

**Rochelle Park Board of Education  
Executive Session 7:00 P.M.  
Regular Meeting Minutes-7:30 P.M.  
September 8, 2016**

- I. Call to Order and Flag**
- II. Roll Call**

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Mr. Sam Allos, Vice President	<b>X</b>	
Mrs. Shirley Abraham	<b>X</b>	
Mrs. Arlene Ciliento Buyck	<b>X</b>	
Mrs. Teresa Judge Cravello	<b>X</b>	
Mrs. Maria Lauerman	<b>X</b>	
Mr. Mark Scully		<b>X (7:41 P.M.)</b>
Mrs. Dimitria Leakas, President	<b>X</b>	

Others present:

- Dr. Geoffrey W. Zoeller, Jr. Superintendent of Schools
- Mrs. Cara Hurd, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, & Special Projects
- Mr. Brian Cannici, Principal
- Mr. Kevin Woods, Building & Grounds Supervisor
- Mrs. Ellen Kobylarz, Board Secretary

**IV. Executive Session Announcement (if Needed)** The Board will reconvene in Public Session at approximately 7:30 P.M.

**WHEREAS, the Rochelle Park Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the “Board”) will convene in Executive Session to discuss confidential matters which include:**

**Personnel/ Contracts**

**NOW HEREOFRE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board shall move into Executive Session to discuss the above referenced matter(s).**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the minutes of the executive session will provide as much information as possible without violating any applicable privilege or confidentiality so that the public can understand what was discussed and when available what the Board decision was...**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the minutes of the executive session will be released to the public in an appropriately redacted form within a reasonable period of time after the privilege or confidentiality is no longer applicable to such minutes.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the redacted portion of the executive session minutes will not be released until such time as the privilege or confidentiality is no longer applicable.**

Motion by Mrs. Judge Cravello, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to open Executive Session at 7:02 P.M.  
Roll Call 6-0  
Motion Carried

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Abraham, to close Executive Session at 7:30 P.M.  
Roll Call 6-0  
Motion Carried

Motion by Mrs. Abraham, seconded by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, to resume Regular Meeting Agenda at 7:32P.M.

Roll Call 6-0

Motion Carried

**V. Salute to the flag**

**VI. Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231,P.L.1975 Announcement-by Board President**

In accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, I wish to announce that”  
“The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. Notices announcing the date, time and place for this Regular Meeting were sent to all concerned individuals, associations and sent to the, The Record and The Our Town, in accordance with Chapter 231,P.L.1975”

*President Leakas welcomed everyone to the first official meeting of the new school year.*

**VII. Superintendent’s Report** Dr. Zoeller reported the following:

- We have a number of personnel resolutions on the agenda, workshops, tuition reimbursement, student teachers, and so on.
- Dr. Zoeller read the following letter sent to 6<sup>th</sup> Grade parents.

There has been quite a bit of conversation over the past few days regarding the revised middle school mathematics and English coursework in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Specifically, parents have expressed concern about why an ‘honors’ designation is no longer offered in these areas. We would like to take this opportunity to explain why changes have been made and how we believe this will improve your children’s educational program.

First let us say that our whole administrative team would like to apologize for not communicating to you in advance on the redesign of the curriculum and course sequences. Despite working as hard and fast as we could, the final redesign of the sequence of classes was not completed with our partners until July and this then had to be implemented within our master schedule. Once accomplished, this should have been communicated in a timely fashion to all of our district stakeholders – it was not. We are a small team with an extremely wide range of duties and responsibilities. Sometimes things are missed. Nonetheless, your administrative team “owns” the mistake and is solely responsible for this oversight. We apologize to you, the community, and to our Board of Education for not doing a better job of keeping everyone more timely informed.

As you know at the end of the 2014-15 school year, we discontinued the old GATE program, which was offered to a small number of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. We replaced it with a brand new middle school honors program and brand new elementary gifted and talented program in grades 2 through 5, while still differentiating instruction for all students in all coursework. We were aware that all of these changes would be considered a pilot program from which we would have to learn.

Throughout last year we also began working collaboratively through a consortium with the school districts in our area to sequence and align our curriculum so that all of our students could go to high school on a level playing field. The positive consequence of some of that work is that in the 2016-17 school year, all 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will have 50% more time in mathematics and English than the 6<sup>th</sup> graders did last year. Our goal was not to limit, but rather to expand opportunities to all of our 6<sup>th</sup> graders – not just to a select few. Algebra I and English 8 Honors remain the exit points for our most academically oriented students – this has not changed. What has changed (and will continue to change) is the continuum of curricular offerings starting in Kindergarten leading

all the way up to those 8<sup>th</sup> grade exit points. We have and will continue to differentiate instruction to meet the needs of all of our students – both for those who struggle as well as for those who are gifted.

