REGULAR MEETING
ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
September 20, 2023

The Rockaway Township Board of Education held a regular meeting on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at 6:00 PM at the Copeland Middle School, Lake Shore Drive, Rockaway, New Jersey.

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

The following members of the Board of Education were present in-person: Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Forst, Mrs. Mezik, Mrs. Shields, Mrs. Smith and Dr. Tomasini.

Mrs. Curelaru was absent.

Also present were Dr. Corbett, Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Slamb, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and Mr. McKeever, Board Attorney.

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 Dr. Tomasini, seconded by Mrs. Smith to waive pledge until open session.

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

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

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

Motion made by Mrs. Shields, seconded by Mrs. Smith that the closed session meeting stands adjourned at 7:34 PM.

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

The Public Meeting reconvened at 7:34 PM.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CURRICULUM REPORT – MR. ALFONSO GONNELLA
The Curriculum Report by Mr. Gonnella can be viewed on the Rockaway Township Board of Education's YouTube Channel, Rockaway Streamer under 'Board of Education Meeting - 2023-10-18' or by clicking this link: 'Board of Education Meeting - 2023-10-18.'

EAGLE SCOUT – GAGA PIT REPORT
The full Gaga Pit Report by Eagle Scout member, Andrew Scott can be viewed on the Rockaway Township Board of Education's YouTube Channel, Rockaway Streamer under 'Board of Education Meeting - 2023-10-18' or by clicking this link: 'Board of Education Meeting - 2023-10-18.'

PTA RECOGNITION
The full ceremony can be viewed on the Rockaway Township Board of Education's YouTube Channel, Rockaway Streamer under 'Board of Education Meeting - 2023-10-18' or by clicking this link: 'Board of Education Meeting - 2023-10-18.'

PUBLIC DISCUSSION
Motion by Dr. Tomasini, seconded by Mr. Forst to open the public session of the meeting.

- Member of the community #1, advised the Board on the possible fiscal and legal effects of repealing Policy 5756 – Transgender Students.
- Member of the community #2, member of the Rockaway Township Municipal, discussed the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program.
- Member of the community #3, advised the Board to keep Policy 5756 – Transgender Students as a guideline to protect and safeguard transgender students' rights.
- Member of the community #4, shared concerns about Policy 5756 – Transgender Students.
- Member of the community #5, requested the Board rescind Policy 5756 – Transgender Students.
- Member of the community #6, requested the Board rescind Policy 5756 – Transgender Students.
- Member of the community #7, advised the Board to keep Policy 5756 – Transgender Students as a guideline to protect and safeguard transgender students' rights.
- Member of the community #8, requested the Board rescind Policy 5756 – Transgender Students.
- Member of the community #9, requested the Board rescind Policy 5756 – Transgender Students.

The full Public comment and Board commentary can be viewed on the Rockaway Township Board of Education's YouTube Channel, Rockaway Streamer under 'Board of Education Meeting - 2023-10-18' or by clicking this link: 'Board of Education Meeting - 2023-10-18.'

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

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

I. COMMUNICATIONS

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

Stephanie Torres	Candidates for the Board
Olga Avdaev	Response from RTBOE
Paula and Robert Raich	Response from RTBOE
Orly Shvets	Response from RTBOE
Rev. Dr. Jack DiMatteo	Thank You for Your Support

II. APPROVE MINUTES

Motion by Dr. Tomasini, seconded by Mrs. Smith to approve the minutes of September 20 2023.

Roll Call Vote to approve the minutes of September 20, 2023, all present voting yes, motion carried.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Our second annual "Socks in a Box" drive was a great success. I am grateful to all our school principals for promoting this event and everyone who contributed. KDM deserves a special mention since they collected over 1100 pairs of socks. The socks have been turned over to "Rise-Up Rockaway" and Rev. Jack DiMatteo of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

- We originally intended that Genesis student access would be open on September 25. After further discussion, it was decided that the roll out should be more deliberate and provide time for both parents and teachers to make the adjustment. Therefore, we will open the Genesis portal to students in grades 6 to 8 at the beginning of the second marking period. Student access will be limited to viewing grades and attendance. Students will not have the ability to change, add or delete information.

- Our HIB listening session took place, as scheduled on October 4. Approximately 25 people attended. The remarks and discussion was insightful and respectful. Our next Listening Session is scheduled for December 6 and the topic is the Code of Conduct.

Date	Topic
October 4, 2023	HIB
December 6, 2023	Code of Conduct
February 7, 2024	Social Media/Cell Phone
April 24, 2024	Teenage Vaping/Substance Abuse

- General PTA meeting is scheduled for October 25 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Three board members and 12 PTA officers from our schools will be participating.

