanic	Selvin Ramos Navas	$58,000.00 (prorated)	TRANS.	*3/31/25	6/30/25	Full-time Salary frozen for 25-26 SY Pending physical/Mantoux and fingerprint approval (Replacing C Logrono)
13.	Substitute Nurse	Linda Rizzuto	$48.00/hr.	DIST.	24-25 SY		For After School Programs As needed
14.	SEPAC Presenter	Samantha Viscuso	$120.00 stipend	DIST.	3/18/25	3/18/25	Stipend per presentation outside school hours and includes preparation
15.	Math Teacher	Megan Yar	$81,390.00 MA+60 (Step 13) (prorated)	CMS	*5/13/25	6/30/25	Step frozen for 25-26 school year Pending physical/Mantoux and other personnel paperwork (Replacing N Granaturova)
16.	JNHS Field Trip Alternate Administrator	Charles Young	$775.00 stipend	CMS	3/26/25	3/28/25	Trip to Washington DC As needed

B.	Appointments Per Attached Lists						
	Position	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Start Date Eff.**	**Date Term.**	**Discussion**
1.	After School Clubs – CMS	Per the attached list	Per contracted rate of pay	CMS	3/17/25	5/23/25	Spring 2025 Pay-to-Play Clubs per the attached list
2.	Author Night Supervision	Per the attached list	Per contracted rate of pay	Per the attached list	3/13/25	3/13/25	Per the attached list Not to exceed 2 hours
3.	District Translators	Per the attached list	Per contracted rate of pay	Per the attached list	24-25 SY		As needed
4.	Kindergarten Meet and Greet	Per the attached list	Per contracted rate of pay	Per the attached list	6/23/25	6/24/25	Teachers, Nurse, and Staff Assistant per attached list Not to exceed 14 hours per staff member
5.	Kindergarten Open House	Per the attached list	Per contracted rate of pay	Per the attached list	8/26/25	8/26/25	Not to exceed 2 hours per staff member

6.	Summer Hours - Nurses	Per the attached list	Per contracted rate of pay	DIST.	7/1/25	8/26/25	Preparation of the 25-26 SY Hours per the attached list

C.	Leave of Absence						
	Position	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Start Date Eff.**	**Date Term.**	**Discussion**
1.	Math Teacher	6917		CMS	6/16/25 9/8/25	9/5/25 11/28/25	With Pay under FMLA Without Pay under NJFLA Return: 12/1/25
2.	PT Staff Assistant	6834		CMS	3/31/25 4/28/25	4/24/25 6/20/25	With Pay Without Pay under NJFLA Return: 1st day 25-26 SY
3.	PT Staff Assistant	6344		CMS	**1/31/25	3/12/25	With Pay Return: 3/13/25
4.	Academic Intervention Teacher	6027		BWD	4/22/25	6/30/25	Extended without Pay Return: 1st day 25-26 SY
5.	Occupational Therapist	6855		BWD	5/27/25 6/13/25 9/2/25	6/12/25 6/30/25 11/21/25	With Pay under FMLA Without Pay under FMLA Without Pay under NJFLA Return: 11/24/25
6.	PT Custodian	6718		CAD	**2/10/25 3/18/25	3/17/25 4/13/25	With Pay Without Pay Return: 4/14/25
7.	Maintenance Clerk	5085		MAINT.	3/24/25	5/9/25	With Pay under FMLA Return: 5/12/25
8.	Bus Driver	5380		TRANS.	**2/28/25	3/21/25	With Pay Return: 3/24/25
9.	PT Staff Assistant/Bus Monitor	6194		TRANS.	**1/31/25	4/4/25	With Pay Return: 4/7/25

D.	Resign/Retire						
	Position	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Start Date Eff.**	**Date Term.**	**Discussion**
1.		4238		CO		7/1/25	Retire
2.	Bus Mechanic	Christopher Logrono		TRANS.		**2/26/25	Resign
3.	Substitute Teacher	Janayla Montes		DIST.		**2/10/25	Resign
4.	PT Staff Assistant	Dawn Montesano		BWD		**3/3/25	Rescinded acceptance of reinstatement in order to accept Leave Replacement position in district
5.	PT Staff Assistant	Maria Niro		DBO		**3/3/25	Resign

E.	Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the following revision to the previously approved motion under Personnel (Motion A-10, 12-11-24 agenda), rescinding employment offer.						
	Position	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Start Date Eff.**	**Date Term.**	**Discussion**
1.	Grade 2 Resource Teacher	Jaime Inglesino	$62,920.00 BA+30 (Step 1) (prorated)	DBO		3/13/25	Rescind employment offer due to delay of certification issuance

F.	Job Description					
	Category	**Position**	**Location**	**Date Effective**	**Date Term.**	**Discussion**
1.	A-9	Assistant School Business Administrator	DIST.	3/13/25		New