Some community members have expressed concern that our 6<sup>th</sup> grade English and mathematics sequence does not include ‘honors’ or ‘accelerated’ designations and that this might somehow violate state regulations for gifted and talented programming. Giftedness is not defined or limited to enrollment status in ‘honors’ coursework. Nor is the Board required to offer ‘honors’ versus ‘general’ coursework in middle school as the sole means for delivering instruction to students – gifted, special needs, or otherwise. In addition, there is no regulation that narrows gifted programming exclusively or even predominantly to English and/or mathematics. That we differentiate within all of our classrooms to meet the needs of all of our learners fulfills the state’s requirements. Be mindful that our both middle school TAG and elective programs also easily meet the state’s requirements for gifted programming.

In the end, however, the focus should not be on course titles or ‘honors’ designations. It should be about learning lessons from last year, seeing what worked and what did not, responding to members of the community calling for an increase in instructional time, and offering superior programs that will meet the needs of all of our students.

As we enter the 2016-17 school year what you are seeing, therefore, is Version 2.0. All of our students will have access to an outstanding educational program that will continue to be refined and improved upon. We will continue to carefully assess the quality of programming our students receive and make adjustments as necessary to ensure they are fully prepared for the future.

Please feel free to reach out to any of us at any time should you have any further questions or concerns. The letter was signed by Dr. Zoeller, Mrs. Hurd, and Mr. Cannici

**VIII. Director of Curriculum & Instruction’s Report-** Mrs. Hurd reported the following:

- PARCC and NJ ASK individual reports have arrived. Mrs. Hurd will be sending the reports home, expect to receive them sometime next week.
- Gifted and Talented program will begin next week. Mrs. Sacco is testing about 12 new students in ESL.
- The curriculum consortium worked on math all last year. In March/April they had a meeting and set up the sequence of classes with the other districts to all be aligned.

*President Leakas upon seeing on the agenda the approval of K-8 music, instructional 4-8 music and science. Thanked Mrs. Hurd for her work on the curriculum and asked her to elaborate on the electives for this year.*

*Mrs. Hurd stated 6-8 graders will have a 3 marking period course shared between science/social studies, a combined project. The fourth choice is between modern art history, methods to stress reduction, keyboarding boot camp and chorus which will be held during school in addition to after school. Mrs. Hurd reported that the students seemed excited about this year’s selections.*

**IX. Principal’s Report** Mr. Cannici reported the following:

- Midland had a very successful opening on Tuesday. Staff members did a great job welcoming the students and getting them organized for the 2016-17 school year.
- With great pride Mr. Cannici announced that three of Midland School’s educators, Maria Leccese, Laurel Barriento, and Christina Esposito were award the NJEA Frederick L. Hipp Foundation for excellence in Education grant in the amount of \$7,000.00. The award will go towards bridging the gap between mathematics instruction in school and at home. This will be accomplished with a Family Math

Night Series. Classroom Close Up is interested in coming to Midland to tape a segment for their show. Everyone is extremely excited.

- There will be an assembly for students in grades 6-8 to remember the tragic events and those who lost their lives on September 11, 2011. This year marks the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this horrific day in our nation's history. Prior to the assembly, we will have a small wreath-laying ceremony at the 9/11 monument located in front of the parking lot. Mr. Cravello will be joining us as well as presenting at the assembly.
- We have two "Back to School Nights" scheduled for our parents in September.  
Thursday September 22<sup>nd</sup>. (PreK-5) at 7:00 P.M.  
Thursday September 29<sup>th</sup> (Gr. 6-8) at 7:00 P.M.
- Mr. Van Hassel had a bicycle accident over Labor Day weekend. Ms. Esposito has been temporarily assigned in his absence. We wish him a speedy recovery.

*President Leakas congratulated the teachers on bringing in the grant. Adding that the math is challenging and it is great that this program is being offered. Good way to engage the parents.*

*Mr. Cannici added it is vitally important to bridge that gap.*

*Mr. Scully asked if there was a plan regarding Mr. Van Hassel if it becomes long term.*

*Mr. Cannici state yes this is a plan that can sustain over time. Ms. Esposito is exceptional, and has a great working relationship with Mr. Tarulli.*

*Mr. Allos inquired about the furniture in the cafeteria what was wrong with the old.*

*Mr. Cannici explained that some changes were made in the cafeteria, the new tables are a little shorter, and therefore the space works better.*

*Dr. Zoeller added that here was an accident in another district; our old tables didn't have a latch system. The new tables are much safer.*

*Mrs. Judge Cravello asked Mr. Cannici to go over the different positions in the latchkey department. What are homework helpers and group leaders doing?*

*Mr. Cannici reported he had a meeting with Mrs. Herter prior to her leaving and she expressed a need for staffing, that lead to adjustment in the program, homework helpers being one of them.*

- **PTA Report – No report**

**X. Building and Grounds Supervisor's Report** Mr. Woods reported the following:

- Opening day was a success. Children were very excited.
- Parking lot spaces are numbered they are for our staff please park in the visitor spots if you are coming into the school. Pre K drop off/pickup has three spaces.
- The fire alarm is taking longer than expected; they are in the building tonight working.
- Some classrooms have received new furniture. Replacing items that were 30/35 years old.