- The first SEPAC meeting will be held 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 26 at Copeland Middle School. Brittany Seeley from the New Jersey Coalition for Inclusive Education will be presenting. Although we encourage in-person attendance, a virtual link will be provided.

- Finally, our new monthly publication "Education Matters" intends to provide the Rockaway Township community with relevant information from around the district. It will be emailed to our parents and any member of the community who requests a copy.

----------Good News from Our Schools----------

- Throughout the festive month of October, Birchwood Elementary has been a hub of activity and excitement. Students kicked off the month with a week focused on respect and safe schools. Birchwood hosted a Fire Education Day, made possible through the collaborative efforts of Birchwood Fire Company and Rockaway Township Fire Department. This educational event allowed our students to experience a real fire truck and learn about fire safety from our local heroes. Birchwood is grateful to our supportive PTA for organizing a fantastic Trunk or Treat event, where school spirit and creativity were on full display, and featured a variety of costumes. The Birchwood Safety Patrol began their duties this week, and these fifth grade students are eager to begin as role models for the younger students.
  As we move into November, Birchwood is looking forward to beginning Title I before-school programs, which will focus on language arts and math. Finally, the much anticipated Halloween parade is scheduled for the end of October.

- DBO completed fall benchmark assessments and recognized the Week of Respect by focusing on the prevention and remediation of harassment, intimidation, and bullying. This involved age-appropriate discussions about respect and kindness focused on our core values of Honesty, Empathy, Acceptance, Respect and Trust. World Inclusion Day was celebrated by having students and staff wear something special that they could share with others to celebrate diversity. The month of October also included national Spread Joy Day, Breast Cancer Awareness Day, Bee Kind week and finished with the DBO annual walk-a-thon which was a huge success thanks to our hard working PTA. October 16 was the initiation of School Violence Awareness Week. This week, included opportunities for students to learn how schools remain safe from violence, consideration of school safety and security plans, and to learn how to recognize students in need of help. To finish October, DBO will celebrate Red Ribbon Week and will be participating in activities and events that focus on supporting healthy choices (physically and emotionally) and kindness. The month includes an exciting PTA sponsored Trunk or Treat, and the annual Halloween parade.

- Dwyer started off the month with their first book fair of the year. Students were very excited to get their hands on new reading material. The Week of Respect provided opportunities for students to demonstrate kindness and mutual respect. During Violence Prevention Week, Dwyer will be having a pep rally, including a police K-9. Teachers are continuing their professional development which included a full-day with Kiina Dordoni, a multiple language learner consultant. Students at Dwyer are focused on academics, which is a testament to their hard work and dedication and the support our staff provides on a daily basis. Finally, the Dwyer office staff should be recognized for their daily commitment to ensuring students, staff, and parents have everything they need to be successful each day.

- At their recent assembly, Katharine D. Malone recognized several students. These students earned "Positive Office Referrals" for demonstrating the district's core values of honesty, empathy, acceptance, respect, and trust. This was followed by Safe Schools Week where students participated in various lessons and activities to promote HEART. KDM is hosting a "Kindness Does Matter" poster competition and looks forward to presenting the winners at the next Board Meeting in November. The RTI team (Response to Intervention) held their first "Data Day" where they analyzed assessment data and teacher feedback to identify students in need of additional support and assigned them to their appropriate Tier of support. They are now in the process of implementing remediation strategies for these students. With intervention times solidly in place, students will begin working with academic interventionists during "WIN" periods. The RTI team will continue to closely monitor student growth through their I Ready to ensure they are receiving the appropriate level of support. In collaboration with the PTA, KDM is looking forward to hosting their annual Trunk or

Treat and book fair.

- At Stony Brook School initiatives such as our Week of Respect, Safe Schools Week, Unity Day, and Red Ribbon Week all aim to instill a sense of compassion and empathy within our students. Mrs. Piano, our guidance counselor, does an exceptional job of heading up these initiatives and making a difference in the lives of our students. Our annual Stony Brook picnic was another resounding success, thanks to all who participated and celebrated together as a school community. This year's Walk-a-thon was disrupted by some inclement weather, but that did not stop the fun. In typical Stony Brook fashion, parents, staff and students took it in stride and made the best of the situation. Stony Brook is

  thankful to our PTA and parent volunteers for their continued support. The Rockaway Township Fire Department made a visit on October 10th for their annual 'Fire Prevention' assembly with our kindergartners and 2nd graders. Thank you. Stony Brook is looking forward to an exciting PBSIS kickoff, scheduled for October 27. Everyone can't wait for the Halloween Parade scheduled for the end of the month.