Personnel Items Key		
**on/before effective date*	***concurrent*	****on/after effective date*

Roll Call Vote on Personnel Items						
Mrs. Anderson	**Mrs. Curelaru**	**Ms. McGeary**	**Mrs. Mezik**	**Ms. Richardson**	**Ms. Tourne**	**Dr. Tomasini**

B. HIB Determination			
Motion to approve HIB Determination by:		**Seconded by:**	

HIB Resolution

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools has provided the Board of Education with reports regarding HIB Incidents: #284970 unconfirmed, #284972 confirmed, #285073 confirmed, #285142 confirmed, #285143 unconfirmed, #285259 unconfirmed, #285356 unconfirmed, #285357 confirmed, #285453 unconfirmed, #285576 confirmed, #285997 confirmed, #285998 confirmed which were conducted following these complaints; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education was advised of any consequences and/or remedial measures related to these matters as well as the Superintendent's recommendation regarding the results of these investigations; and

THEREFORE, BE IT resolved that the Board of Education votes to affirm the Superintendent's recommendation on HIB cases: #284970 unconfirmed, #284972 confirmed, #285073 confirmed, #285142 confirmed, #285143 unconfirmed, #285259 unconfirmed, #285356 unconfirmed, #285357 confirmed, #285453 unconfirmed, #285576 confirmed.

Roll Call Vote on HIB Determination						
Mrs. Anderson	**Mrs. Curelaru**	**Ms. McGeary**	**Mrs. Mezik**	**Ms. Richardson**	**Ms. Tourne**	**Dr. Tomasini**

HIB Current Investigations:

#285880	#286387	#286527	#286972	#287038
#287061	#287165	#287417	#287418	#287950
#287593	#287594	#287595	#287848	#287928
#287967	#288144	#288190	#288191	#288663

HIB Incident Summary: (as per attached)

C. Education			
Motion to approve Education recommendations by:		**Seconded by:**	

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurrently approves the field trip to the Rockaway Township Library with the cast of The Wizard of Oz on March 11, 2025 at 10:30am for Story Time.

2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board agrees to the following unavoidable registration and/or travel costs as presented, which are educationally necessary and fiscally prudent and are related to and within the scope of the employee's current responsibilities and promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district. The reimbursements are in compliance with the State travel reimbursement guidelines as established by the Department of Treasury and Board of Education policy in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A-23B-1.1 et seq.

Employee	Workshop Title	Organization	Workshop Location	Workshop Dates	Registration Fee	Travel/Hotel/ Incidentals Cost	Total Cost
Thea Arico	Just-in-Time Math Interventions (K-2)	Bureau of Education and Research	Virtual	April 9, 2025	$295.00	N/A	$295.00
Nancy Beiermeister	Annual Conference	Sussex County Regional Cooperative	West Orange, NJ	May 1, 2025	No Cost	$20.77	$20.77
Wendy Madonia	2025 Annual Conference	NJ American Academy of Pediatrics	Somerset, NJ	June 11, 2025	$185.00	$39.76	$224.76
Michael McGovern	Legislative Conference	NJ Principals and Supervisors Association	Monroe, NJ	March 21, 2025	No Cost	$57.34	$57.34
Scott Nordland	School Safety/School Climate Teams(SS/SCT): Role & Responsibilities	NJ Department of Education	Virtual	March 24, 2025	No Cost	N/A	$0.00
Claudia Passaro	School Based SLPs: Word Finding Disorder-What it is and how to treat it.	Bureau of Education and Research	Virtual	April 4, 2025	$295.00	N/A	$295.00
Joy Van Wingerden	Strengthen Phonics Instruction in Any K-2 Reading Program	Bureau of Education and Research	Virtual	March 31, 2025	$295.00	N/A	$295.00

3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the salary and stipends funded with Federal Grants, as follows:

Employee	Grade/Position	Location	Stipend/Salary	% Funded
Loriana Takacs	Title I After School Substitute Teacher	DBO	$48.00/hr	100% Title I

4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the following Student Teacher(s) to complete their fieldwork requirements during the Spring 2025 semester and/or the Fall 2025 Semester.

Student Teacher	College/University	Cooperating Teacher/Location
Jack Hartsuiker*	County College of Morris	Demet Bilter/BW
Kara Pirtle	Grand Canyon University	Carly Farrell/CAD

*Pending satisfactory completion of District requirements

5. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the Field Trip request (as per attached).

6. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board agrees to adopt the following revised Rockaway Township School District Curriculum (as per attached).

7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the following employees for CPR Certification during the 2024-2025 school year. The cost to the District will be $10.50/employee (for the cost for the American Heart Association e-card) (as per attached).

Board Discussion

In accordance with Board Policy 0167, public discussion is limited to fifteen (15) minutes with a three (3) minute limit per member of the public. The Board President shall have the right to modify the length of public discussion, as he/she deems appropriate.