*President Leakas commented that the building looks amazing.*

*Mr. Allos on the subject of the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade letter reminded everyone that we are all human, mishaps happen and owing up to it sheds light on the human side of things. He added the state does not mandate an honors program.*

*Dr. Zoeller clarified honors is left up the individual districts. N.J. is more flexible.*

*President Leakas asked if the classes are still rigorous.*

*Dr. Zoeller explained that they have done their level best by the students to insure that they are at their best as they go to High School. The classes are differentiated to conform to student levels. The discussion continued with regard to access to materials.*

*President Leakas thanked the administration team for taking ownership; they work constantly to make things better. Also Mr. Woods's hard work with the building. Mrs. Hurd with everything getting the curriculum aligned and giving the students what they need. Mr. Cannici is an incredible Principal. We do appreciate everything they do.*

**XI. Open Public Forum (Pursuant to Board Policy 0167 – Public Participation in Board Meetings)**

During this portion of the meeting, district residents and staff are invited to address the Board of Education on any topics specifically addressed in this agenda or on any other questions, comments, or concerns that may be in respect to the operation of their schools. The Board requests that individuals sign the speakers' list giving name and address, and asks that all remarks be directed to the Board as a whole (not to individuals). The public is reminded that their remarks are being recorded.

The Board wishes to remind all attendees at its meetings that while it subscribes without reservation to the principle of keeping the community completely informed, it cannot respond to or discuss personnel matters. If a matter concerning a district staff member is of interest or concern to a resident, the matter should be referred to the Building Principal, Superintendent of Schools, or the Board of Education, either by telephone, letter, or email.

Each speaker's statement will be limited to five (5) minutes in duration. The Public Forum will be limited to one (1) hour in duration.

Motion by Mrs. Abraham, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to open public comment at 8:04 P.M.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried

Mrs. Minichetti Harvey Pl- just wanted to let the board know that her children came home and were so excited about school. Mrs. Roskowinski, Mrs. Calderone and Mr. Hornes are wonderful. Also the bathrooms that were renovated are beautiful. She thanked that Board and Administration for a wonderful start to school.

Mrs. Verhasselt Forest Pl.- started a discussion on our present Gifted and Talented classes. The gifted program students that need more, higher level, you can only differentiate to a point, will get anything beyond that.

*Dr. Zoeller responded by stating the math and ELA instruction time has increased by 50%.*

Mrs Verhasselt asked outside of that for those students will they get anything beyond, that classroom.

*Dr. Zoeller in 6<sup>th</sup> grade no, 7<sup>th</sup> gets pre-algebra and honors English same with 8<sup>th</sup> grade, they get algebra and honors English.*

Mrs. Verhasselt- asked if science 6-8 includes all labs, etc

*Mrs. Hurd, answered yes.*

Mrs. Verhasselt- stated she takes offence when now is compared to what was. She feels that the board is saying that in the past things were not that good. She wants the teachers to get their credit. Majority of students back then were successful.

*President Leakas, stated with the revolving door in administration, there was no consistency. The staff has been amazing; they were the glue, which held everything together.*

Several students expressed their concern with the changes in the original GATE program, honors programs as well as changes in staffing regarding Mrs. Rainone and Mrs. Grossman. They are only now teaching 7 & 8 Grade, one student stated likes the new teacher, but was disappointed that he didn't have Mrs. Rainone and Mr. Grossman as teachers this year. They talked about getting into the Academies and there feeling that without an honor's or GATE class in 6<sup>th</sup> grade they won't be considered. They expressed the need to be challenged.

*President Leakas, Board Members, and Mr. Cannici addressed the students and their concerns. Congratulating the students for coming forward and speaking up at a board meeting. They assured the students that the teachers are work very closely together to run the programs.*

Mrs. Pardo W. Oldis St. stated that when the discussed on changing the program took place two years ago; she doesn't remember it being called a pilot program. In her opinion a year was not enough time to see if it was going to work. If honors classes are brought back next year for 6<sup>th</sup> grade she will be very disappointed.

*Dr. Zoeller explained the reasoning behind the changes. We are aligning the program to fill in the holes it is aligned with the consortium and this is the model we are going with.*

Mrs. Kral -W Oldis thanked Dr. Zoeller for his responses to her emails adding that in the letter you mentioned our partners who are they and who are the stakeholders. She doesn't remember any meeting hearing there was no honors. 50% more time there are 50% more students in the class. Again she feels 6<sup>th</sup> grade is being punished. As a parent whose child is looking to go to a private high school and can't put on her application that she had honors or GATE in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, feels it's not fair to put the burden on the parents to come home after work and teach their children advance stuff.