- Copeland Middle School kicked off October recognizing the "Week of Respect" which included daily "respect announcements," two days of "Chalk it up" kindness messages at lunch, two spirit days and an opportunity to make new friends with a "mix it up" H.E.A.R.T. lunch activity. Our 7th and 8th grade students viewed a valuable "Escape the Vape" assembly presented by Prevention is Key, while our 6th grade students heard a powerful message from former street ball legend, Waliyy Dixon, presented by the Rockaway Township Substance Abuse Alliance (RTSAA). After-school clubs/activities are up and running, and after-school extra help will begin in late October. Cross Country is finishing up a successful fall season, while we prepare for a winter season of boys and girls basketball.

IV. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mrs. Slamb presented the following report:

- I am pleased to report that the district received an additional allocation of Impact Aid related to Picatinny Arsenal in the amount of $156,080. This was an adjustment to the original assessment for FY2022.

- After some forensic accounting and research, I have been able to collect data on our solar generation from the solar panels on Copeland and Stony Brook. Based upon the backlog of credits, we were able to convert the generation to about 1,700 certificates which we are in the process of selling. The estimated value of these certificates will be approximately $372,000. A motion is forthcoming to acknowledge and approve that sale.

- USA Architects has hit the ground running as our architect of record. They are working on outstanding items such as the Dwyer electric sign, and KDM water project, as well as conducting a thorough assessment of the facilities in order to provide an updated Long Range Facility plan, which is much needed. We are excited to hear their perspective on these items, and are confident that they will assist the district in a clear path forward for our buildings and grounds.

- The 2022 Audit field work has been completed. I am tying up a few outstanding items for Nisivoccia, and thankfully the state has released the necessary GASB information on time this year, so we anticipate a smooth process to final report completion. I want to thank my Business Office staff for their hard work related to the audit. Nisivoccia comments very often on the professionalism and expertise of my team, and I could not agree more. A special thank you to Liz Bender who coordinates the audit process beautifully each year.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Shields – The **Negotiations Committee** met with the mediator on September 26, 2023 and came to an equitable agreement. Noted that there was a walk-in item under Administration to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between Rockaway Township Board of Education and RTAA.

The **Operations Committee** met on October 5, 2023 at 4:30 PM at the Central Office – lower conference room. In attendance were Mrs. Shields, Mr. Forst, Mrs. Anderson, Dr. Corbett and Mrs. Slamb. Items discussed included possibly providing ID badges for students at Copeland Middle School, the Catherine A. Dwyer sign, and facilities usage requests. The next meeting is scheduled set for November 6, 2023 to discuss the Safe Routes to School Program.

Mrs. Smith – The Education Committee met on October 11, 2023 at 4:35 PM until 6:15 PM at the Central Office – lower conference room. In attendance were Dr. Corbett, Mr. Gonnella, Mrs. Mezik, Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Smith. Agenda included the following discussions:

- Reviewed NJSLA data
- Discussed curriculum revision for new math standards
- Examined classrooms to promote growth in all classrooms
- Discussed curriculum revision cycle
- Informed public of the district's Math Night on November 2, 2023 at 6PM at Copeland M.S.
- RTSD curriculum site – for staff and looking forward to look into the parent site in the future

The **Education Committee** is scheduled to meet on November 8, 2023 at 4:30 PM at the Central Office – lower conference room.

VI. RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION

A. Personnel

Motion made by Dr. Tomasini, seconded by Mrs. Smith 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.	PT Staff Asst.	Sabira Beg	$20.62 p/hr. (Step 1)	CAD	10/19/23	6/30/24	1:1 per the student IEP 26 hrs. 5 days p/wk.
2.	Art Teacher	Jessica Belzel	**Prorated** $65,695.00 MA (Step 2)	KDM	10/19/23	6/30/24	Leave Replacement Pending: Physical/Mantoux and fingerprint approval (Replacing: Employee #5546)
3.	PT Staff Asst.	Leanne Boer	$20.62 p/hr. (Step 1)	SB	10/23/23	6/30/24	17.5 hrs. p/wk. (Replacing: J. Heath)
4.	Student Council Advisor	Elizabeth Clark	$325.00 as per the RTEA contracted rate	KDM	23-24 SY		Stipend (Splitting $650.00 stipend w/ L. Crispino)
5.	PT Staff Asst.	Beverly Clifford	$20.62 p/hr. (Step 1)	KDM	10/23/23	6/30/24	1:1 per the student IEP in the Autism Class 26 hrs. 4 days p/wk. Pending: Physical/Mantoux and fingerprint approval
6.	Student Council Advisor	Lauren Crispino	$325.00 as per the RTEA contracted rate	KDM	23-24 SY		Stipend (Splitting $650.00 stipend w/ E. Clark)
7.	Teacher in Charge	Lauren Crispino	$100.00 p/day	KDM	23-24 SY		Per sidebar
8.	Lunch Detention Monitor	Hendi Cumberton	$23.00 p/period (1/2 hr.)	CMS	23-24 SY		Not to exceed a total of $4,000.00 cumulatively for this category of position.
9.	Custodian	Lenny Hernandez	Base Salary: $41,480.00 + Boiler Lic. $1,250.00 +	KDM	10/23/23	6/30/24	Reassign from a Night Custodian at DBO to a Night Custodian at KDM

			Night Diff. $800.00 Total Salary: $43,530.00				
10.	PT Staff Asst.	Eleanor Hoffman	$20.62 p/hr. (Step 1)	KDM	10/19/23	6/30/23	1:1 per the student IEP 17.5 hrs. p/wk.
11.	Physical Education/Health Teacher	Wendy Huston	**Prorated** $60,630.00 BA (Step 1)	CMS	10/19/23	1/26/24	Leave Replacement (Replacing: Employee 5896)
12.	Lunch Detention Monitor	Amie Hyman	$23.00 p/period (1/2 hr.)	CMS	23-24 SY		Not to exceed a total of $4,000.00 cumulatively for this category of position.
13.	Custodian	Nora Marmolejo Mazuera	Base Salary: $41,880.00 + Boiler Lic. $1,250.00 + Night Diff. $800.00 Total Salary: $43,930.00	DBO	10/23/23	6/30/24	Reassign from a Night Custodian at KDM to a Night Custodian at DBO
14.	ESL Teacher	Noelle Oh	**Prorated** $65,695.00 MA (Step 2)	CAD	10/19/23	6/30/24	Pending: Physical/Mantoux (Replacing: M. Benitez)
15.	PT Staff Asst.	Ricardo Panchoo	$20.62 p/hr. (Step 1)	KDM	10/19/23	6/30/24	1:1 in the Autism Class 17.5 hrs. p/wk. Pending: Physical/Mantoux
16.	Student Council Advisor	Cherylyn Paredes	$650.00 as per the RTEA contracted rate	SB	23-24 SY		Stipend
17.	Lunch Detention Monitor	Shannon Podprugin	$23.00 p/period (1/2 hr.)	CMS	23-24 SY		Not to exceed a total of $4,000.00 cumulatively for this category of position.
18.	LEAD Asst. Coordinator	Katherine Rasmussen	$600.00 as per the RTEA contracted rate	DIST.	23-24 SY		Stipend
19.	Custodian	Joseph Runyans	**Prorated** Base Salary: $44,215.00 + Boiler Lic. $1,250.00 + Asbestos $1,000.00 + Night Diff. $800.00 Total Prorated Salary: $47,265.00	CMS	10/23/23	6/30/24	Reassignment - Shift Change
20.	PT Staff Asst.	Patricia Sees	$20.62 p/hr. (Step 1)	SB	10/19/23	6/30/24	1:1 per the student IEP 17.5 hrs. p/wk.
21.	LEAD Coordinator	Amy Semeniuk	$600.00 as per the RTEA contracted rate	DIST.	23-24 SY		Stipend
22.	Math Teacher	Jennifer Thompson	**Prorated** $64,695.00 MA (Step 1)	CMS	10/19/23	6/30/24	(Replacing: C. Young)

23.	PT Staff Asst.	Susan Villacis	$20.62 p/hr. (Step 1)	KDM	10/19/23	6/30/24	1:1 in the Autism Class 26 hrs. 4 days p/wk.
24.	Special Education Teacher	Adele Wadleigh	**Prorated** $77,870.00 MA (Step 15)	CMS	*11/20/23	6/30/24	Pending: Physical/Mantoux and fingerprint approval (Replacing: J. Ruchalski)
25.	PT Staff Asst.	Kathleen Watt	$21.02 p/hr. (Step 2)	KDM	10/19/23	6/30/24	Reassign from 17.5 hrs. p/wk. to 26 hrs. 5 days p/wk.
26.	Yearbook Advisor	Jennifer Wood	$2,050.00 as per the RTEA contracted rate	CMS	23-24 SY		Stipend
27.	After School Clubs	Per the attached list	Per the attached list	SB	23-24 SY		Pay to Play
28.	After School Programs – Staff Assistants	Per the attached list	$20.00 p/hr.	KDM	23-24 SY		As assigned After School Activities/Evening Chaperones
29.	District Translators	Per the attached list	$46.00 p/hr.	DIST.	23-24 SY		As assigned
30.	Home Instructors	Per the attached list	$46.00 p/hr.	DIST.	23-24SY		As assigned

B.	Leave of Absence						
	Position	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Start Date *On/About Eff.**	**Date Termin. *On/Before**	**Discussion**
1.	Language Arts Teacher	4374		CMS	11/6/23	6/30/24	With Pay Return: Start of 24-25 SY
2.	Special Education Kindergarten Teacher	5539		BW	10/9/23 11/20/23 12/4/23	11/17/23 12/1/23 3/1/24	Revised With Pay under FMLA Without pay under FMLA Without Pay under NJFLA Return: 3/4/24
3.	PT Staff Asst.	6484		KDM	10/2/23 10/30/23	10/27/23 10/31/23	With Pay Without Pay Return: 11/1/23

C.	Resign/Retire						
	Position	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Date Eff. (*on/ before)**	**Date Termin.**	**Discussion**
1.	ESL Teacher	Mario Benitez		CAD	10/20/23		Resign
2.	PT Staff Asst.	Shirley Gibson		BW	10/6/23		Resign
3.	PT Staff Asst.	Jennifer Heath		SB	10/12/23		Resign
4.	Grade 2 Teacher	Erin Predmore		BW	1/1/24		Retire
5.	Bilingual Translator	Elizabeth Smith		DIST.	9/15/23		Resign

D.	Substitute Teacher					
	Position	**Name**	**Level**	**Date Effective**	**Date Termin.**	**Discussion**
1.	Substitute	Julianna Aliprandi	County	10/19/23		West Chester University, PA (BA) (Pending: Physical/Mantoux)
2.	Substitute	Guy Ebel	State	10/19/23		Rutgers University, NJ (BA) (Pending: Physical/Mantoux and fingerprint approval)
3.	Substitute	Catherine Hedges	State	10/19/23		College of St. Elizabeth, NJ (MA)
4.	Substitute	Wendy Huston	State	10/19/23		Rowan University, NJ (BA)
5.	Substitute	Alyssa Lorenzo	County	10/19/23		Bergen Community College, NJ (Assoc.) (Pending: Physical/Mantoux)
6.	Substitute	Joseph Malazinsky	County	10/19/23		Cook College, NJ (BS) (Pending: Physical)
7.	Substitute	Mary Narcise	State	10/19/23		Nova Southeastern University, FL (MA) (Pending: Physical/Mantoux and fingerprint approval)
8.	Substitute	Mary Parra	State	10/19/23		Montclair University, NJ (BA)
9.	Substitute	James Passannante	State	10/19/23		Bucknell University, PA (BA)
10.	Substitute	Leigh Schaeffer	County	10/19/23		Rutgers University, NJ (Assoc.) (Pending: Physical/Mantoux and fingerprint approval)

E.	Staff Assistant Reassignment – Approve the following staff reassignments for the 2023-2024 school year						
	Position	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Date Eff.**	**Date Termin.**	**Discussion**
1.	Staff Assistants	Per the attached list			23-24 SY		Per the attached list

F.	Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board hereby places the following employee on long term medical leave.					
	Name	**Salary**	**Location**	**Date Eff.**	**Date Termin.**	**Discussion**
1.	5369			10/17/23	6/30/24	Extended Leave of Absence Per NJDBP Fact Sheet 85

G.	Job Description				
	Category	**Name**	**Date Effective**	**Date Termin.**	**Discussion**
1.	D-1	Principal	10/19/23		Revised
2.	D-2	Vice Principal	10/19/23		Revised

H.	Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the following amendment to the previously approved motion under Personnel (Motion A-18, 6-28-23 agenda) Kindergarten Connection - approve the following staff for Kindergarten Connection effective August 22, 2023 through August 25, 2023 per the RTEA contracted rate of pay. Not to exceed 12 hrs.					
	Name	**Salary**	**Location**	**Date Eff.**	**Date Termin.**	**Discussion**
1.	Kimberly Rettino	Per the RTEA contracted rate of pay		8/22/23	8/25/23	Not to exceed 12 hrs.

Mrs. Slamb noted that Item A-A-1 be tabled.

Roll Call Vote on all above recommendations excluding Item A-A-1, all present voting yes, motion carried.

B. HIB

1. HIB current investigations: #10287, #10290, #10321, #10342, #10343, #10344, and #10359

HIB Incidents

C. Education

Motion made by Dr. Tomasini, seconded by Mr. Forst to approve the following education recommendations.

Field Trips for Approval

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the 10-18-2023 list of field trips *(as per attached).*

Revised List of Field Trip Locations

2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the motion to adopt the revised list of field trip locations *(as per attached).*

3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the following Student Teacher(s) to complete their fieldwork requirements, during the 2023-2024 school year, pending satisfactory completion of the district's student placement requirements.

