

**Rochelle Park Board of Education  
Regular Meeting– 8:00 P.M.  
February 13, 2012**

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

<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Mr. Robert Verhasselt, Vice President	x	
Mr. Sam Allos		x
Mrs. Teresa Cravello	x	
Mr. Jay Esposito		arrived 8:15pm
Mrs. Maria Lauerman	x	
Mr. Mark Scully	x	
Mrs. Patricia Bilka, President	x	

Others present:

- Bert Ammerman, Interim Superintendent/Board Secretary
- Ellen Kobylarz, Board Recording Secretary

**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 Star Ledger, The Record and The Our Town, in accordance with Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.”

**IV. Superintendent’s Report –Mr. Ammerman reported the following:**

- The 2012/2013 school calendar is on the agenda for approval. The April break will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in April to co-ordinate with Region V busing.
- There is a resolution on the agenda to move the election till November.

**V. Business Administrator’s Report – Mr. Ammerman reported the following:**

- Board members received a budget draft for 2012/2013- Mr. Ammerman asked the Board members to review the draft. Any questions should be directed to Mr. Ammerman or the board finance committee.
- February 29<sup>th</sup> @ 7PM will be the meeting to approve a tentative budget and we are looking at March 28 for the official public hearing.

**VI. Public Questions on the Resolutions (Agenda Items Only)**

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

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to open public comment at 8:03 p.m.

Roll Call 5-0

NONE

Motion by Mr. Scully, seconded by Mr. Verhasselt, to close public comment at 8:04 p.m.

Roll Call 5-0

**VII. Items for Board Action - Resolutions**

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

**POLICY #0168 – APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**

**P1. RESOLVED, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the minutes of the following meetings:**

- A. January 5, 2012 Special Public Meeting**
- B. January 9, 2012 Caucus Meeting**
- C. January 18, 2012 Special Public Meeting**
- D. January 18, 2012 Regular Meeting & Executive session**

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello

Roll Call 5-0

**POLICY #5200 - ATTENDANCE**

**P2. RESOLVED: that the Board of Education approves the attendance report for the month of January 2012 as listed:**

<u>Enrollment</u>		<u>Left</u>	<u>Entered</u>
Midland School	466	1-6th Grader	2-8 <sup>th</sup> Graders
Hackensack H.S.	129.5	1-Kndg	1-7 <sup>th</sup> Grader
Academies /Tech	<u>10</u>		1-2 <sup>nd</sup> Grader
<b>Total</b>	<b>605.5</b>		

<u>Pupil Attendance</u>		<u>Teacher Attendance</u>	
Possible Days	9286	Possible Days	938
Days Present	8817.5	Days Present	906
Days Absent	478.5	Days Absent	32
% Present	94.9%	% Present	96.5%
% Absent	5.1%	% Absent	3.5%

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello

Roll Call 5-0

**POLICY #3240 – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**P3. RESOLVED:** on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approves the participation of the persons named at the following workshops/conferences:

Ellen Kobylarz & Tatyana Budanskaya to attend “Genesis Training” on February 15, 2012 in East Brunswick at no cost to the district for registration.

Lorraine O’Rourke to attend “Practical Strategies to Implement the New Common Core Math Standards”, in Fairfield on March 20, 2012 at a cost of \$219.00 to the district for registration.

Masina Puleo to attend “Motivating the Young, Nonverbal Child to Talk: Practical and Functional Strategies to Achieve Positive Outcomes” in Saddle Brook on March 2, 2012 at no cost to the district for registration.

Ellen Lender to attend “Cyber bully Workshop” in Haworth, NJ on March 23, 2012 at no cost to the district for registration.

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 5-0

**P4. RESOLVED:** on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approves the following workshop/conference:

DENNIS MCDONALD \$300.00 for “PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES” workshop presentation to the Rochelle Park Faculty on February 13, 2012

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 5-0

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

**P5. RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education approve the following Junior Practicum Student placement for William Paterson University.

Karla Hernandez -Mrs. Metcalfe

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 5-0

**POLICY #4431.1 – FAMILY LEAVE**

**\*P6. RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education does hereby approve the request of Mrs. Christine Raimondi to go on maternity leave effective June 1, 2012 until the end of the 2011/2012 school year. Mrs. Raimondi will initiate the Family Leave Act starting in September 2012 for a period of 12 weeks, with an anticipated return date at the end of

November 2012.