*Dr. Zoeller clarified seeing what worked and what did not. In response to the question on who are the partners. Partners are the other districts in the consortium, stakeholders are parents.*

*Mr. Allos answered with regard to "not a fair statement to come home and work and teach her child the advance work". He said it was available, not putting it 100% on parents, but parents have a role in this. He was presenting options, such as the teachers are available after school to provide help if needed and the material is there for the parents and students to use. He understands how she feels; his daughter was in the GATE program. He respects what she is saying.*

Mrs. Strnadova Terrace Ave. Crossing guards on Rochelle Ave. Taking son to school in the morning the crossing guards are there, but the crossing guards are not on duty when they PreK goes in at 9:00 A.M.

*Dr. Zoeller specified the crossing guards are supplied by the Police Dept. and he directed Mrs. Strnadova to speak to the Chief of Police. This is the first time he is hearing about this. Police were here on the first day of school, they are always very supportive of the school community. Dr. Zoeller will talk to Chief Flannelly, but also thought Mrs. Strnadova should also reach out to him.*

Mr. Strnadova feels it's the districts responsibility to reach out to the Police Dept. not the parents.

*Dr. Zoeller reiterated that he is going to reach out to the Chief.*

Mrs. Vladyka Peek St. is a big proponent of the GATE program. Is there any thought of a pull out program.

That was the type of program when she was in school. Maybe work on a project all year. It would satisfy the state requirements. For the parents they should go to the teachers and ask for the extra work.

*Dr. Zoeller – stated that is something to take into consideration.*

Mrs. Strass W. Oldis St. How about an elective, or last year my child was in band and chose not to have a regular lunch time and go to band instead. Is it true that Maywood and Hackensack don't have an honors program in 6-7-8<sup>th</sup> grades? The increased time is it increased for the special needs kids while my children read a book because they have down time, they were told to bring books last year. Awesome things are happening with updating the building, weighing beautiful bathroom against teaching them in a gifted and talented program. A child in A band has a higher level band program but they don't have it for math.

*Dr. Zoeller confirmed that it was just 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Hackensack has a different tiered program, but Maywood does not.*

*Mrs. Hurd also confirmed that.*

*Dr. Zoeller will take it into consideration; it is still early in the year.*

*There was some clarification as to who receives the extra time. Dr. Zoeller explained that Sp. Ed. Students are taken out per their I.E.P.*

Mr. Bouchard Forest Pl. – The kids were extremely disappointed when they were told that honors letters were going home. He's disappointed in thinking that they were lied to or it was a knee jerk reaction to combining 3 classes into two. Mechanisms in place instead are electives related to stress, music, art, typing, but nothing academic. Something more advanced for these students who are looking for it, more thought should have gone into this.

*President Leakas- appreciates Mr. Bouchard coming to the meeting but no one was lied to. There was some banter back and forth on whether they were lied to or a knee jerk reaction.*

*Mr. Cannici clarified that he ran the meeting and he did not say that honors letters were going home. The statement is untrue.*

Mr. Trawinski - Forest Pl. Daughter was elated to go to school. He was concerned about the math class. Thank you for clarifying that, he suggested sending out a letter to the parents. Are the smoke detectors working? Tables in cafeteria, Dumont tables were different. Were the new tables absolutely necessary? Lighting detector any new conversations on that. The increase in math time doesn't sit right with Mr. Trawinski he still believes that the math is not the same as it was two years ago. The old GATE program was phenomenal. Math teachers were phenomenal. He would also like to see the caucus meeting brought back.

*Dr. Zoeller explained that a math teacher was injured 12 hours before the start of school and now that we have more information we can better address it the situation in the math class. The smoke detectors, the contractors are currently working on it tonight as we speak. There have been some delays but that happens sometimes with construction.*

*Mr. Woods explained that the system is working; most of the new system is up and running as well as still having the old in place. The fire marshal has been here from the town; they come out prior to school opening every year. Old system is completely intact. President Leakas explained that we would not be open if they were not working.*

*Dr. Zoeller added the difference between the new and old tables are the new ones are safer. It was not exactly the same tables as Dumont but they could have hurt a child in the same way. In regard to the lighting detector, we were focusing on the beginning of the school and Mr. Davidson will be contacted in regard to the lighting detector system. With regard to the math time, he has explained this to Mr. Trawinski several times. Other areas were being short changed. For instance, Spanish was cut in time, Social Studies and Science were all given less time.*

*President Leakas, answering Mr. Trawinski's remarks regarding the math program and the GATE program and the prior times. Back in the day there were budget constraints to the point that we were left with \$97.00 at the end of one year. They did the best they could with what they had to work with. We are in a better place and can do the things that they may have liked to do but couldn't. As far as*

*bringing back the caucus meeting vs committee meetings, when the new board reconvenes in January 2017 that's when the decision can be made to change it back or keep it as we have it now.*

*Mrs. Cravello- added (she was on the board back then) we did a great job back then, it was tough, we had a run with different administrators, and now yes we are in a good place. I got this letter today, I don't know if everyone got it today. The administration gets it and they are open to change.*

*Dr. Zoeller stated the letter was sent to all Board members today.  
The discussion continued on this topic. Dr. Zoeller stating that you had three teachers in math and English in 6-7-8<sup>th</sup> grades back then, verses two teachers now.*

Mrs. Verhasselt stated she would hate to see our students miss out on going to the Academies, because they don't have the math. The first entrance test they take is in math. It's something to think about.

