

**MINUTES
ROCKY POINT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
June 28, 2004**

Meeting called to Order at 7:39 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Geraldine Thalen, President
Michael Matera, Vice-President
Jane Bonner, Trustee
Howard Gimple, Trustee
Joseph Sanseverino, Trustee
James J. Gerardi, Superintendent of Schools
Carla D'Ambrosio, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction
Steven Bilyk, Interim School Business Official
Irene Pedota, District Clerk

Absent: None

Mrs. Thalen opened the meeting to questions or comments from the community:

- Mrs. Sparks thanked Mr. Gerardi, the Board of Education, and administrators for their work in providing the community with a budget that was approved by the community on the first attempt. She also thanked them for their commitment to the music program.

There were no further questions or comments at this time.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Principals' Reports:

William B. Caulfield – Rocky Point High School Principal:

- Mr. Caulfield congratulated the Rocky Point High School Class of 2004, which included 187 graduates – 95% of whom would be attending college.

Joseph Centamore – Rocky Point Middle School Principal:

- Dr. Centamore congratulated Mr. Caulfield and the educators at the high school for their success at the high school graduation.
- He announced that the eighth grade moving-up awards ceremony and social was held on Thursday, June 24, 2004.
- He thanked the Board of Education, parents, PTA, Rotary, and Booster Club for their support during the year.
- Dr. Centamore expressed his wishes for to a restful summer and another successful year at the middle school in September.

Carol Tvelia – Joseph A. Edgar School Principal:

- Mrs. Tvelia congratulated the Class of 2004 and Principal Caulfield for a job well done.
- She reported that students at JAE celebrated Flag Day this year with a visit from the VFW Color Guard, and Lt. John Fernandez led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- In addition, she reported students would be participating in a reading club over the summer to encourage children to continue to read during vacation. Students who read a minimum of three books will have their name displayed on a JAE "Wall of Honor."

Paul Read – Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School Principal:

- Mr. Read thanked the Board of Education, teachers, and parents for a wonderful year at FJC.
- He announced plans for a number of in-service courses and workshops to be held for teachers at FJC over the summer.
- Mrs. Thalen took the opportunity to let Mr. Read know how much she appreciates his efforts to maintain wonderful communication with the members of the Board by sending them copies of letters that are sent home to parents and teachers.

PRESENTATION OF DISTRICT REPORT CARD BY CARLA D’AMBROSIO, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR INSTRUCTION

Mrs. Carla D’Ambrosio presented data from the 2004 School Report Card. She announced that this was the first year that the district was able to compare the same group of children who were tested four years ago. Results from 2004 were compared to 2003. Mrs. D’Ambrosio explained how this year’s results compared to last year’s data with regard to English Language Arts and Math exams, as well as Regents Exams. Mrs. D’Ambrosio further described strategies to target areas of weakness and plans for continued improvement via coaching of teachers by the ELA Coordinator, the Literacy Corroborative and BOCES consultants, as well as improved communication with parents, teachers and administrators.

Mrs. Thalen asked if there were any questions:

- Mrs. Bonner asked what attributed to the eight-point drop in earth science exam results.
- Mrs. D’Ambrosio replied that an eight-point drop doesn’t raise a flag.
- Mrs. Bonner asked how many points would raise a flag.
- Mrs. D’Ambrosio replied that a ten to fifteen point drop would.
- Mrs. Bonner asked if we would continue to monitor this.
- Mrs. D’Ambrosio responded that the district would continue to monitor all results.

There were no further questions or comments. Mrs. Thalen informed everyone in attendance that copies of the report card would be available at the district office and on the school’s website, as well on the state’s website.

MINUTES

Upon a motion made by Michael Matera and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Minutes of the following Board of Education Meetings be accepted as presented: **May 18, 2004 and Special Meetings, June 16, 2004 and June 23, 2004.** All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

TREASURER’S REPORTS

Upon a motion made by Joseph Sanseverino and seconded by Howard Gimple, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the Treasurer’s Reports for the months of **April and May 2004** as presented. All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

EXTRA-CLASSROOM ACTIVITY ACCOUNT TREASURER REPORT

Upon a motion made by Howard Gimple and seconded by Jane Bonner, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the Extra Classroom Activity Treasurer Report for the months of **April and May 2004** as presented. All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Upon a motion made by Jane Bonner and seconded by Michael Matera, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the Financial Reports for the months of **April and May 2004** as presented. All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN BOCES COOPERATIVE BIDDING SERVICES PURCHASING CONTRACTS FOR THE 2004-05 FISCAL YEAR ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS

Upon a motion made by Michael Matera and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education participate in various “BOCES Cooperative Bidding Services Contracts” for the 2004-05 fiscal year on an as-needed basis.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Bonner had questions regarding the types of contracts that were included. Mr. Bilyk explained that these included cooperative bids for a number of supplies and the district can take advantage of these lower prices. There was no further discussion. All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

TUITION CONTRACT – SUMMER SCHOOL

Upon a motion made by Joseph Sanseverino and seconded by Howard Gimple, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education approve the tuition rate of \$275 per summer school class, for non-residential students who wish to enroll in the 2004 summer school program.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Thalen asked how much the tuition was last year. Mr. Gerardi replied \$250. Mrs. Bonner asked what the going rate was in other districts. Mr. Gerardi replied that he didn’t know about other districts. This rate was based on the district’s expenses. Mr. Sanseverino inquired how many out-of-district students were enrolled. Mr. Bilyk replied that there weren’t many since most neighboring districts’ budgets were approved. Mrs. D’Ambrosio added that they would know how many students were enrolled after registration was completed on Tuesday, June 29, 2004. There was no further discussion.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

TAN BORROWING FOR THE 2004-05 FISCAL YEAR

Upon a motion made by Howard Gimple and seconded by Jane Bonner, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

Tax Anticipation Note Resolution, dated June 28, 2004, authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$9,000,000.00 Tax Anticipation Notes of the Rocky Point Union Free School District, in the Town of Brookhaven, County of Suffolk, State of New York, in anticipation of the collection of real estate taxes to be levied in and for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004.

Mr. Bilyk explained that the district does not receive tax money until January. Therefore, the district needs to borrow money until it receives its share of the tax revenue.

Roll Call:

Mrs. Thalen	<u>Yes</u>
Mr. Matera	<u>Yes</u>
Mrs. Bonner	<u>Yes</u>
Mr. Gimple	<u>Yes</u>
Mr. Sanseverino	<u>Yes</u>

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

SURPLUS ITEMS

Upon a motion made by Jane Bonner and seconded by Michael Matera, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the attached schedule for surplus equipment. All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

BID-AWARD INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC UNIFORMS

Upon a motion made by Michael Matera and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education award the bid for Athletic Uniforms to the lowest responsible bidder.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Thalen asked if the district doesn't always award the contract to the lowest bidder. Mr. Gerardi replied that contracts don't have to be awarded to the lowest bidder if the bidder has had problems in the past fulfilling the contract. Mrs. Thalen asked why there had to be a resolution for this. Mr. Gerardi explained that whenever there is a bid, it must be presented to the Board for approval. Mr. Gimple asked who decided whether or not a bidder was responsible. Mr. Bilyk explained that it depended on the particular bid – either the Athletic Director of the business office. There was no further discussion.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

BOND ISSUE PROJECT CHANGE ORDERS

Upon a motion made by Joseph Sanseverino and seconded by Howard Gimple, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accept and approve the attached change orders with reference to bond issue related projects.

Mr. Bilyk explained that all work on the contract has been completed, and the change order represents a decrease in the amount of the final payment to the contractor.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

RESOLUTION FOR PRINTING RENEWAL

Upon a motion made by Howard Gimple and seconded by Jane Bonner, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education renew the agreement with Sav-On Printing, Inc., for the 2004-05 fiscal year at no additional cost.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Thalen asked for an explanation. Mr. Bilyk explained that the vendor has agreed to extend his contract with the district with no increase in prices for the next two years. Mrs. Thalen asked which items were included in the bid. Mr. Gerardi replied it includes the printing of the district newsletters, the calendar, budget brochures, graduation programs, etc. Mrs. Thalen asked if the Mark Twain booklet was also included. Mr. Gerardi replied that it was printed in-house. There was no further discussion.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

RESOLUTION FOR GARBAGE RENEWAL

Upon a motion made by Jane Bonner and seconded by Michael Matera, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education renew the agreement with Maggio Sanitation Services, Inc., for the 2004-05 fiscal year at no additional cost. All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

APPOINTMENT OF VOTE WORKER FOR BUDGET VOTE-ELECTION – MAY 18, 2004 - POLL CLERK

Upon a motion made by Michael Matera and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint the following person as Poll Clerk for the Budget Vote-Election.