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 5-0

**POLICY #4211 HIRING- NON-CERTIFIED PERSONNEL**

**\*P7. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education amend the salary for Mrs. Lorraine Cuomo, School Secretary and Purchasing Clerk to \$39,449.00 effective July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.**

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 5-0

**\*P8. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education amends the salary for Mrs. Nathalie Trippeda, Bookkeeper/Secretary to the Business Administrator at an annual salary of \$38,892.00 and to the position of Transportation Clerk at an annual salary of \$7,616.00 and to the position of payroll clerk at an annual salary of \$6,057.00 effective July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.**

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 5-0

**\*P9. RESOLVED: that on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Rochelle Park Board of Education amends the salary for Ms. Ellen Kobylarz. Confidential Secretary to the Superintendent, effective July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012, at an annual salary of \$43,493.00.**

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 5-0

**\*P10. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education amends the salary for Ms. Tatyana Budanskaya, In-House Technology Coordinating Consultant at a salary of \$60,364.00, effective August 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.**

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 5-0

**\*P11. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education appoints Mrs. Lorraine Cuomo to the position of School Secretary and Purchasing Clerk at an annual salary of \$40,238.00 effective July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.**

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 5-0

**\*P12. RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education appoints Mrs. Nathalie Trippeda to the position of Bookkeeper/Secretary to the Business Administrator at an annual salary of \$39,670.00 and to the position of Transportation Clerk at an annual salary of \$7,768.00 and to the position of payroll clerk at an annual salary of \$6,178.00 effective July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.**

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello

Roll Call 5-0

**\*P13. RESOLVED:** that on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Rochelle Park Board of Education appoints Ellen Kobylarz to the position of Confidential Secretary to the Superintendent, at an annual salary of \$44,363.00 and to the position of Board Recording Secretary at an annual salary of \$7,500.0, effective July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 5-0

**\*P14. RESOLVED:** on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education appoints Ms. Tatyana Budanskaya to the position of In-House Technology Coordinating Consultant at a salary of \$61,571.00, effective August 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 5-0

**POLICY #8210 - SCHOOL YEAR**

**P15. RESOLVED:** on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approves the School Calendar for the 2012-2013 school year as submitted.

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 5-0

**Policy #8420 – EMERGENCY & CRISIS SITUATIONS**

**P.16. RESOLVED:** that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the following Fire and Security drills held in the month of January of 2012 for the Rochelle Park School District.

**Fire Drill – January 6, 2012  
Security Drill- January 11, 2012**

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 5-0

**Policy #5512.01 – HARASSMENT- INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING**

**P.17. RESOLVED:** that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the following HIB Report for January 2012 on behalf of the Rochelle Park School District.

**January 2012**

Reported Incidents: 5  
Number of Incidents determined to be HIB: 1  
Number of Incidents determined not to be HIB: 4

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Cravello  
Roll Call 5-0

**FINANCE AND INSURANCE**

**Upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator to the Superintendent:**

**POLICY #6421 – PAYMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES**

**F1. RESOLVED, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the February 2012 Bill List as approved by the Finance Committee, attached and listed below:**

	<u>Amount</u>
A) Regular Bills – Fund 11	\$637,262.39
B) Regular Bills – Fund 20	7,545.72
C) Lunch Prgm – Fund 50	19,120.16
D) Enterprise - Fund 51	790.00
TOTAL ALL BILLS	<u>\$664,718.27</u>
February Void Ck	<u>(.00)</u>
TOTAL	\$664,718.27

**SUPPORT DOCUMENT 1**

Motion by Mr. Scully seconded by Mr. Verhasselt  
Roll Call 5-0

**POLICY #6510 – PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION**

**F2. RESOLVED: that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the February 2012 payroll in the amount of \$408,955.36.**

Motion by Mr. Scully seconded by Mr. Verhasselt  
Roll Call 5-0

**POLICY # 6820 – FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**Monthly Budgetary Line Item Status Certifications**

**F3. RESOLVED, that the Board Secretary for the Rochelle Park Board of Education certifies that pursuant to NJAC 6A:23-2.11 (c) 3, as of December 31, 2011, 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 Mr. Scully seconded by Mr. Verhasselt  
Roll Call 5-0

**Board Secretary’s Report**

**F4. RESOLVED: that the Rochelle Park Board of Education accepts the Board Secretary’s Financial Report for the month of December 2011.**

**SUPPORT DOCUMENT 3**

Motion by Mr. Scully seconded by Mr. Verhasselt  
Roll Call 5-0

**Treasurer's Report**

**F5. RESOLVED: that the Rochelle Park Board of Education accepts the School Treasurer's Financial Report for the month of December 2011.**

**ATTACHMENT 4**

Motion by Mr. Scully seconded by Mr. Verhasselt  
Roll Call 5-0

**Transfers**

**F6. RESOLVED: that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the line item transfers for January 2012.**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Source Account</i>	<i>Target Account</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Amount</i>
013/1/12			See Attachment	\$354,449.35
			TOTAL TRANSFERS	\$354,449.35

Motion by Mr. Scully seconded by Mr. Verhasselt  
Roll Call 5-0

**SUPPORT DOCUMENT 2**

**POLICY #6111 – SPECIAL EDUCATION MEDICAID INITIATIVE (SEMI) PROGRAM**

**F7. Whereas,** NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2012-2013 , and

**Whereas,** the Rochelle Park Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that participation in SEMI would not provide a cost benefit to the district based on the projection of the district's available SEMI reimbursement for the 2012-2013 budget year

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved**, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education hereby authorizes the School Business Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Bergen an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A23A-5.3 for the 2012-2013 school year.