Mrs. Muller Forest PI- asked if all PreK slots filled. They were called last night and the night before. They have a child who would have loved to come here. How many classrooms, do you have out of towners?

There was some discussion regarding an opening in PreK.

*Mr. Cannici stated he was recently informed that there was an opening. A family withdrew, so they went to the waiting list.*

*Dr. Zoeller stated there are only six or seven slots for general education. We are required by law to have the Sp. Ed. and not required by law to have general education PreK so when we have space in that class we open it up to the general population. All are township residences we have no out of towners.*

Motion by Mrs. Abraham, seconded by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, to close public comment at 9:07 P.M.  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

## **XII. Items for Board Action-Resolutions**

Note: Resolutions marked with an asterisk are as a result of Executive Session Discussion.

### **ROUTINE MATTERS RESOLUTIONS R1-R7**

#### **POLICY #0168- APPROVALS OF BOARD MINUTES**

**R1. RESOLVED: that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the minutes of the following meetings:**

**August 25, 2016 Regular Meeting, Executive Session & Executive Hearing**

Motion by Mrs. Abraham, second by Mr. Allos,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

#### **POLICY #4125 EMPLOYMENT OF SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS**

**R2. RESOLVED: that on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the submission of the Statement of Assurance regarding the use of paraprofessional staff for the 2016-2017 school year, to the New Jersey Department of Education.**

Motion by Mrs. Abraham, second by Mr. Allos,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**POLICY#5521 HARISSMENT, INTIMIDATION, AND BULLYING**

**R3. RESOLVED: that the Board of Education approves the HIB School Self-Assessment as presented.**

Motion by Mrs. Abraham, second by Mr. Allos,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**R4. RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education approves the following Job Descriptions as attached.**

**Latchkey Homework Help Teacher  
Latchkey Group Leader  
Latchkey Group Aide  
Latchkey Lead Teacher**

Motion by Mrs. Abraham, second by Mr. Allos,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**POLICY #5120 NEEDS ASSESSMENT PUPILS**

**R5. RESOLVED: that on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following special education placement revisions for the 2016-20176 school year.**

**CASE# 6254285532  
CLASSIFICATION: Autistic  
PLACEMENT: Valley Program Norwood  
RELATED SERVICES: OT 2 weekly sessions @80.00 per session \$7,680.00**

**CASE# 2656858795  
CLASSIFICATION: Autistic  
PLACEMENT: ECLC  
RELATED SERVICES: Aide salary for ES \$2,600.00**

Motion by Mrs. Abraham, second by Mr. Allos,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**R6. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the disposal of outdated/obsolete equipment by means of recycling.**

Everett Upright Piano – 1953 — Serial # 94773

Motion by Mrs. Abraham, second by Mr. Allos,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**POLICY #2200 CURRICULUM CONTENT**

**R7. RESOLVED: that on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following curriculum.**

**Music K-8**

**Instrumental 4-8**

**Science 6-8**

Motion by Mrs. Abraham, second by Mr. Allos,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS P1-P7**

**POLICY # 3240 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**P1. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approves the participation of the person named at the following workshop/conference:**

Jennifer O'Brien (Art) to attend Art Educators of New Jersey in Long Branch on October 10 & 11, 2016 at a cost of \$215.00 for registration and materials.

Melanie Ferla to attend BCTS Info Session in Hackensack on September 28, 2016 at no cost to the district for registration.

Joan Gutkowski to attend "Increasing Your Student's Mastery of Math Facts & Mental Math Skills" in Fairfield on November 3, 2016 at a cost to the district of \$245.00 for registration.

Motion by Mrs. Scully, second by Mr. Allos,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**POLICY#4111- HIRING CERTIFIED PERSONNEL**

**P2. RESOLVED: that on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves tuition reimbursement for course taken during the summer of 2016 as follows:**

Jennifer O'Brien (PE)	3 Credits	\$846.63*
Laurel Hanczaryk	3 Credits	\$831.15*
Maria Leccese	3 Credits	\$750.00*

\*Payment pending receipt of official transcripts

Motion by Mrs. Scully, second by Mr. Allos,  
Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried

**P3. RESOLVED: that on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following faculty crossovers as of September 1, 2016 salary and step adjustment made upon settlement of the contract for the 2016-2017 school year.**

Maria Leccese BA+15 Step 4 to MA Step 4

Motion by Mrs. Scully, second by Mr. Allos,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**POLICY #9541 – STUDENT TEACHERS/INTERNS**

**P4. RESOLVED: that the Board of Education approves the following Student Junior Field Experience starting on or about September 13, 2016, to approximately December 6, 2016.**

