REGULAR MEETING
ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
March 15, 2023

The Rockaway Township Board of Education held a regular meeting on Wednesday, March 15, 2023, at 6:00 PM at the Copeland Middle School, Lake Shore Drive, Rockaway, New Jersey.

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

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

Mr. Forst was absent.

Also present were Dr. Corbett, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Higgins, Assistant Superintendent, 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 Mrs. Shields, seconded by Mrs. Lukany to go into closed session at 6:03 PM.

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

Motion made by Dr. Tomasini, seconded by Mrs. Shields that the closed session meeting stands adjourned at 7:42 PM.

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

The Public Meeting reconvened at 7:42 PM.

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

ADOPTION OF PRELIMINARY BUDGET
Mrs. Slamb presented the budget work session for preliminary submission to the State. The full budget report and Board commentary can be viewed on the Rockaway Township Board of Education's YouTube Channel, Rockaway Streamer under 'Board of Education Meeting - 2023-3-15' or by clicking this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ExRkAbvC8gU&t=1s

MARY POPPIN'S JR. PRESENTATION – COPELAND
The performance can be viewed on the Rockaway Township Board of Education's YouTube Channel, Rockaway Streamer under 'Board of Education Meeting - 2023-3-15' or by clicking this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ExRkAbvC8gU&t=1s

STUDENT/SCHOOL RECOGNITION PRESENTATION – COPELAND
Mrs. Mezik invited Copeland Middle School, Principal, Alfonso Gonnella to address the Board and the community and announce the recipients of Student of the Month/School Recognition award. The full ceremony can be viewed on the Rockaway Township Board of Education's YouTube Channel, Rockaway Streamer under 'Board of Education Meeting - 2023-3-15' or by clicking this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ExRkAbvC8gU&t=1s

Recess at 7:59 PM.

Return from recess at 8:11 PM.

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

No Public comment.

Motion by Mrs. Shields seconded by Dr. Tomasini 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:

Jacqueline Moffitt	Revised Retirement Date
Noreen Carradini	Rockaway Township Bus Drivers' Grievance Committee
Ruth Ann Greiner	Retirement
Christine Miller-Allen	HIB Concern
Michael Innes	Social Media Litigating
Daniel Nigra	Policy and Regulations

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion by Dr. Tomasini, seconded by Mrs. Shields to approve the minutes of March 1, 2023.

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

II. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- The next SEPAC meeting will be held on March 23. It will deal with executive functioning and ADHD.
- I would like to begin by thanking and congratulating the students, staff and parents of the Copeland Middle School for their dedication to education. We are successful only because of the school's partnership with parents. I am confident that the board will agree that seeing the smiles on the faces of students and some very proud parents makes our job worth it!
- Our first snow day of the year was on February 28, which was also the date scheduled for our first board HIB listening session, which also had to be cancelled. Currently we have three snow days remaining.
- Kindergarten registration was scheduled for Monday, March 6 until Friday, March 10, at the Administrative Building. Two evening appointments were also scheduled for Tuesday, March 7, and Thursday, March 9, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Birchwood. I am grateful to our staff for making the process easy and efficient for parents.
- Since my day is typically filled with adult conversations, it was refreshing to meet with some of our middle school students in grades 6, 7, & 8 (the Cougar Crew) on February 16. We talked about what makes an effective teacher (from a student's perspective) school rules and culture. Our conversations reminded me how important it is to stay connected with our young people, since they are the reason for all our efforts.
- It is also essential to stay connected to the community. To listen to their concerns regarding HIB in our district, two board meetings were scheduled, February 28, and March 14. As mentioned, the former was cancelled due to a school snow day. Yesterday, March 14 we met at 6:00 p.m. to provide our community with an opportunity to voice any concerns or provide suggestions or compliments. The board's intention was simply to listen; no formal action was taken. About 40 participants attended and many shared their experiences and concerns regarding HIB. After almost two hours of listening, the board responded. Working with our community, I am hopeful that we can make positive changes in our schools.
- Strategic Planning meetings are confirmed for April 3, April 26 and April 29. The business office has received the contract from School Boards enlisting the help of Charlene Peterson. To provide ample opportunity for community input, surveys are being written and will soon be available to our community.