Open Public Comment on Education Items only *(Ask if Necessary)*			
Motion to open public comment by:		**Seconded by:**	
Show of hands to open public comment			

Close Public Comment			
Motion to close public comment by:		**Seconded by:**	
Show of hands to close public comment			

Roll Call Vote on Education Items						
Mrs. Anderson	**Mrs. Curelaru**	**Ms. McGeary**	**Mrs. Mezik**	**Ms. Richardson**	**Ms. Tourne**	**Dr. Tomasini**

D. Administration			
Motion to approve Administration recommendations by:		**Seconded by:**	

1. Donation

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board accepts the following check donation of $1,000.00 from Lake Hopatcong Elks #3559 (as per attached).

2. Vehicle Disposal

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board authorizes the disposal and/or sale of surplus/obsolete equipment for the Transportation Department as follow (as per attached):

Bus / Van #	Year	Make	Passenger	Vin #
30	2015	Chevrolet	16	1GD372BGXE1137362
31	2015	Chevrolet	16	1GD372BGOE1137175
246	2006	Bluebird	54	1BABHBKA56F236520
247	2007	Bluebird	54	1BABHBKA47F243069
248	2007	Bluebird	54	1BABHBKA07F243070
249	2007	Bluebird	54	1BABHBKA27F243071
250	2007	Bluebird	54	1BABHBKA47F143072

Board Discussion

In accordance with Board Policy 0167, public discussion is limited to fifteen (15) minutes with a three (3) minute limit per member of the public. The Board President shall have the right to modify the length of public discussion, as he/she deems appropriate.

Open Public Comment on Administration Items only *(Ask if Necessary)*			
Motion to open public comment by:		**Seconded by:**	
Show of hands to open public comment			

Close Public Comment			
Motion to close public comment by:		**Seconded by:**	
Show of hands to close public comment			

Roll Call Vote on Administration Items						
Mrs. Anderson	**Mrs. Curelaru**	**Ms. McGeary**	**Mrs. Mezik**	**Ms. Richardson**	**Ms. Tourne**	**Dr. Tomasini**

E. Finance			
Motion to approve Finance recommendations by:		**Seconded by:**	

1. Financials

Be It Resolved that the Rockaway Township Board of Education approves the Report of the Secretary and Report of Appropriations, and Report of the Treasurer, for the period ending in **February 28, 2025.**

Be It Further Resolved that this Budget does not include any unapproved appropriations or monies.

Be It Resolved that the Rockaway Township Board of Education acknowledges that Megan Slamb, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, certifies the following statement:

Pursuant to NJAC 6A:23-2.11(c)(3) and (4), I, Megan Slamb, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, certify that no budgetary line items accounts are over appropriated nor over expended for the period ending February 28, 2025. Authorize February 2025 account transfers as submitted.

2. Bills

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board authorizes payment of the following as approved by the Finance Committee:

A.	February	Student Activities	$19,696.46
B.	February	After School Activities	$1,108.55
C.	March	After School Activities	$178.82
D.	February	Cafeteria	$107,494.76
E.	March	District Bills	$5,568,679.28

3. Copier Lease Agreement

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board authorizes the five-year lease agreement commencing on July 1, 2025 with Atlantic, 400 Broadacres Drive, Suite 350, Bloomfield, NJ 07003 for copiers for all the Rockaway Township Schools and Administrative Buildings in the amount of $297,600.00 (as per attached).

4. Adoption of the Tentative Budget for School Year 2025-2026

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board adopts the tentative budget for School Year 2025-2026.

Rockaway Township Public Schools
Adoption of the Tentative Budget for School Year 2025-2026

BE IT RESOLVED that the tentative budget be approved for the 2025-2026 school year using the 2025-2026 state aid figures and the Secretary to the Board of Education be authorized to submit to the Executive County Superintendent for approval in accordance with N.J.S.A.18A:7F-5 and 18A:7F-6:

	General Fund	Special Revenues	Debt Service	Total
Total Expenditures	$64,084,950	$685,619	$0	$64,770,569
Less Anticipated Revenues	$10,480,696	$685,619	$0	$11,166,315
Local Tax Levy to be Raised	$53,604,254	$0	$0	$53,604,254

AND, to advertise said tentative budget in the Star Ledger and Daily Record in accordance with the form suggested by the State Department of Education and according to the law

ADJUSTMENT FOR BANKED CAP: $243,583

BE IT RESOLVED that the Rockaway Township Board of Education includes in the tentative budget the adjustment for banked cap in the amount of $243,583. In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-10.3(b), the district has fully exhausted all eligible statutory spending authority. The adjustment will be used to ensure the continuation and growth of our curricular programs, ensure the retention of high-quality staff, and endure the continued increased costs related to healthcare,

transportation, and tuition as well as general annual inflation. The Board of Education will complete this by June 30, 2026 and acknowledges that it cannot be deferred or incrementally completed over a longer period of time.