Student Teacher	College University	Cooperating Teacher/School
Jaime Inglesino	Centenary University	Amy Gallagher/Kelly Bezeg/DBO
Mohamed Tarakji	Rutgers University	Erin Meineke/BWD

4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the following amendment to the previously approved motion (09-20-2023 agenda – changing the cooperating teacher from Matthew Stone to Bari Eisenhauer) following Student Teacher to complete their fieldwork requirements, during the 2023-2024 school year, pending satisfactory completion of the district's student placement requirements.

Student Teacher	College University	Cooperating Teacher/School
Matthew Stone	Kean University	**Bari Eisenhauer**/KDM

Mentoring Plan

5. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the Mentoring Plan for the 2023-2024 school year *(as per attached).*

Supplemental Online Tutoring Services Contract

6. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the agreement between the Rockaway Township Board of Education and Littera Education to provide supplemental online tutoring services during the 2023-2024 school year at Catherine A. Dwyer School and Dennis B. O'Brien School. 100% funded with Title I Federal Grant funds. Total Program Cost per school is $33,210.00 *(as per attached).*

Professional Development Day Workshops

7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs with the approval for John Titus to present a workshop on Co-Spaces and Michelle Cortese to present a workshop on Academic Interventions and Norming Practices at the October 9, 2023 In-service Professional Development day, $120.00 each per contractual rate of pay of $60.00 an hour for two hours for professional development presentations.

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

Teacher	Grade/Position	Location	Stipend/Salary	% Funded
Lynn Mondello	Title I After School Teacher (up to 2 hrs./week for 21 weeks)	DBO	$46.00/hr	100% Title I
Kimberly Landers	Title I After School Teacher (up to 2 hrs./week for 21 weeks)	DBO	$46.00/hr	100% Title I
Michele Sewatsky	Title I After School Clerk (up to 2 hrs./week for 21 weeks)	DBO	$21.82/hr	100% Title I
Tara Van Orden	Title I After School Teacher	CAD	$46.00/hr	100% Title I

	(up to 2 hrs./week for 21 weeks)			
Susan Ranft	Title I After School Teacher (up to 2 hrs./week for 21 weeks)	CAD	$46.00/hr	100% Title I
Erika Donker	Title I After School Clerk (up to 2 hrs./week for 21 weeks)	CAD	$21.82/hr	100% Title I
Jodi Complitano	Title I After School Teacher (up to 3 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	CMS	$46.00/hr	100% Title I
Caryl Sambrato	Title I After School Teacher (up to 3 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	CMS	$46.00/hr	100% Title I
Jessica Mucerino	Title I After School Teacher (up to 3 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	CMS	$46.00/hr	100% Title I
Jenna Gonzalez	Title I After School Teacher (up to 3 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	CMS	$46.00/hr	100% Title I
Kenneth Fuchs	Title I After School Teacher (up to 3 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	CMS	$46.00/hr	100% Title I
Rachel Isler	Title I After School Teacher (up to 3 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	CMS	$46.00/hr	100% Title I
Susan Callahan	Title I After School Teacher (up to 3 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	CMS	$46.00/hr	100% Title I
Leah Horky	Title I After School Reading Teacher (up to 3 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	CMS	$46.00/hr	100% Title I
Hendi Cumberton	Title I After School ReadingTeacher (up to 3 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	CMS	$46.00/hr	100% Title I
Rosemary Heath	Title I After School ReadingTeacher (up to 3 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	CMS	$46.00/hr	100% Title I
Odemaris Guzman-Herskovitz	Title I After School Teacher (up to 3 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	CMS	$46.00/hr	100% Title I
Stephanie Mueller	Title I After School Clerk (up to 3 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	CMS	$21.82/hr	100% Title I
Jacqueline Messina	Title I Before School Teacher (up to 3 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	BW	$46.00/hr	100% Title I
Brianna Thomas	Title I Before School Teacher (up to 3 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	BW	$46.00/hr	100% Title I
Eugene Budd	Title I Before School Teacher (up to 3 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	BW	$46.00/hr	100% Title I
Alexandria Conforth	Title I Before School Teacher (up to 3 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	BW	$46.00/hr	100% Title I
Amy Hoffnagle	Title I Before School Teacher (up to 3 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	BW	$46.00/hr	100% Title I
Katherine Rasmussen	Title I Before School Sub Teacher (up to 3 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	BW	$46.00/hr	100% Title I
Karen Benzkofer	Title I Before School Clerk (up to 3 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	BW	$21.82/hr	100% Title I
Michelle Cortese	ESSER After School Teacher (up to 2 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	KDM	$46.00/hr	100% ESSER
Lauren Crispino	ESSER After School Teacher (up to 2 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	KDM	$46.00/hr	100% ESSER
Alexa Wyszkowski	ESSER After School Teacher (up to 2 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	KDM	$46.00/hr	100% ESSER

Gina Loder	ESSER After School Teacher (up to 2 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	SB	$46.00/hr	100% ESSER
Kelly Stevens	ESSER After School Teacher (up to 2 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	SB	$46.00/hr	100% ESSER
Cherylyn Paredes	ESSER After School Teacher (up to 2 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	SB	$46.00/hr	100% ESSER
Anthony Leana	ESSER After School Teacher (up to 2 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	SB	$46.00/hr	100% ESSER
Maryclare Haubruck	ESSER After School Sub Teacher (up to 3 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	SB	$46.00/hr	100% ESSER
Sandra Prendergast-Blaha	ESSER After School Teacher (up to 2 hrs/week for 21 weeks)	SB	$46.00/hr	100% ESSER
Nicole Gillan	Title III Multi Language Learner Night (up to 2 hours)	CAD	$46.00/hr	100% Title III
Maria Borisuk	Title III Multi Language Learner Night (up to 2 hours)	CAD	$46.00/hr	100% Title III
Noelle Oh	Title III Multi Language Learner Night (up to 2 hours)	CAD	$46.00/hr	100% Title III
Tara Rinko	Title III Multi Language Learner Night (up to 2 hours)	CAD	$46.00/hr	100% Title III
Alejandra Barrientos	Title III Multi Language Learner Night (up to 2 hours)	CAD	$20.00/hr	100% Title III
Rosario Camarena	Title III Multi Language Learner Night (up to 2 hours)	CAD	$20.00/hr	100% Title III
Sandra Ballesteros	Title III Multi Language Learner Night (up to 2 hours)	CAD	$20.00/hr	100% Title III

Memorandum of Agreement RTAA SY2023-2026

9. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the three-year 2023-2026 Memorandum of Agreement between Rockaway Township Board of Education and Rockaway Township Administrators' Association *(as per attached).*

No Public comment.

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

D. Special Education

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

Mrs. Slamb noted that Item D-2 be tabled.

Rescind Out of District Placement - SY 2023-2024

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the following amendment to the previously approved motion to rescind the tuition contract for the following out of district placement student for the 2023-2024 school year (07-19-2023 agenda – **student withdrew from program)**.

Student #	School	Location	Tuition Rate
N.A.	Roots Autism Center	Cedar Knolls	Tuition $175,971.60 or $977.62 per diem

Revised Out of District Placement – SY2023-2024

2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the following amendment to the previously approved motion to authorize the tuition contract for the following out of district placement student for the 2023-2024 school year (05-17-2023 agenda – with the inclusion of **Assistive Technology $719.88**)

Student #	School	Location	Tuition Rate
R.S.	Garden Academy	West Orange	Tuition Cost $130,832.10 (210 billable days) or $623.01 per diem **Assistive Technology $719.88**

Home Instruction Contract SY2023-2024

3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs to approve the Agreement between Rockaway Township Board of Education and Stepping Forward Counseling Center, LLC to provide home instruction services at $100 per hour for 10 hours per week *(as per attached).*

No Public comment.

Roll Call Vote on all above recommendations, excluding Item D-2, all present voting yes, motion carried.

E. Administration

Mrs. Slamb noted a hand-carry item to be included as Motion E-9 - Memorandum of Agreement RTAA SY2023-2026 for board approval.

Motion made by Dr. Tomasini, seconded by Mrs. Anderson to approve the following administration recommendations with the addition of the hand-carry item noted as Motion E-9 - Memorandum of Agreement RTAA SY2023-2026.

Subscription Busing

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the subscription busing for students A.C. and S.C. for the 2023-2024 school year at a rate of $1,000.

Subscription Busing

2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the subscription busing for student B.B. for the 2023-2024 school year at a rate of $500.

Subscription Busing

3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the subscription busing for student L.C. for the 2023-2024 school year at a rate of $500.