Magdalena Brodtkn – Felician University – Mrs. Calderone

Motion by Mrs. Scully, second by Mr. Allos,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**POLICY#4111- HIRING CERTIFIED PERSONNEL**

**\*P5. RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves summer work for the following personnel for one hour at their hourly rate of pay for a Special Education meeting.**

Joan Gutkowski- CST Meeting  
Stephen Verhassel- CST Meeting

Motion by Mrs. Scully, second by Mr. Allos,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**POLICY# 4125 EMPLOYMENT OF SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS**

**P6. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approve the following list of substitute teachers for the 2016-2017 school year at a rate of \$85.00 per day:**

Matthew Tarulli- Substitute Teacher (pending completions of fingerprints)

Motion by Mrs. Scully, second by Mr. Allos,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**P7. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approves the following appointments for the Latchkey positions.**

**Donna Johnson \$25.00 per hour (in addition to the \$6,000.00 stipend) when she works in the capacity as a Teacher in Charge, 3:16 P.M. to 6:15 P.M.**

Motion by Mrs. Scully, second by Mr. Allos,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**FINANCE AND INSURANCE-RESOLUTIONS F1-F7**  
**POLICY #6460 PAYMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES**

**F1. RESOLVED: that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approve the September 2016 Bill List as approved by the Finance Committee, attached and listed below:**

<b>10 – General Fund</b>	<b>\$229,947.21</b>
<b>20- Federal Grants</b>	<b>\$ 8,320.72</b>
<b>30 – Referendum Account</b>	<b>\$5,132.00</b>
<b>61 – Afterschool Program</b>	<b>\$8.09</b>
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$243,408.02</b>

**ATTACHEMENT 1**

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, second by Mr. Scully,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**Monthly Budgetary Line Item Status Certifications**

**F2. RESOLVED, that the Board Secretary for the Rochelle Park Board of Education certified that pursuant to NJAC 6A:23-2.11 9c) 3, as of July 30, 2016 and August 30, 2016, that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of NJAC 6A:23-2.11 (a): and**

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education certifies that pursuant to NJAC 6A:23-2-11 c) 4 that after review of the board secretary's and treasurer's monthly financial reports and the advice of district officials, we have no reason to doubt that no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of NJAC 6A:23-2.11 (b).**

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, second by Mr. Scully,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**Secretary & Treasurer's Reports**

**F3. RESOLVED, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education accepts the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Financial Reports for the months of July and August 2016.**

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, second by Mr. Scully,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**Transfers**

**F4. RESOLVED, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the line item transfers July and August 2016.**

**ATTACHMENT**

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, second by Mr. Scully,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**POLICY #6510 – PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION**

**F5. RESOLVED: that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the August 2016 payroll as follows:**

**Payroll**

**Month August**

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Gross Payroll</b>	<b>Employer Share of Social Security</b>	<b>Employer DCRP Contribution</b>	<b>Total Payroll Expense</b>
<b>Fund 10</b>	87,851.47	4,398.16	-	92,249.63
<b>Fund 20</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Fund 61</b>	-	-	-	-
				-
<b>Total</b>	\$ 87,851.47	\$ 4,398.16	\$ -	92,249.63

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, second by Mr. Scully,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE STUDENT ACTIVITY FUND**

**F6. RESOLVED, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education accept the Student Activity Fund Financial Report for the months of July and August 2016.**

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, second by Mr. Scully,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**Authorize Inter-local Agreement with the Township of Rochelle Park for the Purchase of Motor Vehicle Fuel**

**F7. WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40 AL65-1, et seq. authorizes contracts between public entities for shared services; and**

**WHEREAS, the Township of Rochelle Park and the Rochelle Park Board of Education have entered into discussions in connection with such an agreement for the purchase of motor vehicle fuel from the Township of Rochelle Park; and**

**WHEREAS, the Business Administrator and Superintendent have recommended entering into such an agreement for the purchase of motor vehicle fuel and the Township Committee has agreed that it would be in the best interests of the residents and taxpayers of the Township of Rochelle Park in order to enter into such an**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rochelle Park Board of Education as follows:**

- 1. An inter-local services agreement be and is hereby authorized with the Township of Rochelle Park for the purchase of motor vehicle fuel;**
- 2. The fuel pumps are available 24 hours a day, seven days per week.**
- 3. The Township agrees to provide to the Rochelle Park Board of Education, a key for each vehicle at a cost of between \$10.00 and \$15.00 per key. A specific code will be assigned by the Township to each key by the last four digits of the particular employee's social security number;**
- 4. The Township of Rochelle Park shall provide monthly invoices to the Rochelle Park Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of this Resolution and payments will be paid within 30 days of receipt;**
- 5. The term of the agreement shall be five years from the date of execution of an agreement between the parties to be reviewed by and approved by the Board of Education and the Board Attorney. The contract shall provide that either party may cancel a the agreement upon thirty days written notice.**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Business Administrator and the Superintendent is hereby directed to sign the agreement and forward certified copies of the resolution to the Township of Rochelle Park, the Township of Rochelle Park Administrator, and the Rochelle Park Board of Education Attorney.**

*Dr. Zoeller again entering into a cooperating with the town. We don't use a lot of fuel and he appreciates the township's willingness to work with us. A short discussion followed regarding the inclusion of fuel for other things such as lawn mower, snow blower and so on.*

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, second by Mr. Scully,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**XIII. Reports-Community Action Items**

**2016 School Year**

**Buildings & Grounds- Mrs. Abraham** Thank you to Kevin and guys for getting the building ready for opening next meeting Nov. 3.

**Business, Finance, and Transportation-** Mrs. Leakas auditors were in last month should have a report soon. Bus B route changed, will be working it out. Dr. Zoeller the bus co thought it would be a better route traffic flow.

**Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment-** Mr. Scully thanked Mrs. Hurd for her report the next committee meeting is in December, Mr. Scully is recommending a meeting earlier.

**Legislative and Policy –Mrs. Judge Cravello** announced that David Hespe is leaving as the head of the Department of Education. His assistant Ms. Harrington will be made acting head of the department. This is the fifth person in seven years to hold that position.

Bill 2566- Response to frame work- guidance for learning disabilities. Policy meeting on 9/29 reviewing 26 or more policies.

**Personnel/Negotiations/ Staff Relations-**Mr. Allos announced that the district and the RPEA have reached a tentative agreement; we are now waiting for their ratification of it.

*Dr. Zoeller laughed that it was such a short statement for something that took up so much time, sometimes till 2PM he wanted to thank the members who were on that committee for their time.*

**Special Education-**Mrs. Ciliento-Buyck the district purchased a new software program for PreK called Rethink- Two new Special Education teachers were hired, one teacher replaced the teacher we lost in PreK with the staff move made there and one additional Special Education teacher was added. Mrs. Buyck explained that two teachers will work with the middle school students – 2 with the lower grades -2 with the upper grades, and 1-science/social studies teacher working with the different grade levels. We are looking to have two CPAC meetings this year one in the fall for older students and then one in the spring.

**Technology –Mrs. Lauerma-** our next meeting will be held on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

**NJSBA/ BCSBA –Mrs. Judge Cravello** NJSB looking forward to working with Mrs. Harrington. There are 151 districts still in contact negotiations, thank you to our committee members for getting us this far in a short time. Besides being here for a meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> she will also be going to Maggiano's for a county meeting.

**Municipality-**Mr. Allos no report.

**Community-**Mr. Scully opening weekend for soccer ceremonies will be on Saturday at 11:00 A.M. Girls game at 9A.M. Back to school dance Sept 16<sup>th</sup> here at Midland. Movie night at Houghton hall no dates yet. R.P. Day on Sat Oct 29<sup>th</sup> at Carlock rain date Oct 30. At the last recreation meeting parents wanted to reestablish rec Basketball, dates and times will be forth coming. Rec has uniforms and equipment.

**Joint Boards-**Mrs. Leakas reported on several upcoming events taking place at Hackensack High School.

Mrs. Cravello added that the 9/11 service will take place here at the monument on Sunday at 11A.M. it is sponsored by American Legion.

#### **XIV. Open Public Forum (Pursuant to Board Policy 0167 – Public Participation in Board Meetings)**

During this portion of the meeting, district residents and staff are invited to address the Board of Education on any topics specifically addressed in this agenda or on any other questions, comments, or concerns that may be in respect to the operation of their schools. The Board requests that individuals sign the speakers' list giving name and address, and asks that all remarks be directed to the Board as a whole (not to individuals).The public is reminded that their remarks are being recorded.

The Board wishes to remind all attendees at its meetings that while it subscribes without reservation to the principle of keeping the community completely informed, it cannot respond to or discuss personnel matters. If a matter concerning a district staff member is of interest or concern to a resident, the matter should be referred to the Building Principal, Superintendent of Schools, or the Board of Education, either by telephone, letter, or email.

Each speaker's statement will be limited to five (5) minutes in duration. The Public Forum will be limited to one (1) hour in duration.

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to open public comment at 9:22 P.M.  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

Ms. Kral – Mr. Tarulli is a wonderful choice. She then questioned the pending fingerprints on the agenda, didn't he have them when he was here as a Student Teacher.

*Mr. Cannici stated yes they have to be fingerprinted.*

*Dr. Zoeller explained it complies with the state rules, whenever you go from a non-employee position (student teachers are not employees of the district) to a paid employee position new fingerprints need to be taken.*

Mrs. Zabady Howard Ave. Mr. Cannici is one of the best things that happened to this school. Taking away honors, and because there is so much competition you are taking away their chances. She does not want our students to be overlooked, and feels they need some title extra program, something that looks good on their resume.