Jean Poveromo – Poll Clerk

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Thalen asked if the reason for the additional appointment. Mr. Gerardi explained that it was a last minute addition.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

RESOLUTION TO INCREASE THE PRICE OF SCHOOL BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND MILK

Upon a motion made by Joseph Sanseverino and seconded by Howard Gimple, the following resolution was offered;

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education increase by \$.10 the price of breakfast, lunch and milk for students and staff for the 2004-05 school year.

Discussion ensued. Mr. Gerardi explained that last year there was a discussion to raise prices, and at that time an increase of \$.25 was recommended. However, the Superintendent and the Board decided on a gradual increase of \$.15 for the 2003-04 school year and \$.10 for the 2004-05 school year. There was no further discussion.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE MENTOR PLAN

Upon a motion made by Howard Gimple and seconded by Jane Bonner, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the Mentor Plan.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. Thalen explained that the Mentor Plan was a method by which new teachers work with experienced teachers to learn the “ropes.” Mrs. D’Ambrosio further explained that they help with classroom management and instructional strategies. Mrs. Thalen asked about the state’s requirements with regard to a Mentor Plan. Mrs. D’Ambrosio explained that all teachers who have initial certification must be mentored according to the state’s requirements. There was no further discussion.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

COMMITTEES ON SPECIAL EDUCATION/PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Upon a motion made by Jane Boner and seconded by Michael Matera, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education votes to arrange for appropriate services pursuant to the recommendations of Schedule 6-28-04-A and 6-28-04-B. All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

PERSONNEL

Upon a motion made by Michael Matera and seconded by Joseph Sanseverino, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education accept the attached Personnel changes. There are over 100 Personnel changes. Copies are available from Ms. Pedota, District Clerk.

On behalf of the Board, Mrs. Thalen congratulated the new administrators on their appointments and welcomed all new personnel to the district.

All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

LIDLAW EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT

Upon a motion made by Joseph Sanseverino and seconded by Howard Gimple, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education authorizes its President to enter into an agreement with the Laidlaw Educational Services to transport the students of the Rocky Point School District from July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2007. All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

SCHOOL RELATED PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION CONTRACT

Upon a motion made by Howard Gimple and seconded by Jane Bonner, the following resolution was offered:

Subject to ratification by the School Related Professionals Association, **BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to enter into a four-year contract from July 1 2004 through June 30, 2008. The contract will be available following ratification and printing.

Mrs. Thalen expressed her hopes that the contract would help to bring the members of the SRP staff in step with surrounding districts.

Vote taken – One (Mr. Sanseverino) abstained; Four in favor – Motion carried 4-0.

RESOLUTION TO SET THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING DATE

Upon a motion made by Jane Bonner and seconded by Michael Matera, the following resolution was offered:

BE IT RESOLVED, that Tuesday, July 6, 2004 is set as the date for the Board of Education Annual Organizational Meeting. Furthermore, the meeting will take place in the Rocky Point High School Auditorium at 7:30 PM. All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

Mrs. Thalen asked if there were any questions or comments from the audience before the Board moved to Executive Session:

- Mrs. Karen Audette had questions regarding the Mentoring Plan and whether there were any changes to the plan from two years ago since the state got involved.
- Mrs. D'Ambrosio replied that there have been changes since the state's involvement.
- Mrs. Audette asked if there were provisions in the plan to help some of the young middle school teachers face the challenges presented by young middle school teens especially if they haven't had personal experience in with dealing with this unique age group before.
- Mrs. D'Ambrosio explained that the Mentoring Plan was for teachers who had their initial certification, but workshops would be planned to address some of these issues.
- FJC teacher, Cathy Conner, took the opportunity to thank the PTA for all their efforts and contributions to the students.
- Mrs. Sparks congratulated the new appointees and wished them luck in the future.

There were no further questions or comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:33 PM a motion was made by Howard Gimple and seconded by Jane Bonner for the Board of Education to go into executive session to discuss particular personnel matters. All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Irene Pedota
District Clerk

The Board returned to Open Session at 10:23 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:24 PM a motion was made by Howard Gimple and seconded by Jane Bonner for the Board of Education to adjourn the meeting. All in favor – Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

James J. Gerardi
Superintendent of Schools