----------Good News from our Schools----------

- This past month, Birchwood Elementary School enjoyed engaging and fun filled celebrations and activities, such as *Read Across America.* Students and staff participated in reading lessons and dress-up days. The *Portrait of a Successful Student* presentation was also a hit, with a large turnout of parents and guardians. Attendees had the chance to learn about the qualities that make a successful student at Birchwood. As part of the Youth Art Month festivities, students from grades 2, 4, and 5, worked alongside Mrs. Dearolf to craft an inspiring mural that now adorns the downstairs hallway. With the support of the PTA, students were also treated to a stage performance of the *Velveteen Rabbit*, which they thoroughly enjoyed. Birchwood's teachers were equally excited about their professional development opportunities with *Conquer Math*, which provided a chance to learn effective and engaging hands-on math strategies. Overall, the past month at Birchwood was filled with exciting activities that fostered growth and learning for both students and teachers. The school community is looking forward to the upcoming months filled with more exciting opportunities.
- This past Friday, DBO students and staff celebrated SEL (Social Emotional Learning) Day. There were a variety of activities designed to help social and emotional well-being. Students participated in Yoga sessions, wrote kind notes, joined different classes and grades to write messages in chalk around the school and view videos about supporting mental health. This week students will be participating in *Start with Hello*. This program empowers students to recognize loneliness and social isolation among peers, and offers effective strategies to reach out and help, including ways to support an empathetic and inclusive community. The hope is that starting with “hello” will create a connected and inclusive school. Different activities during the week include dressing as a superhero and writing and talking about kindness as a superpower. Wearing clothing with pizza or numbers shows that everyone matters and is counted. This ties into DBOs *make a pizza* kit fundraiser. Additionally, students will be writing and talking about how they feel when we are included, wearing an article of clothing displaying something important, and inviting someone new to play at recess. Finally, we have one of our 5th grade activities “DBO Rocks” scheduled for Friday evening. As always, there is a lot happening at DBO which, as you know, is the place to "***Bee***"!
- At Dwyer, the staff continued with their professional development, also using *Conquer Math* to improve teaching strategies. The Dwyer staff has been able to apply this training in the classrooms to support student achievement. The PTA Book Fair was a great success. Students thoroughly enjoyed choosing a book from a wide selection. The book fair staff did a great job and even secured a table full of Spanish books that were available to our Spanish speaking students. Our PTA continually ensures that all students are made to feel welcomed and appreciated. *Read Across America* activities extended throughout the week and reinforced the importance of reading for both knowledge and enjoyment. The third grade held their first annual Wax Museum on March 2nd. It included outstanding costumes and snippets of information regarding their character. Everyone learned a lot about people who have impacted us individually or nationally. Dwyer will now focus ACCESS testing for ESL students and digging deep into the curriculum to reinforce and apply the knowledge acquired in preparing for the NJSLA. Finally, students are working hard to prepare for the talent show scheduled for March 16, which will be awesome.
- KDM also participated in *Read Across America* by hosting family reading night. Teachers provided a variety of fun activities for students and families with about 66 participants. KDM teachers, Mrs. Cortese, Mrs. Hempel, and Mrs. Jagelia hosted *Portrait of a Successful Student* which offered parents ideas to help their child form positive habits and build relationships. During this month, KDM is inviting students to think about college, careers and the necessary skills they need for a successful future. With focus on attendance, and the importance of being in school from start to finish, students understand how current decisions impacts their future. March has been filled with positive messages which promote attendance, and include spirit days, and a career fair that is supported by our community and KDM parents. March 17 will include a *Tech Free Friday*, as well as *reverse day* for our students and teachers. Students are looking forward to handing out school-wide currency to teachers who will to try their luck at the raffle. The KDM community is looking forward to talent show and the fifth grade student teacher basketball game.
- As the year progresses, Stony Brook students and teachers have increased expectations for academic achievement. Students are diligently working on skills such as decoding, encoding. As skills grow, for example in comprehension and written expression, we are confident that students well prepared for the upcoming NJSLA. Each day Stony Brook teachers and staff recognize students who follow core expectations which include being kind, showing respect, and doing their best. On *Reverse Day*, students awarded *Dolphin Dollars* to teachers and staff who have been kind, and respectful. Some events to look forward to include the 5th grade *Amazing Race* and the annual *Stony Brook Talent Show*. These events

would not be possible without our wonderful PTA and all of our parent volunteers, who do so much to make Stony Brook a special place to teach and learn.

- March is Women's History Month and the Copeland Middle School Social Studies Department is working with your children to highlight and discuss the contributions women have made throughout history. The department has initiated a digital portfolio featuring some important women in history chosen by Copeland Middle School staff members. These pivotal women include artists, politicians, athletes and comic book writers. The digital portfolio will be available during this month on the website. The social studies department reinforces the importance and significance of these contributions in their daily instruction.

  The Copeland Middle School Theatre Company hosted "Tea with Mary Poppins on Sunday, March 5th in the Copeland Middle School Cafeteria. This was a great opportunity for families to come out and spend some quality time with our students and staff. The production of Mary Poppins, Jr. will be held at Copeland Middle School on March 30, and March 31, at 7:00 p.m. and April 1, at 2:00 pm. Ticket sale information will be forthcoming. The students of the cast and crew have been working tirelessly on this production since before winter break. We are looking forward to an impressive production.

- The G.A.T.E. (Gifted and Talented) program at Copeland Middle School is excited about Math. For the past four weeks, students have been embarking on weekly math challenges to elevate their math skills. These weekly math challenges will run for six more weeks culminating in a Math Super bowl which include the sharpest mathematical minds from grades 6-8. Additionally, Creature Comforts (dog therapy) visited the G.A.T.E. students to demonstrate the unique ability dogs have to alleviate anxiety in the school environment. Misty Belle (beautiful Golden Retriever) was a huge hit with our students and staff as she walked the halls and visited many classrooms throughout the building. We look forward to her return.

- Our Special Education is reporting that the Tools of the Mind program used in our Preschool and Year to Grow Program have been successful. The program promotes academics coupled with self-regulation skills. The SEPAC will be presenting on March 23, at 7:00 pm about ADHD and Executive Functioning. The program, presented by Gena Hartman our school psychologist, and our Director our Special Education, Melissa Lewis will focus on how to support your child in school and at home. We hope for a great turnout.

III. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Adoption of Preliminary Budget presented in lieu of Business Administrator's report.

IV. CURRICULUM REPORT

Good evening members of the Board, and hello Rockaway Township.

Academics:

Upcoming Events:

- The Education Committee has had a chance to review i-Ready Mid-year results. Here are some highlights:
  - The percentage of students performing on grade level in math across the district increased by 19%
  - The percentage of students performing at grade level in Reading increased by 16%
  - The median student growth percentile for Math for the district was 61% (meaning that the median student has met 61% of their targeted goals already)
  - The median student growth percentile for Reading for the district was 84% (meaning that the median student has met 84% of their targeted goals already)
- CogAT Testing for grades two and five will be coming up next week for all elementary schools except KDM, which will be the week of March 30th. The CogAT measures the following:
  - Verbal reasoning
  - Quantitative reasoning
  - Nonverbal reasoning
- Important Upcoming dates:
  - Trimester 2 Closing for Elementary Schools: March 14th
  - Trimester 2 Report Cards and Data Dashboards for Elementary Schools: March 21st
  - Marking Period 3 for Copeland Ends: April 11

- Marking Period 3 Report Cards for Copeland: April 25

Community:

Upcoming Events:

- Portrait of a Successful Student:
  - Each of our five elementary schools will be presenting a program called "Portrait of a Successful Student" for their respective communities. The dates are as follows:
    - DBO 3/22/23 6:15-7 pm
  - Each group has done a wonderful job, and we were so pleased to see so many parents at the events. The questions from the community have really driven the presentations and the groups have all reported a strong desire to continue running these events.