Subscription Busing

4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the following amendment to the previously approved motion (09-20-2023 agenda – correcting the rate from **$1,000 to $500)** for the subscription busing of student S.R. for the 2023-2024 school year at a rate of **$500.**

Equipment Disposal

5. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board authorizes the disposal of obsolete IT equipment *(as per attached).*

Nursing Services Plan

6. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the Nursing Services Plan for the 2023-2024 school year *(as per attached).*

SNEARS Food Safety Inspection Submission

7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the submission of the 2023-2024 Food Safety Inspection online via SNEARS and packet mailed to the New Jersey Department of Education - Morris County Office - Executive Superintendent *(as per attached).*

School Facilities Projects - USA Architects

8. **WHEREAS,** the Rockaway Township School District, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, (the "Board"), desires to CONTINUE with three "School Facilities Projects," generally consisting of essential building system work, building envelope, roof replacement and related upgrades; and in so performing this work, will improve the safety of the district's schools and the district's educational delivery of curriculum; and
WHEREAS, the projects were submitted to the New Jersey Department of Education and are further defined as;

DOE Project Number 4490-030-23-R501 – Katharine D. Malone E.S., PEC $839,126

DOE Project Number 4490-015-23-R501 – Copeland M.S., PEC $86,812

DOE Project Number 4490-010-23-R501 – Birchwood E.S., PEC $337,126

WHEREAS, the Board received notice that these projects are eligible for 40% funding through the New Jersey ROD Grant program, and the project's Preliminary Eligible Costs (PEC) / Approval provides for aid funding from the State of New Jersey;

WHEREAS, the School District, upon receiving the PEC letters, must make the following elections; 1) State funding source; and 2) acceptance of the PEC as the Final Eligible Costs ("FEC") and this notice must be returned to the Department within (30) thirty days of receipt.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rockaway Township School District Board of Education does hereby accept the PEC amounts as the FEC amounts and the stated funding source for the local share is; (Total) $1,263,064 (Local) $757,838.40 (State) $505,225.60.

4490-030-23-R501 – Katharine D. Malone E.S.

(Total) $839,126 (Local) $503,475.60 (State) $335,650.40

4490-015-23-R501 – Copeland M.S.

(Total) $86,812 (Local) $52,087.20 (State) $34,724.80

4490-010-23-R501 – Birchwood E.S.

(Total) $337,126 (Local) $202,275.60 (State) $134,850.40

That the Architect, School Business Administrator, and Board Attorney as applicable, are hereby authorized to undertake all related further actions necessary in connection with the project.

This resolution shall become effective immediately.

Memorandum of Agreement RTAA SY2023-2026

10. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the three-year 2023-2026 Memorandum of Agreement between Rockaway Township Board of Education and Rockaway Township Administrators' Association *(as per attached).*

No Public comment.

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

F. Finance

Motion made by Mr. Forst, seconded by Dr. Tomasini to approve the following finance recommendations.

Financials

1. **BE IT RESOLVED** that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board

approves the Report of the Secretary and Report of Appropriations, and Report of the Treasurer, for the period ending in September 30, 2023.

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 September 30, 2023.

Authorize September 2023 account transfers as submitted *(as per attached).*

Bills

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

A.	October	Student Activities	$1,419.83
B.	October	After School Program	$56.98
C.	September	Cafeteria	$4,570.60
	October	Cafeteria	$3,078.10
D.	October	State Unemployment	$5,064.89
E.	October	District Bills	$4,855,178.18

No Public comment.

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

G. Policy

Motion made by Mr. Forst, seconded by Mrs. Smith to approve the following finance recommendations.

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the following policy for first read:

P 9700 Special Interest Groups

No Public comment.

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

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

- Member of the community #1, discussed Planned Parenthood.
- Member of the community #2, advised the Board to keep Policy 5756 – Transgender Students as a guideline to protect and safeguard transgender students' rights.
- Member of the community #3, requested the Board rescind Policy 5756 – Transgender Students.

The full Public comment and Board commentary can be viewed on the Rockaway Township Board of Education's YouTube Channel, Rockaway Streamer under 'Board of Education Meeting - 2023-10-18' or by clicking this link: 'Board of Education Meeting - 2023-10-18.'

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

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

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Old Business

Mrs. Smith – Shared experience on attending the NJSBA, Morris County hybrid meeting on October 5, 2023. The meeting talked about Trauma Informed Education.

New Business

Mrs. Smith – Thanked Mr. Gonnella for his efforts in preparing and sharing the education curriculum presentation.
The next SEPAC meeting is scheduled on October 26, 2023.

Mrs. Shields – Thanked the RTEA for their efforts on the Pumpkin Carving Night at Copeland M.S.
Reminded the community that the Rockaway Township Substance Alliance meeting will be meeting October 19, 2023 at 7:30PM at Copeland M.S.

Dr. Tomasini – Thanked Dr. Corbett for the Genesis portal rollout allowing students to access their attendance and grades. Additionally, thanked Mrs. Slamb for finding new ways to financially support the district's needs.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Dr. Tomasini, seconded by Mrs. Smith, to adjourn the meeting at 9:36 PM.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Megan S. Slamb

Megan S. Slamb, MBA, SFO, QPA
Business Administrator/Board Secretary