MAXIMUM TRAVEL

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3, a board of education must establish a maximum dollar limit for travel expenditure, as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq., BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the tentative budget a maximum travel expenditure in the amount of **$93,600** for the 2025-2026 school year. The maximum travel expenditure amount for the 2024-2025 school year is $93,600, of which, $20,845 has been spent and an additional $5391 is encumbered to date.

TRAVEL AND RELATED EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

The Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district;

AND, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board;

AND, a board of education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of $150 per staff member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30);

AND, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 but deemed by the board of education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms;

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education includes in the tentative budget travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7, to a maximum expenditure of $93,600 for all staff and board members for the 2025-2026 school year.

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall track and record these costs to ensure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

CAPITAL RESERVE

Capital Reserve Account Withdrawal: $2,447,010

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the budget a Capital Reserve withdrawal in the amount of $2,447,010 for the purpose of a district-wide flooring project, Bleacher replacements at CMS, district-wide Phone System replacement, Camera Replacement Project, Window Replacement Project KDM, Auditorium Audio Project CMS, and Playground Upgrade Project KDM.

MAINTENANCE RESERVE

Maintenance Reserve Account Withdrawal: $50,000

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the budget a maintenance reserve withdrawal in the amount of $50,000 for the purpose of district-wide repairs and improvements for both aesthetic and functional needs.

EMERGENCY RESERVE

Emergency Reserve Account Withdrawal: $50,000

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the budget an emergency reserve withdrawal in the amount of $50,000 for the purpose of the Camera Replacement Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; that the public hearing be held in the Copeland Middle School Cafeteria, 100 Lake Shore Drive Rockaway, New Jersey 07866 on **April 30, 2025** at **7:00 pm**.

Board Discussion

In accordance with Board Policy 0167, public discussion is limited to fifteen (15) minutes with a three (3) minute limit per member of the public. The Board President shall have the right to modify the length of public discussion, as he/she deems appropriate.

Open Public Comment on Financial Items only *(Ask if Necessary)*			
Motion to open public comment by:		**Seconded by:**	
Show of hands to open public comment			

Close Public Comment			
Motion to close public comment by:		**Seconded by:**	
Show of hands to close public comment			

Roll Call Vote on Finance Items						
Mrs. Anderson	**Mrs. Curelaru**	**Ms. McGeary**	**Mrs. Mezik**	**Ms. Richardson**	**Ms. Tourne**	**Dr. Tomasini**

F. Policy			
Motion to approve Policy recommendations by:		**Seconded by:**	

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the board approves the following policies for second read:

P. 5512 HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, AND BULLYING (M)
P. 5516 USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES (M)
P. 5533 STUDENT SMOKING (M)
P. 5701 ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
P. 5710 STUDENT GRIEVANCE
P. 7441 ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND ON SCHOOL GROUNDS
P. 8500 FOOD SERVICES
P. 9320 COOPERATION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES (M)

Board Discussion

In accordance with Board Policy 0167, public discussion is limited to fifteen (15) minutes with a three (3) minute limit per member of the public. The Board President shall have the right to modify the length of public discussion, as he/she deems appropriate.

Open Public Comment on Policy Items only *(Ask if Necessary)*			
Motion to open public comment by:		**Seconded by:**	
Show of hands to open public comment			

Close Public Comment			
Motion to close public comment by:		**Seconded by:**	
Show of hands to close public comment			

Roll Call Vote on Policy Items						
Mrs. Anderson	**Mrs. Curelaru**	**Ms. McGeary**	**Mrs. Mezik**	**Ms. Richardson**	**Ms. Tourne**	**Dr. Tomasini**

In accordance with Board Policy 0167, public discussion is limited to fifteen (15) minutes with a three (3) minute limit per member of the public. The Board President shall have the right to modify the length of public discussion, as he/she deems appropriate.

Open Second Public Comment			
Motion to open public comment by:		**Seconded by:**	
Show of hands to open public comment			

Close Second Public Comment			
Motion to close public comment by:		**Seconded by:**	
Show of hands to close public comment			

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Old Business

B. New Business

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Return to Executive Session *(if needed)*

For the discussion of _____ for approximately _____ minutes.

Motion to go into closed session by:		**Seconded by:**	
Show of hands to enter closed session.			
Closed session starts at _____ pm.			

Motion to adjourn closed session by:		**Seconded by:**	
Show of hands to end closed session.			
Closed sessions ends at _____ pm.			

Meeting Adjournment			
Motion to adjourn meeting by:		**Seconded by:**	
Show of hands to adjourn meeting.			

Meeting adjournment at **_____** pm.