Professional Development

In the area of professional development, we continue to work in the following areas:

- Conquer Mathematics: Teachers from the Middle School, and grades K and 5 all attended Conquer Math Training since the last board meeting.
- Trifecta MH: We continue to partner with Trifecta Mental Health to provide resiliency coaching to our staff.
- Ready Math: Representatives from Ready Math have done building walkthroughs in Stony Brook and KDM
- Writer's Workshop: Our teachers in grades 2-5 had their final Writer's Workshop training of the year last week.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Smith – The Educational Curriculum Committee met on March 8, 2023 at 4:15 to 4:45 PM at the Central Office – Superintendent's Conference Room. In attendance were Dr. Corbett, Mr. Higgins, Mrs. Mezik, Mrs. Lukany, and Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Mezik and guest attendees, Mrs. Lewis and Ms. Meo. Items that were discussed included:

- District aligned after-school clubs
- MSU DOE grant to expand the computer science education
- Academic achievement
- KDM pet therapy
- Extracurricular updates
- Special education updates
- RTSD Special Education Department received $1,000 donation from Lake Hoptacong Elks

The next meeting is scheduled on March 22, 2023 at 4:15 PM at the Central Office – Lower Conference Room.

Mrs. Shields – The Operations Committee met on March 6, 2023 at 10:00 AM via zoom to discuss budget items. Rescheduling of March 16, 2023 meeting to alter date.

The Negotiations Committee is scheduled to meet on March 21, 2023 at Copeland Middle School faculty lounge and library.

Mrs. Curelaru – The Policy Committee met on March 10, 2023 to review policy alerts. The policies will be shared with board members to review and included in the next board meeting.

VI. RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION

A. Personnel

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

The 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.	Kindergarten Parent	Ann Marie Arico	Per the contracted rate of pay	DIST.	4/19/23		Not to exceed 2 hrs.

	Informational Presenter						
2.	PT Staff Asst.	Caren Betley	$19.96 p/hr. (Step 1)	KDM	3/2/23	6/30/23	**Revise** from 26 hrs. 4 days p/wk. to 17.5 hrs. p/wk. per the student IEP
3.	Floater Substitute	Christopher Crocker	$185.00 p/day	CAD	3/16/23	6/30/23	
4.	Resource Room Teacher (K/1)	Silvia Farinella		DBO	**3/6/23	6/30/23	Reassignment from a FT LLD (K/1) Teacher at DBO to a FT Resource Room (K/1) Teacher at DBO. Change of student programs.
5.	Math Teacher	Jacqueline Hendershot-Sapio	Prorated $66,920.00 MA (Step 4)	CMS	**3/8/23	6/30/23	Leave Replacement (Replacing: Employee 6818)
6.	Academic Intervention Teacher	Keri Johnson	$200.00 p/day	KDM	5/3/23	6/22/23	Leave Replacement (Replacing: A. Eccleston)
7.	Academic Intervention Teacher	Keri Johnson	**Prorated** $69,570.00 MA+45 (Step 4)	KDM	8/30/23	3/29/24	Leave Replacement (Replacing: A. Eccleston)
8.	Home Instructor	David Koenig	Per the contracted rate of pay	DIST.	22-23 SY		
9.	Floater Substitute	Donna LaValley	$185.00 p/day	CMS	*3/16/23	6/30/23	
10	Kindergarten Parent Informational Presenter	Nicole Parzero	Per the contracted rate of pay	DIST.	4/19/23		Not to exceed 2 hrs.
11	Home Instructor	Caryl Sambrato	Per the contracted rate of pay	DIST.	22-23 SY		
12	Grade 2 Teacher	Hailee Werner	$200.00 p/day	DBO	5/15/23	6/22/23	Leave Replacement (Replacing: K. White)
13	After School Program	Per the attached list	Per the attached list	KDM	22-23 SY	22-23SY	Pay to Play
14	Copeland School Play	Per the attached list	Per the attached list	CMS	3/16/23		Stipends
15	CST Staff	Per the attached list	Per the attached list	DIST.	7/5/23	8/31/23	CST Evaluations as needed
16	ESY Staff Assistant	Per the attached list	$21.82 p/hr.	SB	7/5/23	8/2/23	Not to exceed 75 hrs.
17	ESY Teachers/ Substitutes	Per the attached list	$46.00 p/hr.	SB	7/5/23	8/2/23	Not to exceed 75 hrs.

B.	Leave of Absence						
	Position	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Start Date *On/About Eff.**	**Date Termin. *On/Before**	**Discussion**
1.	PT Staff Asst.	Jane Bedell		SB	2/28/23	3/13/23	**Extended**

							Without Pay Return: 3/14/23
2.	Grade 1 Teacher	Jill Lampmann		CAD	2/22/23	3/10/23	With Pay Return: 3/13/23
3.	Head Custodian	Luis Munoz		MAINT./ BW	4/3/23	5/19/23	**Extended** With Pay Return: 5/22/23

C. Resign/Retire

	Position	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Date Eff.**	**Date Termin.**	**Discussion**
1.	PT Staff Asst.	Ruth Ann Greiner		DBO	7/1/23		Retire
2.	PT Staff Asst.	Jacqueline Hendershot-Sapio		CMS	3/7/23		Resign
3.	ELL Teacher	Barbara McFadden		CAD	7/1/23		Retire
4.	Grade 6 Teacher	Jacqueline Moffitt		CMS	5/1/23		Revise Retirement date from 7/1/23
5.	PT Staff Asst.	Joah Thomsen		CMS	3/23/23		Resign
6.	PT Staff Asst.	Mary Ellen Wasdyke		CAD	7/1/23		Retire

D. Substitute Teacher

	Position	**Name**	**Level**	**Date Effective**	**Date Termin.**	**Discussion**
1.	Substitute	Kiara Amante	County	3/16/23		Montclair State University, NJ (BA) Pending: Physical/Mantoux
2.	Substitute	Martha Galindo	State	*3/16/23		Montclair State University, NJ (MA) Pending: Fingerprint Approval
3.	Substitute	Sean Kuhn	County	3/16/23		County College of Morris, NJ (Assoc.)
4.	Substitute	Donna LaValley	State	*3/16/23		High Point University, NC (MA) Pending: Fingerprint approval, Physical/Mantoux
5.	Substitute	Linda Lombardo	Nurse	*3/16/23		Seton Hall University, NJ (BA) Pending: Fingerprint approval, Physical/Mantoux
6.	Substitute	Krista Maher	County	3/16/23		Montclair State University, NJ (BA) Pending: Physical/Mantoux
7.	Substitute	Diana O'Rourke	County	3/16/23		Montclair State University, NJ (Assoc.) Pending: Physical
8.	Substitute	Patricia Sees	State	*3/16/23		William Paterson University, NJ (MA) Pending: Fingerprint approval, Physical/Mantoux
9.	Substitute	Adele Wadleigh	State	*3/16/23		Saint Peter's College, NJ (BA) Pending: Fingerprint approval, Physical/Mantoux
10.	Substitute	ZacharyWanamaker	County	3/16/23		Montclair State University, NJ (MA)

E.	Administrative Leave					
	Name	**Salary**	**Location**	**Start Date *On/About Eff.**	**Date Termin. *On/Before**	**Discussion**
1.	Employee 6818			**3/8/23	3/15/23	Administrative Leave w/ pay

Key
* On/About Eff. Date
** Concurrent

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

B. HIB Determination

Motion made by Dr. Tomasini, seconded by Mrs. Shields to approve the following HIB Determination.

HIB Resolution

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of schools has provided the Board of Education with reports regarding HIB incidents: #9475 unconfirmed 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:

#9475 unconfirmed

1. HIB current investigations: #9541, #9607, #9641, #9642, #9644, and #9662

Roll Call Vote on all above recommendations, Mrs. Curelaru voting no, all present remaining voting yes, motion carried.

C. Education

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

Field Trips for Approval

1. Motion to approve the 03-15-2023 list of field trips *(as per attached).*
2. Motion to approve the following Misericordia University student, to complete a four (4) hour classroom observation as a requirement for graduation, during the Spring 2023 semester.

Student	Cooperating Teacher/School
Benjamin Sorrentino*	Erin Meineke/Birchwood School

* Pending receipt of Volunteer Affidavit for RTSD and letter from Misericordia University

Clubs

3. Motion to approve salary and stipends funded with Federal Grants as follows:

Teacher	Grade/Position	Location	Stipend /Salary	% Funded	Description
Jacqueline Messina	Birchwood Science Club (second session)	BW	$46.00/Hr (one day per week for 10 weeks)	100% ARP ESSER	Science Club activities would be: Structure and Properties of Matter; Earth's

Deborah Bukosky	Staff Assistant (Science Club)	BW	$20.00/Hr (one day per week for 10 weeks)	100% ARP ESSER	Place in the Universe utilizing the Star Lab; Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics: Engineering Design
Amy Hoffnagle	Birchwood Blazers	BW	$46.00/Hr (two days per week for 10 weeks)	100% ARP ESSER	Birchwood Blazers is an afterschool girl, non-competitive, running club that promotes empowerment and health; inspiring girls to build confidence, kindness and making smart choices. This club will meet 2 days after school a week, for 10 weeks. Girls will celebrate goals by running together in an optional public 5K.
Daria Napolitano	Nurse	SB	$46.00/Hr (three days per week)	100% ARP ESSER	Nurse required for several students participating in after school clubs
Jessica Mucerino	After School Club (Math)	CMS	$46.00/Hr (three days per week)	100% ARP ESSER	Offering students the opportunity to have access to extra help after school on an as needed basis.
Caryl Sambrato	After School Club (ELA)	CMS	$46.00/Hr (three days per week)	100% ARP ESSER	
Francesca Brown	After School Club (ELA)	CMS	$46.00/Hr (three days per week)	100% ARP ESSER	
Sarah Gallopo	After School Club (Social Studies)	CMS	$46.00/Hr (three days per week)	100% ARP ESSER	
Susan Callahan	After School Club (Special Education)	CMS	$46.00/Hr (three days per week)	100% ARP ESSER	
Jodi Complitano	After School Club (Science)	CMS	$46.00/Hr (three days per week)	100% ARP ESSER	
Ashley Ruzicka	Preparing for Greatness (NJSLA)	KDM	$46.00/Hr (one day per week)	100% ARP ESSER	With NJSLA Standardized Testing quickly approaching, let's give our 5th graders a Reading, writing, mathematics, and science BOOST! Using a wide array of materials and instructional strategies, we will provide the opportunity to develop test-taking confidence and the skills to succeed.
Erinn Young	Join the Race	KDM	$46.00/Hr (one day per week)	100% ARP ESSER	This after-school math and language arts program. Students will focus on the writing RACE, restate, answer, cite, and explain. This will help students arrive at the finish line and prepare for the final lap.

Catherine Briggs	Level-Up…start your engines	KDM	$46.00/Hr (one day per week)	100% ARP ESSER	This after-school math and language arts program will serve as a boost for our students to take their learning to the next level. Students will engage in a multi-faceted, center-based learning approach, to maximize their learning potential.

Computer Science Education

4. Motion to approve the Rockaway Township Board of Education's participation in Year 2 of the Montclair State University proposed NJDOE Grant to Expand and Improve Computer Science Education. Through this grant the district receives professional development, curricular support and materials for participating staff. The grant runs from April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024 at no cost to the district *(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 Dr. Tomasini, seconded by Mrs. Shields, to approve the following special education recommendations.

Out of District Transportation – SY 2022-2023

1. Motion to approve the Out-of-District for the 2022-2023 School Year, for the following students as per their IEP.

#1313	attending For Keeps-St Peter's Family Health Center
#134	attending For Keeps-St Peter's Family Health Center

Service Contract – Bilingual Evaluations

2. Motion to authorize a contract between Prestige Education Consultants LLC (Michael Cedeno and Luis Cedeno) and the Rockaway Township Board of Education to provide Bilingual Evaluations for the 2022-2023 School Year *(as per attached).*

SEPAC Presentation

3. Motion to approve Gena Hartman as a presenter for the SEPAC meeting on March 23, 2023 on the topic of ADHD and Executive Functioning at a rate of $100.00 per the contracted rate of pay.

Donation

4. Motion to accept the check donation of $1,000.00 from Lake Hopatcong Elks Special Children's Committee & Elks Youth Programs to the Rockaway Township Board of Education's Special Education Department *(as per attached).*

No Public comment.

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

E. Administration

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

2023 DOT Clearinghouse Service Agreement

1. Motion to approve the 2023 DOT Clearinghouse Service Agreement between Rockaway Township Board of Education and Prevention Specialists Incorporated (PSI) to assist with completing the new DOT requirements for 2023. Total costs for service is $195.00 *(as per attached).*

Emergency Evacuation Use Agreement

2. Motion to approve the Emergency Evacuation Use Agreement between Rockaway Township Board of Education and County College of Morris. The term of this Agreement shall be from March 15, 2023 through June 30, 2024 *(as per attached).*

No Public comment.

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

F. Finance

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

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

Financials

1. **Be It Resolved** that the Rockaway Township Board of Education approves the Report of the Secretary and Report of Appropriations, and Report of the Treasurer, for the period ending in February 28, 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 February 28, 2023.

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

Bills

2. Motion to authorize payment of the following as approved by the Finance Committee:

A.	February	Student Activities	$6,485.73
	March	Student Activities	$10,713.26
B.	February	Cafeteria	$2,178.59
C.	February	After-School Programs	$357.00
	March	After-School Programs	$210.00
D.	March	District Bills	$4,463,664.81

Outstanding Checks List

3. Motion to approve the following checks to be removed from the outstanding checks list.

Check #	Date	Amount
Cafeteria Account		
7045	2/1/2022	$20.00
7054	2/17/2022	$5.05
7058	2/17/2022	$12.45
7060	2/22/2022	$28.30
7077	6/24/2022	$7.15
7086	6/24/2022	$33.25
7089	6/24/2022	$18.60
7103	6/24/2022	$6.55
7150	6/24/2022	$14.80
Total		**$146.15**
Student Activities		
6031	3/23/2022	$27.25
6038	3/23/2022	$30.00
Total		**$57.25**
General Custodian Account		
154041	1/19/2022	$84.96
154127	2/9/2022	$125.40
154327	2/18/2022	$150.00
155105	6/24/2022	$1,000.00
Total		**$1,360.36**

Travel

4. Motion to approve Megan Slamb to attend the 2023 New Jersey Association of School Business Officials (NJASBO) Annual Conference held at the Ocean Casino Resort in Atlantic City, New Jersey from June 6, 2023 through June 8, 2023. Total associated costs are as follows *(as per attached):*

Cost Breakdown	Amount
Event Registration	**$275.00**
Accommodation Ocean Casino Resort	June 6, 2023 - **$85.00**
	June 7, 2023 - **$85.00**
	June 8, 2023 - **$85.00**
Meals and Incidentals	At the daily rate per GSA Guidelines
Total	**$530.00**

Adoption of the Tentative Budget for School Year 2023-2024

5. Motion to adopt the tentative budget for School Year 2023-2024.

Rockaway Township Public Schools
Adoption of the Tentative Budget for School Year 2023-2024

BE IT RESOLVED that the tentative budget be approved for the 2023-2024 school year using the 2023-2024 state aid figures and the Secretary to the Board of Education be authorized to submit to the Executive County Superintendent for approval in accordance with N.J.S.A.18A:7F-5 and 18A:7F-6:

	General Fund	Special Revenues	Debt Service	Total
Total Expenditures	$59,988,288	$680,230	$594,400	$61,262,919
Less Anticipated Revenues	$9,907,956	$680,230	$145,789	$10,733,975
Local Tax Levy to be Raised	$50,080,332	$0	$448,611	$50,528,943

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

ADJUSTMENT FOR ENROLLMENT

Adjustment for Enrollment: $ 296,840

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the tentative budget the adjustment for enrollment in the amount of $296,840. The district intends to utilize this adjustment for supplies and materials necessary for the additional students.

MAXIMUM TRAVEL

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3, a board of education must establish a maximum dollar limit for travel expenditure, as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq., BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the tentative budget a maximum travel expenditure in the amount of **$93,600** for the 2023-2024 school year. The maximum travel expenditure amount for the 2022-2023 school year is $93,600, of which, $31,827 has been spent and an additional $12,306 is encumbered to date.

TRAVEL AND RELATED EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

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

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

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

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

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education includes in the tentative budget travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7, to a maximum expenditure of $93,600 for all staff and board members for the 2023-2024 school year.

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

CAPITAL RESERVE

Capital Reserve Account Deposit: $52,213

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the general fund appropriations $52,213 for deposit into the Board of Education's approved Capital Reserve Account for future funding.

MAINTENANCE RESERVE

Maintenance Reserve Account Withdrawal: $50,000

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; that the public hearing be held in the Copeland Middle School Cafeteria, 100 Lake Shore Drive Rockaway, New Jersey 07866 on **May 3, 2023** at **7:00 pm**.

No Public comment.

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

G. Policy

Motion made by Mrs. Shields, seconded by Dr. Tomasini to abolish the following regulations for first read:

1648.11	The Road Forward Covid-19 – Health And Safety (Abolish)
1648.13	School Employee Vaccination Requirements (Abolish)

No Public comment.

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

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

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

No Public comment.

Motion by Dr. Tomasini, seconded by Mrs. Smith 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. Lukany – thanked the community who attended and participated in the HIB Listening Session. Invited the community to attend the HIB Presentation by Board Attorney, Mr. Dennis McKeever.

New Business

Mrs. Shields – Commended on the Mary Poppins Tea event. Had a wonderful time.
Attended the Morris Knolls High School Art and Music day at The Factory in Dover, raising money for their program scholarship fund.

Mrs. Smith – Reminded the Public that the SEPAC meeting will be taking place on March 23, 2023. The Unsung Heroes Award ceremony will take place on March 29, 2023 at the County College of Morris through the NJSBA.

Dr. Corbett – Looking forward to the three Strategic Planning Sessions with the community. Surveys will be rolled out to gather information that will aid in the Strategic Planning Sessions. In collaboration and support with RTEA, listening sessions will take place at each school.

The full report can be viewed on the Rockaway Township Board of Education's YouTube Channel, Rockaway Streamer under 'Board of Education Meeting - 2023-3-15' or by clicking this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ExRkAbvC8gU&t=1s

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Dr. Tomasini, seconded by Mrs. Smith to go into closed session at 9:04 PM to discuss pupil and personnel matters for approximately 20 minutes.

At 9:24 PM, the Board announced an extension of the closed session by an additional 20 minutes to end by 9:44 PM. No action was taken.

At 9:44 PM, the Board announced an extension of the closed session by an additional 20 minutes to end by 10:04 PM. No action was taken.

At 10:04 PM, the Board announced an extension of the closed session by an additional 10 minutes to end by 10:14 PM. No action was taken.

Motion by Dr. Tomasini, seconded by Mrs. Lukany that the meeting stand adjourned at 10:16 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