Motion by Mr. Scully seconded by Mr. Verhasselt  
Roll Call 5-0

**Establishing the Election of Members of the Rochelle Park Board of Education**  
**As the First Tuesday after the First Monday in November**

F8. WHEREAS, P.L. 2011, c.202 (Senate Bill 3148) authorizes a local board of education to change the election date of school board members from the third Tuesday in April to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November (the General Election); and

WHEREAS, Such action requires the adoption of a resolution by a majority vote of a quorum of the local board of education; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 2011, c. 202 (S-3148) requires that the change in election date remain in effect for four years; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 2011, c. 202 (S-3148) eliminates the annual voter referendum on the proposed general fund tax levy (i.e., the base budget which is at or below the statutory tax levy cap) in school districts where board of education members are selected at the General Election; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 2011, c. 202 (S-3148) requires that an additional general fund tax levy proposal (i.e., for an expenditure in excess of the tax levy cap) be presented to voters as a separate question at the General Election; and

WHEREAS, The Rochelle Park Board of Education believes that the financial interest of its constituents is safeguarded by the state's tax levy cap and the thorough review of the proposed school budget by the Executive County Superintendent and the Executive County School Business Administrator; and

WHEREAS, The Rochelle Park Board of Education is committed to the non-partisan status of school board membership and the non-partisan conduct of school elections, and believes this principle will not be compromised by conducting board member elections in November. Now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That, pursuant to P.L. 2011, c. 202 (S-3148), the Rochelle Park Board of Education changes the annual election date for its members from the third Tuesday in April to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November (the General Election), beginning in 2012; and be it further

RESOLVED, That, pursuant to P.L. 2011, c. 202 (S-3148), this change will remain in effect at least through November 2015;

RESOLVED, That, pursuant to P.L. 2011, c. 202 (S-3148), the annual organization meeting of the Rochelle Park Board of Education will take place in the first week of



January following the November General Election and that the board of education's next organization meeting will take place in January, 2013; and be it further

RESOLVED, That, pursuant to P.L. 2011, c. 202 (S-3148), members of the Rochelle Park Board of Education whose terms would have expired by May 1, 2012 will continue to serve in office until the January 2013 organization meeting; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution be transmitted to Governor Christopher Christie, Lieutenant Governor/Secretary of State Kimberly M. Guadagno; Richard E. Constable, III, Acting Commissioner, Department of Community Affairs; Robert F. Giles, Director, Division of Elections, Department of State; John S. Hogan, Bergen

County Clerk; the Bergen County Board of Elections; Christopher Cerf, Acting Commissioner of Education; the Division of Finance, New Jersey Department of Education; and Robert Gilmartin, Executive County Superintendent for Bergen County; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be provided to the New Jersey School Boards Association.

Motion by Mr. Scully seconded by Mr. Verhasselt  
Roll Call 5-0

**F9. RESOLVED:** on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approve an additional payment to the Fair Lawn Board of Education in the amount of Seven thousand five hundred dollars. (\$7,500.00) for the 2011/2012 school year.

Motion by Mr. Scully seconded by Mr. Verhasselt  
Roll Call 5-0

**POLICY #7510 – USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES**

**F10. RESOLVED,** that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the application for use of school facilities made by the following groups/organizations listed below. The Board reserves the right to schedule school activities at any time.

Group/Organization	Use Purpose/Room	Date	Rental Fee
Rochelle Park Baseball (Babe Ruth)	Games/Ball field	Wednesdays and Fridays – April 4 <sup>th</sup> thru May 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2012 6PM to 8PM Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays – June 1 <sup>st</sup> thru June 29 <sup>th</sup> . 5PM to 8PM Saturdays – April 7 <sup>th</sup>	None

<p><b>Bergen County Council of PTA</b></p>	<p><b>ABC's of PTA Training/Multi Purpose Room</b></p>	<p><b>through June 30<sup>th</sup> – from 2PM to 6PM- With the understanding that Midland School Baseball/Softball has priority over use of the fields.</b></p> <p><b>Wednesday, June 6, 2012 from 6PM to 10PM</b></p>	<p><b>None</b></p>
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Motion by Mr. Scully seconded by Mr. Verhasselt  
Roll Call 5-0

### **VIII. Reports – Committee Action Items**

Finance- *President Bilka- Each board member has a copy of the rough draft of the budget.*

*It will still be tight to meet cap..*

Education- *President Bilka reported: the committee met with Mr. Ammerman to discuss the needs and desires of the district*

Transportation- *Mrs. Cravello reported: everything's been good*

Building & Grounds- *Mr. Verhasselt reported: There are concerns regarding the heat and they are being addressed. Hopefully over the summer we can address a lot of other issues that need to be addressed.*

Community & School Activities – *Mr. Scully reported: Recreation Committee meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month in Houghton Hall. He handed out calendar of events for 2012 to fellow board members.*

Legislation- *President Bilka- reported on the board vote tonight to move the budget to November. It means that the budget has to come in at/or under cap. Board member election will be held in November also. Mr. Ammerman reported that half of the districts in the state have moved. President Bilka- reported that the district will have to stay with a November election until 2014.*

Policy- *Mr. Ammerman reported that he had just received an alert from Strauss Esmay which he will review and the board should expect to see policies for approval next month.*

Board/Staff Relations- *Mrs. Lauerman- no report*

Negotiating – *President Bilka – reported that she has been advised by counsel that the RPEA has requested to go back to fact finding and do not want to meet with the negotiating team. There are not a lot of fact finders; therefore it usually takes weeks before you schedule a session.*

*Mr. Scully asked how you find a fact finder*

*President Bilka stated they are assigned by PERC*

Joint Boards Coordination – *Mrs. Cravello- reported that there were 48 Rochelle Park students on the Hackensack Honor Roll. Hackensack High School winter break will take place the week of February 20<sup>th</sup>.*

Bergen County School Boards- *Mrs. Lauerman- no report*  
New Jersey School Boards- *Mrs. Lauerman- reiterated that half the districts in the state have moved the election.*  
Municipal Alliance Liaison – *Mrs. Cravello reported status quo- no date has been set for the August concert.*

## **IX. 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. Esposito, seconded by Mrs. Cravello, to open public comment at 8:24 p.m.  
Roll Call 6-0

*Mr. Valdez- 160 Chestnut Street – inquired on the district being a focus school and what corrective measures are being put in place.*

*Mr. Ammerman- 5<sup>th</sup> grade scores were troublesome and that put us on focus. Since then Mr. Ammerman stated he met with Mr. McGrath to discuss corrective measures. Mr. McGrath met with the teaching staff to identify students. That's who the district will be focusing on. Mr. Ammerman further stated it's a small school and 4to5 students can make a difference. Both Mr. Ammerman and Mr. McGrath are looking to see if it is a class or grade level issue. They will look at different years." If it was a problem one year, it's ok" but 3or 4 years in a row would be a problem. Its then a consistency level, that's where it could be instructional. He went on to say that they will look at the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades to see if it's that class and they are working with the 6<sup>th</sup> graders and current 5<sup>th</sup> graders with an emphasis on getting the students who were at (180-199) to 200. The staff also needs more info on Study Island; staff is very responsive to the issue.*

Mrs. Rainone- President of the RPEA read a letter from the union members. She stated that the RPEA deeply cares about Rochelle Park. Mrs. Rainone, quoted from an article in the Bergen Record, where Mr. Ammerman stated that "quality of education is being delivered and that the faculty and staff has not missed a beat". The RPEA greatly appreciated this type of support. They also thanked the parents for their support during this time. Mrs. Rainone went on to state that there have been a number of administrative changes over the last few years. The teachers have been the stable factor and they are ready to meet the challenges. They respect the tax caps that the board must conform too. RPEA thought at the last session an agreement had been reached. Mrs. Rainone asked if it was something we could have worked out. RPEA wanted to know why it took so long to hear from the board. They find themselves taking a decrease. They want a fair and equitable settlement and they are committed to the children. They have pride in education and are asking for the association to be treated fairly.

*Mrs. Bilka- stated Mrs. Rainone's rendition of the facts were slightly inaccurate.*

Mrs. Rainone – questioned the salaries on the agenda tonight, asking what percentage they represented.

*Mr. Ammerman- 2%*

Motion by Mrs. Lauerman, seconded by Mr. Scully, to close public comment at 8:45 p.m.  
Roll Call 6-0

## **X. Announcements**

**The next Budget Meeting will be held on Monday, February 29, 2012 in the Media Center at 7:00 P.M. The next Caucus Meeting will be held on Monday, March 5, 2012 at 7:30 P. M. in the Media Center.**

**XI. Executive Session Announcement (Not Needed)**

**XII. Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. Esposito, seconded by Mr. Allos, to adjourn meeting at 8:46 p.m.  
Roll Call 6-0