

**Rochelle Park Board of Education  
Special Public-Board Retreat Meeting Minutes-6:00 P.M.  
July 18, 2013**

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

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Mr. Robert J Esposito, Vice President	X	
Mr. Sam Allos	X arrived 6:35	
Mrs. Teresa Cravello	X	
Mrs. Maria-Lauerman	X	
Mrs. Dimitria Leakas	X	
Mr. Mark Scully		X
Mrs. Patricia Dee Bilka, President	X	

Others present:

- Bert Ammerman, Interim Superintendent
- Vincent Occhino, Interim Board Administrator/Board Secretary
- Cara Hurd, Principal
- Ellen Kobylarz, Board Recording Secretary
- Christine Werner
- Dennis McDonald
- Al Annunziata

**III. 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”

**IV. Board Items:** Mr. Annunziata NJ School Boards conducted a program for the board: Two handouts were given to the board on government relations and another announcing NJSB 2013 workshop exhibition session. The agenda for the evening focused on what’s new in NJSBA, the Rochelle Park 2013 Board Self Evaluation review, review of the 2012-2013 goals,and develop 2013-2014 goals. At this point Mr. Annunziata handed out the Rochelle Park Board Evaluation for 2013. Board members had previously filled out individual evaluations that were compiled by School Boards for the final product.

- The board reviewed the self-evaluation distributed by Mr. Annunziata. There are 5 areas that are assessed as a board; topics deal with planning, policy, student achievement, finance, and board operations. There are nine areas board members can rate themselves as individuals. Strong score would be in the 3.2-4.0 area. Individually, the board members scores were in the 3.2-3.4 range. The ratings assessed as a board found that the board feels it needs improvement in the following areas; board policy, student achievement, and board /community relations. The board discussed how they could improve in these areas.

- In the next session the board was asked what was wonderful about the district. Some of the item listed were, staff, small school environment, low taxes, lunchroom facilities, active/supportive PTA, full day kindergarten, extracurricular programs, Music, Art, Gate, Tag programs, Paid pre-k for 3-4 year olds, Athletic programs, afterschool program, and the start of the new autistic class.
- The next session focused on what's in progress that needs to continue. Items included in the discussion; focus group with Principal, improving test scores, referendum-building, going paperless, community outreach, the changing leadership, staff development, NJDOE requirements, new teacher contract, new teacher evaluation, PLC's, and HIB.
- This next session focused on what needs immediate attention. Areas of concern were the school's status as a focus school, the referendum, teacher evaluations, student achievement and board/community relations.
- With the above issues pointed out the board was ready to discuss district and school goals for the upcoming school year. The board was advised by Mr. Annunziata that one goal should be student achievement orientated and recommended no more than 5 goals. After a lengthy discussion period the board decided on the following board goals and school goals.
  - Board Goals: Superintendent search, improve community relations, new transition with administration team,
  - District Goals: Student achievements, referendum, teacher evaluation, focus school, and a summer school enrichment program.

Mr. Annunziata's presentation concluded with a NJSBA data informed packet. Mr. Annunziata will send the finalized items discussed at this meeting next week to the board. He asked the board if they had any further questions, hearing none he thanked the board for their participation in this workshop.

Mr. Ammerman thanked Mr. Annunziata for a wonderful presentation and a great step forward for the board.

#### **V. Public Questions on the Resolutions (agenda Items Only)**

During this portion of the meeting, the residents are invited to address the Board regarding the agenda items only.

Motion by Mr. Esposito, seconded by Mr. Allos, to open public comment at 8:56 pm.

Roll Call 6-0 Motion Carried

None

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, second by Mrs. Leakas, to close public comment at 8:57 pm.

Roll Call 6-0 Motion Carried

Items for Board Action-Resolutions (if needed)

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

**VIII. Open to the Public (Any Item)**

During this portion of the meeting, the residents are invited to address the Board with any questions, comments or concerns that may be in respect to the operation of their school.

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mr. Esposito, to open public comment at 8:58pm.  
Roll Call 6-0 Motion Carried

None

Motion by Mrs. Leakas, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to close public comment at 8:59 pm.  
Roll Call 6-0 Motion Carried

**X. Announcements**

**A Special Board Meeting will be held on Monday July 29, 2013 at 7:00pm in the Media Center. The next Caucus Meeting will be held on Monday, August 12, 2013 at 7:00 PM in the Media Center, with the regular immediately following.**

**XI. Executive Session Announcement (if Needed)**

**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**

**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 with in 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. Cravello, seconded by Mrs. Leakas, to open Executive Session at 9:00 pm.  
Roll Call 6-0 Motion Carried

Motion by Mr. Esposito, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to close Executive Session at 9:23 pm.  
Roll Call 6-0 Motion Carried

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Leakas, to resume Regular Meeting Agenda at 9:24pm.  
Roll Call 6-0 Motion Carried

**XII. Adjournment**

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to adjourn meeting at 9:24 pm.  
Roll Call 6-0 Motion Carried