REGULAR MEETING
ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
July 20, 2022

The Rockaway Township Board of Education held a regular meeting on Wednesday, July 20, 2022, at 6:00 PM at the Copeland Middle School, Lake Shore Drive, Rockaway, New Jersey.

The following members of the Board of Education were present in-person: Mrs. Lukany, Mrs. Mezik, Mrs. Shields, and Mrs. Smith.

Mrs. Curelaru arrived at 6:02 PM

Mr. Tomasini was absent.

Also present were Mr. Olobardi, Interim Business Administrator, Mrs. West, Director of Human Resources, and Mr. McKeever, Board Attorney.

Dr. Corbett, Superintendent of Schools, was present remotely.

Mr. Higgins, Assistant Superintendent was absent.

Mrs. Mezik called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

Motion by Mrs. Shields, seconded by Mrs. Smith to waive pledge salute, public announcement and public notice until the meeting is reopened.

Show of hands on above, all present voting yes, motion so carried.

Public announcement was read regarding the "Open Public Meeting Act."

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, Student and Administrative issues, the content of said discussions will be disclosed to the public at such time and extent as is required by law.

No Board Member objected to the conduct of the meeting as advertised.

Motion made by Mrs. Shields, seconded by Mrs. Smith to go into closed session at 6:04 PM.

Show of hands on above, all present voting yes, motion so carried.

Motion made by Mrs. Curelaru, seconded by Mrs. Smith that the closed session meeting stands adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Show of hands on above, all present voting yes, motion so carried.

The Public Meeting reconvened at 7:37 PM. Present were approximately 5 visitors and no members of the press.

Mrs. Mezik reopened the regular business meeting of the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Mezik noted that there is one Board Vacancy interview with Mr. Andrew Forst.
Board Member Vacany Interview can be viewed on Rockaway Township Board of Education's YouTube Channel, Rockaway Streamer under 'Board of Education Meeting - 2022-7-20' or by clicking this link
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TyIcYrLpZIw&t=39s

Motion by Mrs. Curelaru, seconded by Mrs. Lukany to appoint Mr. Forst to the Rockaway Township Board of Edcuation for the remainder of the calendar year, December 2022.

Roll Call Vote to appoint Mr. Forst to the Rockaway Township Board of Edcuation for the remainder of the calendar year, December 2022, all present remaining voting yes, motion so carried.

Motion by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Curelaru to open the public session of the meeting.

Show of hands on above, all present voting yes, motion so carried.

No Public Comment.

Motion by Mrs. Shields, seconded by Mrs. Lukany to close the public session of the meeting.

Show of hands on above, all present voting yes, motion so carried.

I. COMMUNICATIONS

The following correspondence was received for the Board since the last regular meeting:

Anonymous	Retiring Teacher's Concerns about CMS
Andrew Scott	Eagle Scout Project (2)
Brian Adams & Tara Van Orden	Affirmative Action/Sexual Harassment/Equal Opportunity Complaint Procedures
Andrew Forst	Board Vacancy

II. APPROVE MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Shields, seconded by Mrs. Curelaru to approve the following minutes:

Approve the minutes of June 29, 2022.

Roll Call Vote on above recommendations, all present voting yes, motion so carried.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. West read aloud the Superintendent's Report as follows:

- The *Superintendent Entry Plan* is posted on the website and will be updated regularly. It provides the board and the public with the goals and action steps until December 2022. I encourage you to review it. Any feedback is welcome and greatly appreciated.

- With September not far away, it is essential that our schools are clean and projects completed on time to welcome students. The DBO HVAC project continues. Franklin has assured me that it will be completed with enough time to properly clean and prepare the building for students in September. To ensure completion, I will be touring the building with Jim Olobardi, Franklin Cuevas, and Chris Marangon.

- Mrs. West has worked hard to ensure that all positions are approved by the board in a timely way and filled for September.

- The Executive County Superintendent has approved the contract for our Interim School Business Administrator (SBA), Jim Olobardi. There is a motion for board approval on this evening's agenda. We are happy to have Jim fill in for the next couple of months.

- We are receiving applicants to fill the permanent SBA positon. As of today, we have received 14 applications and of those nine are "viable" candidates.

- Meeting with stakeholders to discuss their perspectives, concerns, and challenges has been rewarding and enlightening. So far, I have met with board members, principals, RTEA co-presidents, PTA officers, district supervisors, and Township Officials.

- My discussions with the school principals have been quite informative. These meetings covered topics such as, academics, enrollment, teacher morale, student behaviors, the conditions of the school buildings and the effect of the pandemic. For example, it is likely that the pandemic has adversely affected morale, student achievement, and even student behaviors. I am optimistic that as the pandemic subsides, this upcoming school year will be a return to normal.

- As we prepare for the upcoming school year, we will need to reassess our covid-19 protocols. I am working with Krista Schellick (Birchwood Nurse) to develop our response to any ongoing Covid-19 outbreaks.

- A successful school always has strong parent involvement. Parents have a keen perspective making their opinions valuable. As I meet with the PTA presidents and vice- presidents, I will be asking for their assistance in planning local school gatherings this fall, which I call "Soup with the Sup."

- It was a pleasure to meet Mayor Joe Jackson and Mrs. Jackson. A strong relationship between Rockaway Twp. and the board of education is mutually beneficial. We plan on meeting again in the near future.

- It is good to see that learning in Rockaway Twp. Schools does not take a break over the summer. The ESY and Summer Enrichment programs are in full swing at Stony Brook and Copeland Middle School. When I stopped by CMS, students were busy outside learning about concentric circles by drawing them in chalk on the sidewalk.

- To keep the community and the board informed about the district from the perspective of the superintendent, I have established my own professional Twitter account (@RockawaySup). I encourage the community to follow me on Twitter. When school is in full swing, you can look for tweets several times weekly.

- Students have the right to be educated in schools that are physically and emotionally safe. Parents too should be confident that their child is safe and protected during the school day. I will focus on ensuring that all six Rockaway Twp. Schools offer a positive and safe climate and culture, that supports learning and where students are safe throughout the entire day.

IV. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – NO REPORT

V. CURRICULUM REPORT

Mrs. West read aloud the Superintendent's Report as follows:

Good evening members of the Board and hello Rockaway Township.

NJ Assessment Update
The district has begun to receive the initial round of NJSLA results. While these results are preliminary we are taking some time to examine these results and begin to plan for instruction for next year. Please stay tuned for a bigger more robust assessment update in August and September.

Summer Curriculum Projects
We have several ongoing projects this summer that are all moving along very nicely. We have done audits on several subject areas and those projects are nearing completion. As we move into August our focus will shift to the opening of school and making sure that our teachers have the necessary professional development and resources they need to begin the year.

District Assessment Calendar
To help with not only district planning but the community is planning as well, we have created a district assessment calendar for the entire year. This document is being edited by administration currently and will be released to the public shortly. This will help families plan and understand when the district has various state and local assessments throughout the year.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Shields – The Negotiations Committee met with the Rockaway Township Bus Drivers' Association on July 12, 2022 for the fourth joint session. The parties reached an agreement on a number of items and mutually exchanged salary proposals. The next meeting is scheduled on August 9, 2022.

Mrs. Smith – The Educational Curriculum Committee met on July 14, 2022 at 4:16 PM to 6:00 PM at lower conference room at the Central Office. In attendance were Mr. Higgins, Dr. Corbett, Mrs. Mezik, Mrs. Lukany and Mrs. Smith. Math Specialist summer hours, changes in the pre-algebra hours were discussed on the agenda. Mrs. Smith added that there is an online summer module with Mr. Bernstein that is offered to students entering the pre-algebra in sixth grade. Pre- assessment calendar was shared with Board

Members which include placement test dates. Educator Resilience Project update. In addition, the Committee discussed upcoming revisions changes to the Health and Physical Education Curriculum as per the New Jersey Student Learning Standard. The next meeting is will be determined at a later date.

VII. RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION

A. Personnel

Motion made by Mrs. Shields, seconded by Mrs. Lukany to approve the following personnel recommendations.

The Interim Superintendent of Schools recommends actions on the following personnel:

A.	Appointment						
	Position	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Start Date *On/About Eff.**	**Date Termin. *On/Before**	**Discussion**
1.	Special Ed. Resource Room Teacher	Christine Bechtold	$65,410.00 BA (Step 6)	SB	8/31/22	6/30/23	(Replacing: P. Tanner)
2.	Academic Intervention Teacher	Jill DiCerbo	$66,600.00 BA+30 (Step 6) **(Prorated)**	BW	8/31/22	12/23/22	Leave Replacement (Replacing: K. Miller)
3.	Admin. Asst.	Denise Manger	$49,500.00 Grade IV **(Prorated)**	CMS	*8/1/22	6/30/23	(Replacing: P. Shaw)
4.	Physical Education Teacher	Caitlin Molloy		SB/KDM	8/31/22	6/30/23	Reassign from SB, KDM, and BW to SB (0.6) and KDM (0.4)
5.	Interim School Business Administrator/Board Secretary	James Olobardi	$625.00 p/diem	CO	7/1/22	10/1/22	(Replacing. R. DeCarlo)
6.	LDTC Teacher	Jennifer Saxton	$75,825.00 MA (Step 13)	KDM/CAD	8/31/22	6/30/23	(Replacing: B. Dailey)
7.	Special Ed. Resource Room Teacher	Kristen Scrima	$65,920.00 MA (Step 3) **(Prorated)**	SB	8/31/22	12/23/22	Leave Replacement (Replacing: C. Beatrice)
8.	Phys. Ed. Teacher (0.4 FTE)	Anthony Taboadela	$24,342.00 BA (Step 2)	BW	8/31/22	6/30/23	Pending: Physical/Mantoux and Fingerprinting
9.	Substitute Secretary	Anne Yacavino	$22.00 p/hr.	CO	7/21/22	8/5/22	
10.	Administrative Assistant (CST)	Anne Yacavino	$49,000.00 **(Prorated)**	CO	8/8/22	6/30/23	(Replacing: D. Acocella)
11.	Elementary Math Specialist	Erinn Young	$46.00 p/hr.	CO	7/1/22	8/3/22	Not to exceed 50 hrs. Summer Hours
12.	Summer Enrichment Pre-Algebra Teacher	Erinn Young	$46.00 p/hr.	CMS	7/6/22	7/28/22	Revised Hours from not to exceed 44 hrs. to not to exceed 80 hrs.
13.	Guidance Counselor	Eleanora Zobele	$63,920.00 MA (Step 1) **(Prorated)**	CMS	8/31/22	12/23/22	Leave Replacement (Replacing: O. Dunnigan)
14.	ESY Bus Drivers/Bus Monitors/Staff Assistants/ Substitutes	Per the attached list	Per the attached list	TRANS.	Per the attached list		
15.	ESY/Summer Enrichment Substitutes	Per the attached list	Per the contracted rates	DIST.	7/5/22	8/2/22	

16.	Kindergarten Connection Teachers	Per the attached list	$46.00 p/hr.	Per the attached list	8/22/22	8/25/22	Not to exceed 10 hrs.

B.	Resign/Retire						
	Position	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Date Eff.**	**Date Termin.**	**Discussion**
1.	ESY Staff Asst.	Taylor Copeman		DIST.	7/5/22		Resign
2.	PT Staff Asst.	Ann Tomaszeski		SB	7/1/22		Resign 17.5hrs. p/wk. per the student IEP
3.	FT Staff Asst.	Anne Yacavino		SB	8/5/22		Resign Per the student IEP

Roll Call Vote on all above recommendations, all present voting yes, motion so carried.

B. HIB Resolution

Motion made by Mrs. Shields, seconded by Mrs. Curelaru to approve the HIB determination.

HIB Resolution

1. **WHEREAS,** the Superintendent of schools has provided the Board of Education with reports regarding HIB incidents: #2021-62 8794 confirmed and the investigations 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 recommendations on HIB cases:

   #2021-62 8794 confirmed

Roll Call Vote on all above recommendations, Mrs. Lukany abstained, all present remaining voting yes, motion so carried.

HIB current investigations - Mr. Watson – No cases to report.

C. Education

Motion made by Mrs. Curelaru, seconded by Mrs. Shields to approve the following education recommendations.

1. Motion to approve salary and stipends funded with ESEA FY21-22 Grant as follows:

Teacher	Grade/Position	Location	Stipend/Salary	% Funded
Mario Benitez	Title III ESL Summer	CMS	$ 46.00/hr.	100% Title III

2. Authorize a contract between Ann Robinowitz Education Center (The Newgrange School of Princeton, Inc.) and the Rockaway Township Board of Education, to provide a Wilson Fundations Level 3 Launch workshop to district staff on September 1, 2022 for a fee of $3,250.00

No Public comment.

Roll Call Vote on all above recommendations, all present voting yes, motion so carried.

D. Administration

Motion made by Mrs. Lukany, seconded by Mrs. Shields to approve the following administration recommendations.

Residency Check –De-Enrollment

1. **Be It Resolved,** pursuant to 18A:38.1 the Rockaway Township Board of Education will provide the parent/guardians the statutory notice that the Rockaway Township Board of Education determined the following students have failed to comply with Board Policy #5111 and verify students are domiciled within the school district and,

Further, the Rockaway Township Board of Education directs the School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary to provide said statutory notice and at the conclusion of the statutory notice period said students shall be removed from the district until such time as students can satisfy the requirements of Board Policy #5111 at which time the School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary shall place on the agenda a resolution reinstating said student for the 2022-2023 school year. *Students #103, #53, #319, #22, #110, and #416 are withdrawn due to relocation.* Student #'s: 74 remaining out of 550 to provide proof of residency.

#199	#1818	#1134	#122	#719	#1911	#1916
#519	#1911	#119	#207	#1011	#2611	#1316
#1013	#1414	#1213	#113	#132	#712	
#723	#717	#121	#1316	#73	#216	
#1018	#1319	#192	#1118	#83	#617	
#123	#121	#23	#1919	#113	#1123	
#127	#122	#35	#104	#1116	#218	
#1223	#210	#2212	#134	#32	#219	
#53	#1013	#2318	#14	#123	#223	
#118	#1014	#1919	#713	#14419	#243	
#18	#11020	#133	#313	#137	#1318	
#1912	#12113	#1216	#114	#197	#108	

BW (3)	CAD (5)	DBO (26)	KDM (37)	SB (3)

Conceptual Strategic Planning for School Additions

2. Motion to approve the Rockaway Township Board of Education Proposal for Increased Enrollment, Conceptual Strategic Planning for School Additions.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between RTBOE and Chartwells

3. Motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Rockaway Township Board of Education (SFA) and Compass Group USA, Inc., by and through its Chartwells Division to provide food service management for the 2022-2023, effective as of July 1, 2022.

No Public comment.

Roll Call Vote on all above recommendations, all present voting yes, motion so carried.

E. Finance

Motion made by Mrs. Shields, seconded by Mrs. Curelaru to approve the following finance recommendations.

Mrs. Shields noted that she signed the district bills and recommends approval.

Travel

1. **Be It Resolved** in accordance with Board Policy 6471 the Rockaway Township Board of Education approves the attached travel expenses as they promote the delivery of instruction, critical to the instructional needs of the district and/or further the efficient operations of the district (see attached).

   Be It Further Resolved that the travel is educationally necessary and fiscally prudent and is directly related to, and within, the scope of the current responsibilities for district employees and the district's Professional Development Plan.

Financials

2. **Be It Resolved** that the Rockaway Township Board of Education approves the Preliminary Report of the Secretary and Report of Appropriations, and Report of the Treasurer, for the period ending in June 30, 2022.

   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 James Olobardi, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary, certifies the following statement:

Pursuant to NJAC 6A:23-2.11(c)(3) and (4), I, James Olobardi, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary, certify that no budgetary line items accounts are over appropriated nor over expended for the period ending June 30, 2022.

Authorize the June 2022 account transfers as submitted.

Bills

3. Authorize payment of the following as approved by the Finance Committee:

A	June	Cafeteria	$495.00
	July	Cafeteria	$84,519.77
B	July	State Unemployment	$23,208.67
C	June	District Bills	$1,158,601.11
	July	District Bills	$454,411.72

IDEA Grant FY2022-2023 Submission

4. Motion to approve the submission of the Rockaway Township 27-4490 IDEA Grant FY2022-2023 as follows:

   - IDEA Preschool of $34,383.00 on account #20-251-100-560-50-000 (tuition)
   - IDEA Basic $592,301.00 on account #20-250-100-560-50-000 (tuition)
   - Grant amounting to $626,684.00.

Authorized Signatory for Student Activity Account

5. **BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board hereby appoints Dr. Richard R. Corbett, Superintendent of Schools for Rockaway Township Board of Education, as the sole authorized signatory for the Student Activity Account, until a permanent Business Administrator is appointed for the 2022-2023 School Year.

Capital Reserve Transfer

6. Motion to withdraw $58,347.28 from Capital Reserve to Account #12-000-400-450-45-PHV-DBO for electrical upgrades for the HVAC project at the Dennis B. O'Brien Elementary School.

Dual Authorized Signatories for Accounts

7. **BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board hereby recommends dual authorized signatories by the Treasurer and Board President on all of the following accounts, until a permanent Business Administrator is appointed for the 2022-2023 School Year:

General Custodial Account
Cafeteria Account
Payroll Account
Payroll Auxiliary Account
Summer Enrichment Account
Summer Savings Account
Flex Spending Account
State Unemployment Insurance Account
Capital Reserve Account
Family Outreach Account
After School Activities Account

ESEA Grant FY2022-2023 Submission

8. Motion to approve the submission of the ESEA Grant FY 2022-2023. Funding is allocated as per attached "Program Coordination & Budget Detail" and "Administrative Costs Budget Detail" pages, titles included:

Title I	$90,583.00	Rockaway Twp - $89,632.00 Non-public - $951.00
Title I SIA	$20,000.00	Rockaway Twp - $20,000.00
Title IIA	$38,307.00	Rockaway Twp - $38,257.00 Non-public - $50.00
Title III	$14,697.00	Rockaway Twp - $10,386.00 Rockaway Borough - $4,311.00
Title IV	$10,000.00	Rockaway Twp - $9,987.00 Non-public - $13.00

No Public comment.

Roll Call Vote on all above recommendations, all present voting yes, motion so carried.

VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Old Business

Mrs. Mezik – Noted that there will be an official motion to dedicate the Board Certification to honor Nancy Helbourg, at the next board meeting set at August 10, 2022.

New Business

Mrs. Smith attended the NJSBA shared topics that were discussed which included transportation funding, the new NJSL standards for health and physical education, and schools as polling places.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Mrs. Lukany, seconded by Mrs. Smith that the meeting stand adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Show of hands on above, all present voting yes, motion so carried.

Respectfully submitted,



James Olobardi
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary