REGULAR MEETING
ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
January 18, 2012

The Rockaway Township Board of Education held a regular meeting on Wednesday, January 18, 2012, at 6:05 PM at the Copeland Middle School, Lake Shore Drive, Rockaway, New Jersey.

The following members of the Board of Education were present: Mr. Giarratano, Mr. Kurland, Mr. Puzio, Mrs. Salny, and Dr. Friedberger. Mr. Jackson and Mr. West were absent.

Public announcement was read regarding the "Open Public Meeting Act." No Board Member objected to the conduct of the meeting as advertised.

Motion made by Mr. Giarratano, seconded by Mrs. Salny to adopt the following resolution:

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

All present voting yes, motion carried.

The Board met in closed session.

Motion made by Mrs. Salny, seconded by Mr. Kurland that the closed session meeting stand adjourned at 7:17 PM
Roll Call Vote, all present voting yes, motion so carried.

The Public Meeting reconvened at 7:18 PM. Also present were12 visitors and no members of the press.

Dr. Friedberger opened the regular business meeting of the Board.

Motion by Mr. Puzio, seconded by Mrs. Salny to open the public session of the meeting at 7:18 PM.

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

Resident addressed Board Members who are absent. Dr. Friedberger responded on the statute regarding Board Member absences.

Resident addressed the new law S3148.

Resident also addressed denied OPRA request for Board Member attendance. Dr. Verbist addressed the issue.

And the Resident addressed the professional services bid limit. Dr. Verbist addressed this issue.

Resident also stated Mr. Giarratano is still listed as Montville on his Facebook page.

Resident addressed board meeting Public Session opportunities. Dr. Friedberger addressed the question.

Motion by Mrs. Salny, seconded by Mr. Kurland to close the public session of the meeting at 7:30 PM.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Correspondence

Hilary Bilkis	Re: School Calendar
Abbott Koloff	Re: OPRA Request
Keenan Hughes	Re: Info on Boulders of Rockaway
Regina Swierc	Re: Family Outreach Program Night

APPROVE MINUTES — **Approve Minutes**

Motion made by Mrs. Salny, seconded by Mr. Giarratano to approve the minutes of January 4, 2012, as amended.

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

The following information was presented by the Acting Superintendent in her report: — **Supt Report**

Dr. Grefe reported on HIB report.

Motion by Mrs. Salny, seconded by Mr. Kurland to affirm HIB case #23.

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

Dr. Grefe reported on the In-service Day on January 16, 2012.

Dr. Grefe addressed ELL Parent Meeting occurring in the next few weeks.

The following was presented by the Business Administrator in his report:

Dr. Verbist had no report this evening.

Board Communications Committee — **Bd Communication Committee**

Mr. Giarratano reported on the January 18, 2012 Communications meeting.

Mrs. Salny addressed the budget process and the Department Heads would attend a board meeting and address their budgets.

Mr. Puzio addressed the fact that the budget is reviewed by the County Superintendent and approved to be advertised.

Mr. Giarratano addressed some ideas/suggestions to improve/revise the website.

Mr. Giarratano addressed the concept of "Key Communicators" as an effective instrument to share information.

Mr. Giarratano asked Dr. Grefe for a short synopsis of the test results for publication.

Negotiations Committee — **Negotiations Committee**

Mrs. Salny read a report on the RTEA negotiations for a successor contract. She addressed the process. She indicated the Board has been assigned a Fact Finder to assist in the negotiations process. She indicated a Fact Finder's report is not binding on either party. She addressed the operations and caveats of the expired contact remain intact. She identified that the 1.5% provisions have been executed. She indicated the Board will keep the public informed.

The following actions were taken during the Regular Meeting of the Board:

Personnel

Mr. Giarratano indicated he requested an explanation of the prior meeting information and he addressed the rationale for his concerns. He, after review and discussion, now is comfortable with proposed resolutions on the salary adjustments for Bus Drivers.

Dr. Verbist provided some additional information.

The Acting Superintendent of Schools recommends actions on the following certificated personnel:

Motion made by Mrs. Salny, seconded by Mr. Kurland to approve the following personnel recommendations.

Employment/After School — **Employ After School**
Approve the courses, quarters and rate of pay for the after school program at the Copeland Middle School, for the 2011-2012 school year, as per the attached list.

Employment/Summer School — **Employ Summer School Supv**
Approve the employment of David Bishop, Summer Programs Supervisor for the 2012-2013 Summer School Program, effective July 3, 2012 through August 1, 2012. The annual stipend is $3,300.00.

Leave of Absence — **Leave**
Approve a leave of absence for Yin Lam, full-time School Psychologist for the District, with pay, effective January 3, 2012 through January 20, 2012. (Mrs. Lam is expected to return to work on January 23, 2012).

Leave Replacement Assignments — **Leave Replacements**
Approve the leave replacement assignment for Jason Rauschberg, replacing Kathleen Nangle, full-time Grade 4 Teacher at the Dennis B. O'Brien School, effective January 30, 2012 through June 14, 2012. The rate of pay is $150.00 per diem.

Approve the employment of Cherylyn Paredes as Curriculum Supervisor, effective January 27, 2012 to June 30, 2012, 30 hours per week. Prorated rate of pay to be determined at the February 8, 2012 meeting.

The Superintendent of Schools recommends actions on the following non-certificated personnel:

Employment — **Employment**
Approve the employment of Marcelene Bender, Administrative Assistant for the 2012-2013 Summer School Program, effective January 19, 2012 through August 10, 2012. The annual stipend is $3,850.00.

Approve the employment of Judith Levinson, as a part-time Staff Assistant, at 17.50 hours per week, per the student's IEP, for the afternoon session, at the Copeland Middle School, effective January 18, 2012 through June 30, 2012. The rate of pay is *$15.53 (Prorated) (Step 1) per hour. (Mrs. Levinson is replacing Mrs. Singh).

*(2011-2012 salary will be determined after the ratification of successor contract).

Extended Leaves of Absence — **Extended Leaves**
Approve an extended leave of absence for Fausto Rossy, full-time Custodian for the Copeland Middle School, without pay, effective January 17, 2012 through January 20, 2012. (Mr. Rossy is expected to return to work on January 23, 2012).

Approve an extended leave of absence for Stephen Skrinak, Bus Driver for the Transportation Department, with pay, effective January 10, 2012 through January 13, 2012. (Mr. Skrinak is expected to return to work on January 16, 2012).

Job Reassignments — **Job Reassignments**
Approve the job reassignment of Kathleen Bogwald from a part-time Staff Assistant, per the student's IEP, at 17.50 hours per week, at the Birchwood School, to a part-time Staff Assistant, in the LLD Class, for the afternoon session, at 17.50 hours per week, at the Birchwood School, effective January 9, 2012 through June 30, 2012. No salary change.

Approve the job reassignment of Ellen Schmitt from a part-time Staff Assistant, per the student's IEP, at 17.50 hours per week, at the Birchwood School, to a part-time Staff Assistant, in the LLD Class, for the morning session, at 17.50 hours per week, at the Birchwood School, effective January 9, 2012 through June 30, 2012. No salary change.

Approve the job reassignment of Lawrence Wasdyke from a Substitute on an "as needed" basis Bus Driver for the Transportation Department, to a contracted Bus Driver for the Transportation Department, effective January 3, 2012 through June 30, 2012. The annual prorated salary will be $12,893.00.

Leave of Absence — **Leave**
Approve a leave of absence for Marissa Malakuskie, Bus Driver for the Transportation Department, with pay, effective February 6, 2012 through April 10, 2012. (Mrs. Malakuskie is expected to return to work on April 11, 2012).

Resignations

Resignations

Approve the resignation of Jessica Martorana, Home Instructor for the District, effective January 20, 2012.

Approve the resignation of Karen Zarzycki, part-time Staff Assistant for office, play, and lunch duties, for the Katharine D. Malone School, effective December 26, 2011.

Salary Adjustments/Contract Riders

Salary Adjustments

Approve the salary adjustment for Linda Bostwick, Bus Driver for the Transportation Department, effective January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012 as indicated below:

From: $13,945.00 To: $15,634.00 (Prorated)

Approve the salary adjustment for Teresa Melinda Chovanec, Bus Driver for the Transportation Department, effective January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012 as indicated below:

From: $30,098.00 To: $32,125.00 (Prorated)

Approve the salary adjustment for Donna Czerkas, Bus Driver for the Transportation Department, effective January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012 as indicated below:

From: $21,079.00 To: $22,952.00 (Prorated)

Approve the salary adjustment for Margaretha Decker, Bus Driver for the Transportation Department, effective January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012 as indicated below:

From: $21,736.00 To: $23,337.00 (Prorated)

Approve the salary adjustment for Carolyn Monga, Bus Driver for the Transportation Department, effective January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012 as indicated below:

From: $26,951.00 To: $28,792.00 (Prorated)

Approve the salary adjustment for Janet Ott, Bus Driver for the Transportation Department, effective January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012 as indicated below:

From: $33,595.00 To: $35,823.00 (Prorated)

Approve the salary adjustment for Gina Palmieri, Bus Driver for the Transportation Department, effective January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012 as indicated below:

From: $12,908.00 To: $15,836.00 (Prorated)

Approve the salary adjustment for Beth Pearson, Bus Driver for the Transportation Department, effective January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012 as indicated below:

From: $24,110.00 To: $26,137.00 (Prorated)

Approve the salary adjustment for Francesca Russo, Bus Driver for the Transportation Department, effective January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012 as indicated below:

From: $16,774.00 To: $19,055.00 (Prorated)

Approve the salary adjustment for Judit Scherr, Bus Driver for the Transportation Department, effective January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012 as indicated below:

From: $17,641.00 To: $20,142.00 (Prorated)

Approve the salary adjustment for Stephen Skrinak, Bus Driver for the Transportation Department, effective January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012 as indicated below:

From: $15,479.00 To: $17,549.00 (Prorated)

Explanation: Due to bus route changes.

Superior Attendance Stipend — **Superior Attendance**

Approve the appropriate stipend indicated on the attached list for the Mechanics that have had superior attendance for the period of July 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011.

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

Curriculum/Instruction

Dr. Friedberger indicated the Social Studies curriculum was discussed at the last meeting in Curriculum Committee meeting.

Motion made by Mrs. Salny, seconded by Mr. Giarratano to approve the following curriculum/instruction recommendations.

Approve the revised Social Studies curriculum for K-8. — **Social Studies Curriculum**

Explanation: As per the Districts Five-year Curriculum Cycle.

Approve Harvey Daniels, consultant from Heinemann Professional Development Company, to present Literature Circles Workshop to staff on February 9, 2012. — **Literature Circles**

Explanation: To provide additional Differentiated Instruction to staff in Language Arts.

Approve Laura Evans, from Montclair State University, for Student Teacher-Art at the Dennis B. O'Brien School from February – May 2012. — **Student Teacher**

Explanation: Requirement for degree.

Approve the addition of Cynthia Dodge to the Local Professional Development Committee at Copeland to share in the team's collective 30 hours for the building. — **PD Committee**

Explanation: As per the RTEA contract.

Approve salary and stipends funded with NCLB FY11-12 Grant, as per the attached. — **NCLB Stipends**

Explanation: State requires that salaries/stipends paid with NCLB grant require board approval.

Approve a $220.00 grant-writing stipend to Diana Wagoner. — **Grant Writing Stipend**

Explanation: Submitted proposal to the New Jersey DOE, "Positive Behavior Support in Schools" (PBSIS) initiative. During the first year the grant will reimburse the district for substitute costs to enable teachers' from Stony Brook School to attend PBSIS training. During the second year, they will provide a contract to support Stony Brook with the costs associated with the implementation of PBSIS program.

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

Administration

Dr. Friedberger addressed the impact of the resolution S 3148/P.L. 2011, C. 202 on the Public and the Board.

Dr. Verbist responded on the budget process.

Public Discussion

Dr. Friedberger opened to the meeting to the Public for questions.

Resident addressed board terms under the new guidelines.

Resident raised a question on four or five years. She addressed exceeding CAP. Dr. Friedberger responded.

Mrs. Salny addressed one of the Action Plans on the District Goals – renovations to central office. Mr. Giarratano addressed the estimates. Various Board Members asked question and commented. Board consensus reduce project by 50%.

The Board and Public addressed the 2012-2013 school calendar.

Motion made by Mr. Giarratano, seconded by Mr. Puzio to approve the following administrative recommendations.

District Goals

Approve the Rockaway Township District Goals for the 2011-2012 school year.

School Calendar

Approve the 2012-2013 School Calendar.