Mrs. Vladyka regarding the busing, will there be an issue when we have a delayed opening. What time will the bus come? Last year the bus never came. Can we get clarification?

*Dr. Zoeller we run now with Region V. Much different then what we had before. Buses should be delayed by the same 90 minutes. They are a highly organized group, plus it saved us money. They already made changes because things were not working; they are on top of things. He will get clarification and post it on the transportation website.*

Mr. Trawinski -Forest Place- looking for an accounting of a cost analysis, how does this district justify the cost of the truck. Kevin a while back dropped off a great package but it doesn't have a cost analysis of what the cost would be. There's more to pick up paint, etc. No DEP number on the truck.

*Dr. Zoeller stated we could do it on some items like snow plowing. We don't know exactly what we would have saved because we didn't use the company. Snow changes each year. Can't compare to figure on something we didn't get charged for. Only have a few years of data.*

*President Leakas asked do you have an issue with the truck or what we use for it.*

*The discussion continued with regard to using the truck.*

*Dr. Zoeller Pointed out that the truck was purchased two years ago. We are a separate entity, do not need a DEP number. He is struggling with the information that Mr. Trawinski is asking. We weren't paying for leaves because we weren't picking them up, now the job is getting done. We weren't able to do it before, the neighbors were not happy with us. Mr. Woods will get money on dumping; Dr. Zoeller will look into other things and get some figures on certain items.*

*Mr. Woods stated he would look it up, explained the leaves that we pick up, that creates overtime with bagging.*

*President Leakas stated that every time you need something it's not time constraints with waiting for a company to deliver it. Past BA was stating we need to have a truck, it's a liability.*

Mrs. Verhasselt- she thinks three things have been purchased without giving them the information they are asking for. The list was just that a list of what he used it for. You got the water canon someone asked about a water canon three things recently that the board approved without a cost analysis. What else will be purchased? No one was working. The discussion continued. Did anyone ask the town to help pay for it. She asked how much the dump trailer was.

*Dr. Zoeller explained the water cannon. It would only be used if we had a dry summer. To do an underground sprinkler system would cost more. Mrs. Verhasselt meant the triangle sprinklers. Dr. Zoeller explained that the pressure of a small home sprinkler would not be enough. With regard to the dump trailer it cost \$5,000.00*

*Mr. Allos added that when the conversations with the town took place on the OEM building the sprinkling of the field was discussed.*

Mrs. Strnadova –She has received no information on PreK parking for the start of school. It is a new teacher and needed to know where she would be dropping off her child. So the night before I had no information, received a response from Mr. Cannici stating I have to walk to the ally way. Why was the safe pickup and drop-off area taken away?

*Pres Leakas, we do have the drop off area spaces for you, do you walk your child or do you drive to school.*

Mrs. Strnadova stated that the board cannot relate to what it is like to have a special education child. At this point Mr. Scully excused himself from the meeting.

*President Leakas asked Mrs. Strnadova not to make judgements on what Board Members can relate to or not. Mrs. Strnadova doesn't know what challenges/issues we face in our families. We have hearts and compassion we care deeply about the children. Do not feel that we do not care or relate that is not true, we are listening, I have sat in with your meetings, and we have changed things. I can't talk for the mail, we have no control over that.*

*Dr. Zoeller stated it was disheartening to hear that she did not get the mailing. He thanked her for reaching out to Mr. Cannici.*

*Mrs. Lauerman added that she has been here for 14 years, last month you asked for a parking spot that has never been done, you got what you wanted. Not getting the mailing is not administration's fault. Things like that happen. Mr. Cannici got back to you with the information.*

Mrs. Strnadova added she received nothing on the open house.

*Dr. Zoeller stated the open house was for new students that were never been here before.*

*Mr. Woods- Prior to getting hired he interviewed with two Board members, he touched on being hands on and would try to save the district money. He has tried to bring you the best facility, he's not the type to sit back and wait for materials to come in. When the district purchased a vehicle and dump trailer, it was to make things run more efficient. We are doing more than we ever could with this equipment. He has tried to make do with what we have. The students and staff deserve to have a nice clean environment.*

*Dr. Zoeller stated to Mr. Woods that everyone is very pleased with what Mr. Woods has been doing and the men that work with him. People want to see the work done. The board has praised the time that has been put into this building.*

Mrs. Verhasselt stated it wasn't Kevin she was questioning.

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Abraham, to close public comment at 10:02 P.M.  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

#### **XIV. Announcements**

**The next Regular Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 13, 2016 at 7:30 P.M .in the Media Center. An Executive Meeting may be held prior to the Regular Meeting at 7:00 P.M.**

#### **XVI. Goal Setting Session**

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to adjourn for a short recess at 10:03 P.M.  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

Motion by Mrs. Abraham, seconded by Mrs. Judge Cravello, to reopen after recess at 10:12 P.M.  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

#### **XVII. Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. Scully, seconded by Mr. Allos, to adjourn meeting at 10:30 P.M.  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried