EXECUTIVE SESSION
ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
July 17, 2024

The Rockaway Township Board of Education held a regular meeting on Wednesday, July 17, 2024, at 6:00 PM at the Copeland Middle School, Lake Shore Drive, Rockaway, New Jersey.

Mrs. Shields called the meeting to order at 6:01PM.

The following members of the Board of Education were present in-person: Mrs. Anderson, Ms. McGeary, Mrs. Smith, and Mrs. Shields.

Mrs. Curelaru joined at 6:15 pm.

Mrs. Mezik joined virtually at 7:30pm.

Dr. Tomasini was absent.

Also present were Dr. Corbett, Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Anita West, and Ms. Morgese, Board Attorney, and no members of Press.

The following items were discussed in closed session:

- Agenda - Questions /Changes
- HIB /Suspensions
- Personnel
- President's Update
- Legal Update
- Referendum - Date

Respectfully submitted,

Tanya Shields
Tanya Shields
Board President

REGULAR MEETING
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Mrs. Curelaru joined at 6:15pm.

Mrs. Mezik joined virtually at 7:30pm.

Dr. Tomasini was absent.

Also present were Dr. Corbett, Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Anita West, and Ms. Morgese, Board Attorney, and no members of Press.

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. Smith, seconded by Ms. McGeary to waive the Pledge until open session.

Show of hands on above, all present voting yes.

Motion made by Mrs. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Smith to go into closed session at 6:03 PM.

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

Motion made by Ms. McGeary, seconded by Mrs. Smith to adjourn the closed session at 7:30 PM.

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

The Public Meeting reconvened at 7:30 PM.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION
Motion by Mrs. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Curelaru to open Public comment.

Show of hands to open Public comment, all present voting yes, motion so carried

No Public comments.

Motion by Ms. McGeary, seconded by Mrs. Curelaru to close Public comment.

Show of hands to open Public comment, all present voting yes, motion so carried.

I. COMMUNICATIONS

Donna Suszynski	Where is the notice for the BOE retreat meeting today? Is it at 4:30?I can't find it anywhere.
Vance	Open Records Request for Email Address and Job Titles.

II. APPROVE MINUTES

Motion by Mrs.Curelaru, seconded by Mrs. Anderson to approve the minutes of June 26, 2024.

Roll Call Vote to approve the minutes of June 26, 2024 all present remaining voting yes, motion carried.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent's Report was presented by Dr. Corbett. It can be viewed on the Rockaway Township Board of Education's YouTube Channel, Rockaway Streamer under 'Board of Education Meeting – 2024-7-17' or by clicking this link: 'Board of Education Meeting – 2024-7-17'.

IV. PRESENTATION ON DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP AND TECHNOLOGY AT RTSD

The Presentation can be viewed on the Rockaway Township Board of Education's YouTube Channel, Rockaway Streamer under 'Board of Education Meeting – 2024-7-17' or by clicking this link: 'Board of Education Meeting – 2024-7-17'.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The full Committee Report can be viewed on the Rockaway Township Board of Education's YouTube Channel, Rockaway Streamer under 'Board of Education Meeting – 2024-7-17' or by clicking this link: 'Board of Education Meeting – 2024-7-17'.

VI. RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION

A. Personnel

Motion made by Mrs. Curelaru, seconded by Mrs. Anderson to approve the following personnel recommendations.

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the following personnel:

A.	Appointment						
	Position	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Start Date *On/Before Eff.**	**Date Termin. *On/Before**	**Discussion**
1.	Summer Hours – Secretarial	Karen Benzkofer	Per the contracted rate	BWD	7/18/2024	8/27/2024	Not to exceed 10 hrs.
2.	Behavioral Disabilities Teacher	Ernest Bock III	Base Salary: $84,075.00 + $14,013.00 (6th Period sidebar) = Total Salary: $98,088.00 BA (Step 21)	CMS	8/28/24	6/30/25	Per the 6th period sidebar
3.	Special Education Teacher	Allison Creeden	$48.00/hr.	DIST.	**7/15/24	8/16/24	Not to exceed 20 hrs. Compensatory education
4.	ESY Teachers/Staff Assistants	Per the attached list	Per the contracted rate	SB	**7/8/24	8/2/24	Not to exceed 75 hrs. ea.
5.	Curriculum Writers	Per the attached list	Per the contracted stipend	DIST.	24/25 SY		Per the attached list
6.	Teacher Leaders	Per the attached list	$3,750.00 Stipend	DIST.	24/25 SY		Per the attached list
7.	Summer Hours - Teacher Leaders	Per the attached list	$48.00/hr.	DIST.	8/26/24	8/27/24	Not to exceed 4 hrs. ea.