S 3148/P.L. 2011, C. 202

Whereas, S 3148/P.L. 2011, C. 202 was signed by the Governor on January 17, 2012 and provides that a local school district may adopt a resolution to eliminate the vote on its annual school budget that is within the statutory cap imposed by the State of New Jersey, and

Whereas, the above legislation provides that the above action would require districts to hold their annual election for school board members in November during the regular general election, and

Whereas, the Rockaway Township Board of Education has determined that the statutory restrictions on the local levy tax increase for annual school appropriations is appropriate and sufficient to control and maintain a thorough and efficient education for the children of Rockaway Township, and

Whereas, the Rockaway Township Board of Education, consistent with the budgetary restrictions expressed above, believes that dispensing with annual school budget votes will save taxpayer dollars, and

Whereas, the Rockaway Township Board of Education believes that school board member elections in November will attract a far greater number of voters than typically vote in April elections, and

Whereas, the Rockaway Township Board of Education believes that the elimination of the vote on the school budget and the movement of the board member election to November is in the best interest of the Rockaway Township community, and

Whereas, the Rockaway Township Board of Education understands that this decision shall remain in effect for a minimum of four years,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Rockaway Township Board of Education does hereby determine that it will eliminate the vote on its annual school budget which shall be within the statutory cap and become effective for the 2012-13 budget, and

Be It Further Resolved, that the Rockaway Township Board of Education does hereby determine that the election of school board members will occur at the annual general election in November, 2012.

Explanation: Resolution to Eliminate the Vote on the Annual Budget and to Move the Election of School Board Members to the General Election in November.

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

Finance

Motion made by Mrs. Salny, seconded by Mr. Kurland to approve the following finance recommendations.

Travel

Be It Resolved in accordance with Chapter 53 and Board Policies 4133 and 9250 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/trustees and the district's Professional Development Plan.

Explanation: As per statute, boards of education are required to establish a maximum budget for travel and subsistence, the Board may not exceed this maximum.

Bd Secy Report

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 December 31, 2011, and

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

Be It Resolved that the Rockaway Township Board of Education acknowledges that Dr. James P. Verbist, Board Secretary, certifies the following statement:

Pursuant to NJAC 6A:23-2.11(c)(3) and (4), I, Dr. James P. Verbist, Board Secretary, certify that no budgetary line items accounts are over appropriated nor over expended for the period ending December 31, 2011.

Authorize account transfers as submitted.

Authorize payment of the January bills, as approved by the Finance Committee.

Authorize payment of January Cafeteria bills, as approved by the Finance Committee.

Authorize payment of January Student Activity bills, as approved by the Finance Committee.

Authorize payment of January Summer Enrichment, as approved by the Finance Committee.

Explanation: Statute requires that the Board of Education approve all bills paid by the district. The list includes payment for salaries, purchased services, supplies, and equipment.

Eqpt Sale

Sealed bids were received on January 10, 2012, for the following:

1999 Dodge Ram 350 Pickup #C24 76,544 miles Minimum Bid $3,000.00

Two (2) bidders responded, as follows:

	Truck #C24
Raphael Bus Sales	$3,751.00
Jersey One Auto	$1,391.99 (Non compliant with minimum bid amount)

Award of bid to Raphael Bus Sales, LLC as highest responsible bidder.

Explanation: Sale of surplus vehicle.

DOE Plan Submission

Approve Parette Somjen Architects to prepare and submit an application to the New Jersey Department of Education for mechanical upgrades for all school buildings and renovations to the Administration Building. The Board of Education is not seeking any state funding for these projects. As part of this application, the Board authorizes amendments to the District's Long Range Facility plan to reflect the scope of work for these projects.

FSA Plan

Approve USBA Flex to provide Flexible Spending Plan Services (FSA) for the 2011-2012 school year.

Explanation: Required to provide FSA plan under P.L. 2011, c78. USBA Flex is an approved NJSBA vendor.

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

Old Business

Old Business

Dr. Friedberger announced Board-to-Board is 7:00 PM, January 24, 20120.

Dr. Friedberger addressed NJSBA Policy Review.

Dr. Friedberger addressed Morris Commons revised impact study. He addressed the fact that the Board sent a letter to the Board of Adjustment on the project. The meeting is March 20, 2012. Various Board Members and Public commented on the revised project.

Mrs. Salny addressed the Copeland Middle School concert. She provided a detailed report on the concert.

Dr. Friedberger addressed Mr. Allshouse's musical debut.

New Business

None

Adjournment

Motion made by Mrs. Salny, seconded by Mr. Kurland that the meeting stand adjourned at 8:53 PM

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

Respectfully submitted,

James P. Verbist

DR. JAMES P. VERBIST
Board Secretary