B.	Leave of Absence						
	Position	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Start Date *On/Before Eff.**	**Date Termin. *On/Before**	**Discussion**

1.	Bus Driver/ Mech. Helper	6505		TRANS.	6/20/24 6/28/24 (.5)	6/28/24 (.5) 7/22/24	Extended Leave of Absence With Pay under FMLA Without Pay under FMLA Return: 7/23/24
2.	PT Night Custodian	6712		MAINT.	7/12/24 8/19/24	8/16/24 8/30/24	With Pay under FMLA Without Pay under FMLA Return: 9/3/24
3.	FT Night Custodian	6758		MAINT.	7/15/24 8/26/24	8/23/24 10/4/24	With Pay under FMLA Without Pay under FMLA Return: 10/7/24

C. Resign/Retire

	Position	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Start Date *On/Before Eff.**	**Date Termin. *On/Before**	**Discussion**
1.	PT Staff Assistant	Lauren Corsini		SB	7/1/24		Resign Accepted teaching position in district 6/12/24
2.	Language Arts Teacher	Hendi Cumberton		CMS	7/1/24		Resign
3.	PT Staff Assistant	Evelyn Hoffman		DBO	6/24/24		Rescind resignation
4.	PT PE/Health Teacher	Michael MacNeil		SB	7/1/24		Resign
5.	PT Staff Assistant/ Leave Replacement Kindergarten Teacher	Carolyn Willis		SB/KDM	7/1/24		Resign Accepted teaching position in district 6/12/24

D. Reassignment - approve the reassignments for the following staff, for the 2024-2025 school year

	Nature of Action	**Position**	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Date Eff.**	**Date Termin.**	**Discussion**
1.	Reassignment	Staff Assistants	Per the attached	N/A	DIST.	24-25 SY		Per the attached list

E. Reemployment - Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the following amendment to the previously approved motion under Personnel (Motion E-2, E-4, E-5, E-6, 5-1-24 agenda) to approve the reemployment and revised salaries for the following staff, for the 2024-2025 school year, per the approved 2024-2027 Collective Bargaining Agreement.

	Nature of Action	**Position**	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Date Eff.**	**Discussion**
1.	Reemployment	Custodial/ Maintenance		Per the contracted salary	MAINT.	24/25 SY	Per the attached list
2	Reemployment	Secretarial/ Clerical		Per the contracted salary	DIST.	24/25 SY	Per the attached list

3.	Reemployment	Staff Assistants		Per the contracted salary	DIST.	24/25 SY	Per the attached list
4.	Reemployment	Teachers		Per the contracted salary	DIST.	24/25 SY	Per the attached list

Key
* On/Before Eff. Date
** Concurrent

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

B. HIB Determination

Motion made by Mrs. Anderson, seconded by Ms. McGeary to approve the HIB determination..

HIB Resolution

HIB Resolution

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of schools has provided the Board of Education with reports regarding HIB incidents: #11122 unconfirmed, #11250 unconfirmed, #11255 confirmed, #11256 unconfirmed 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:

HIB Current Investigations: no current investigations

HIB Incident Summary (*as per attached*)

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

C. Education

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

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the submission of the 2024-2025 Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) application and acceptance of the funds as follows:

Title I	$100,384.00
Title II A	$33,659.00
Title III	$10,125.00
Title III Immigrant	$4,529.00
Title IV	$15,067.00

2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the Emergency Virtual Instruction Plan for the 2024-2025 school year (as per attached).

3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves 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	Workshop Location	Workshop Date(s)	Registration Fee	Travel Cost	Total Estimated Cost
Alain Mollinedo	Implementing MTSS to Meet NJ I&RS	Virtual	July 17, 2024	$75.00	$0.00	$75.00
Anita West	NJASA Safety & Security Conference	Middlesex Fire Academy, Sayreville, NJ	August 1, 2024	$95.00	$42.30	137.30
Lawrence Frank	NJASA Safety & Security Conference	Middlesex Fire Academy, Sayreville, NJ	August 1, 2024	$95.00	$42.30	137.30

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

Motion made by Mrs. Anderson, seconded by Ms. McGeary to open public comment.

A member came up and spoke about the Board Retreat and what happened at the meeting and if it could be live streamed. Also spoke about Moms for Liberty group.

Motion made by Ms. McGeary, seconded by Mrs. Curelaru to close public session.

D. Special Education

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

Out of District Placement Tuition – for SY 2024-2025

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board authorizes the tuition contract for the following out of district placement students for the 2024-2025 school year:

Student #	School	Location	Tuition Rate
00034	Lake Drive School	Mountain Lakes	Tuition Cost $83,000.00
00612	Lake Drive School	Mountain Lakes	Tuition Cost $83,000.00
2526	Lake Drive School	Mountain Lakes	Tuition Cost $83,000.00

Rescind Out of District Placement Tuition – ESY 2024-2025

2. Motion to rescind the following student from out of district placement - ESY 2024-2025 (parent confirmed student will not be attending the program):

Student #	School	Location	Tuition Rate
00612	Lake Drive School	Mountain Lakes	Tuition Cost $8,300.00

Out of District Transportation -SY 2024-2025

3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the Out-of-District transportation for the 2024-2025 school year, for the following students as per their IEP.

#00194 attending P.G. Chambers
#00314 attending Sage Alliance School
#00733 attending P.G. Chambers
#00612 attending Briarcliff School
#2526 attending Briarcliff School
#200104 attending Shepard School
#2502 attending Windsor Learning Center
#00081 attending Chapel Hill
#00354 attending Garden Academy
#00034 attending Wildwood School
#00322 attending Cornerstone Day School

2024-07-17 Minutes
No public comment

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

E. Administration

Motion made by Mrs. Anderson , seconded by Mrs. Curelaru to approve the following administration recommendations.

1. **2024-2025 Transportation Staff Manual**
   Motion to approve the district 2024-2025 Transportation Staff Manual (as per attached).

2. **2024-2025 Board and District Goals**
   Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the Rockaway Township Board of Education 2024-2025 Board and District Goals as follow:

VISION

Rockaway Township Schools...Opening minds, opening 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.

BOARD GOALS 2024-2025	**Goal 1:**	**Goal 2:**	**Goal 3**:	**Goal 4:**	
Board Committee	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.	

	Education		Operations		
DISTRICT GOALS 2024-2025	**Goal 1:** By June 2025, the district will increase the percentage of students meeting or exceeding expectations on the NJSLA in ELA and Mathematics by at least 5% overall 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.	**Goal 2:** Provide additional, common, and consistent learning experiences in mathematics, literacy, and science to foster increased engagement.	**Goal 3:** 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. PAWS at CMS e. Unified Sports at CMS f. Climate and Culture Surveys	**Goal 4:** Reinforce a positive and effective practice of community outreach that is transparent, trusting, and collaborative. (Academy Nights)	**Goal 5:** Plan and implement a Referendum that will address both capacity and educational needs well into the future of the Rockaway Township School District.
Central Office Administrator	Director of Curriculum and Instruction	Director of Curriculum and Instruction	Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Director of Student Services	Superintendent	Business Administrator

3. **Anticipated Facility Use - Dual Use**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the submission of applications for the Anticipated Facility Use - Dual Use rooms to the Executive County Superintendent for the 2024-2025 school year for the following classrooms (as per attached).

School	Room#	Description
Birchwood E.S.	RM 103	Group One: Dual Speech Rooms
		Group Two: Dual Speech Rooms
	RM 166	Group One: Academic Intervention
		Group Two: Academic Intervention
Catherine A. Dwyer E.S.	RM 202	Group One: Academic Intervention (K-5)
		Group Two: Resource Room
	RM 220	Group One: OT/PT
		Group Two: OT/PT

	RM 226	Group One: Multi Language Learner 2nd and 3rd Grade – Shared Teaching Space
		Group Two: Multi Language Learner 4th and 5th Grade – Shared Teaching Space
Katherine D. Malone	RM 27	Group One: POR 1st and 2nd Grade
		Group Two: POR 5th Grade
Stony Brook	RM 116	Group One: Resource Room
		Group Two: Academic Intervention
	RM 133	Group One: Academic Intervention
		Group Two: Academic Intervention
	RM 140	Group One: Resource Room
		Group Two: Resource Room
	RM 149	Group One: Resource Room
		Group Two: Resource Room
	RM 151	Group One: OT
		Group Two: PT

4. **Anticipated Facility Use - Change of Use**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the submission of applications for the Anticipated Facility Use - Change of Use rooms to the Executive County Superintendent for the 2024-2025 school year for the following classrooms (as per attached).

School	Room#	Description
Birchwood E.S.	RM117	Original Use: Previously Year to Grow Classroom
		Proposed Use: Preschool Classroom
Dennis B. O'Brien E.S.	RM 5	Original Use: Previously Child Study Team Offices
		Proposed Use: Small Group Instruction
	RM 6	Original Use: Previously 2nd Grade General Education Class
		Proposed Use: 2nd Grade General Education Class with In-Class Support
	RM 8	Original Use: Previously 4th Grade Class
		Proposed Use: 2nd Grade General Education Class with In-Class Support
	RM 10	Original Use: Previously 4th/5th Grade Resource Room Class
		Proposed Use: 5th Grade Resource Room Class
	RM 11	Original Use: Previously 5th Grade LLD Class
		Proposed Use: 5th Grade Science and Social Studies Class
	RM 13	Original Use: Previously Use: Academic Intervention Class
		Proposed Use: Counselor's Office
	RM 14	Original Use: Previously Counselor's Office
		Proposed Use: CST Office
	RM 24	Original Use: Previously 1st Grade Resource Room Class
		Proposed Use: 5th Grade LLD Class
	RM 33	Original Use: Previously 3rd and 4th Grade LLD Class
		Proposed Use: K-2 LLD Class
	RM 37	Original Use: Previously 1st Grade Pull Out Resource Room Class
		Proposed Use: Kindergarten Class
Katherine D. Malone	RM 18	Original Use: Previously 4th Grade Class
		Proposed Use: 3rd Grade Class
	RM 21	Original Use: Previously 2nd Grade Class
		Proposed Use: 5th Grade Class
	RM 27	Original Use: Previously 4th and 5th Grade Pull Out Resource Room Class
		Proposed Use: 1st, 2nd, and 5th Grade Pull Out Resource Room Class
	RM 28	Original Use: Previously Autism Class
		Proposed Use: K-2nd Grade MD Class
	RM 43	Original Use: Previously Kindergarten Class
		Proposed Use: 1st Grade Class
	RM 45	Original Use: Previously 1st Grade Class

		Proposed Use: 2nd Grade Class
	RM 47	Original Use: Previously 2nd Grade Pull Out Resource Room Class
		Proposed Use: 4th Grade Pull Out Resource Room Class
Stony Brook	RM 142	Original Use: Previously Phys. Ed. Office
		Proposed Use: Counselor's Office

5. **Anticipated Facility Use - Toilet Waiver**
   Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the submission of applications for the Anticipated Facility Use - Toilet Waivers to the Executive County Superintendent for the 2024-2025 school year for the following classrooms (as per attached).

School	Room#
Birchwood E.S.	RM 117, RM 119, and RM 121
Catherine A. Dwyer E.S.	RM 212
Dennis B. O'Brien	RM 33

6. **Revised Contract with TNT Construction Group**
   Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the attached contract with TNT Construction Group with the attached revisions (as per attached).

No public comment.

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

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

Financials

1. **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, 2024.

   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 Daniel Borgo, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary, certifies the following statement:

   Pursuant to NJAC 6A:23-2.11(c)(3) and (4), I, Daniel Borgo, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary, certify that no budgetary line items accounts are over appropriated nor over expended for the period ending June 30, 2024.

   Authorize June 2024 account transfers as submitted.

Bills

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

A.	June	Student Activities	$8,682.30
B.	July	After School Bills	$862.50
C.	July	State Unemployment Bills	$20,578.34
D.	June	Cafeteria	$25,921.00
	July	Cafeteria	$73,512.23
E.	July	Summer Enrichment	$2,275.00
F.	June	District Bills	$4,259,723.38
	July	District Bills	$79,263.77

2024-2025 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Application

3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the board authorizes the motion to approve the submission of the 2024-2025 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) application and acceptance of the funds as follows (as per attached).

Basic	$628,446
Preschool	$33,667

SY 2024-2026 Shared Service Agreement for SLEO Class III Officers

4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the board authorizes the agreement between Rockaway Township Board of Education and Rockaway Township for five (5) SLEO Class III Officers at the rate of $36.00/hour in Year 1 (July 2024-June 2025) and $37.00/hour in Year 2 (July 2025-June 2026) (as per attached).

No public comment.

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

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

F. Policy

Motion made by Ms. McGeary, seconded by Mrs. Curelaru to approve the following policy recommendations.

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the board approves the following policies for first read *(as per attached):*

P 0164.6	Remote Public Board Meetings During A Declared Emergency (Abolished)
P 2260	Equity In School And Classroom Practices (M) (Revised)

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

Show of hands on above, all present voting yes.

A member of the community came up thanked Mrs. Curelaru for looking into Policy 5756 history.

Motion by Mrs. Curelaru, seconded by Mrs. Anderson to close the public session of the meeting.

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

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

Motion by Mrs. Curelaru, seconded by Ms. McGeary to open the second public comment session of the meeting.

Show of hands on above, all present voting yes.

A member of the community came up to speak about Policy 5756.

Motion by Ms. McGeary, seconded by Mrs. Smith to close the second public comment session of the meeting.

Show of hands on above, all present voting yes.

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Old Business

No old business.

New Business

Author Day Committee met on July 17,2024. Making this exciting for the students for literacy. New activities for schools.

The full discussion of old and new business and Board commentary can be viewed on the Rockaway Township Board of Education's YouTube Channel, Rockaway Streamer under 'Board of Education Meeting – 2024-7-17' or by clicking this link: 'Board of Education Meeting – 2024-7-17'.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn closed session by Ms. McGeary, seconded by Mrs. Smith.

Show of hands, all present voting yes.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Ms. McGeary, seconded by Mrs. Curelaru, meeting adjourned at 8:31PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanya Shields
Tanya Shields
Board President