

**Rochelle Park Board of Education  
 Regular Meeting Minutes -7:30 P.M.  
 April 21, 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>	
Mr. 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</b>	
Mrs. Dimitria Leakas, President	<b>X</b>	

Others present:

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

*President Leakas introduced Mr. Stephen Fogarty Esq. to the public. The reason he was in attendance is due to a grievance hearing held earlier in the evening, and hence the Board will be having an executive session following this meeting.*

*Mr. Fogarty welcomed the public in attendance.*

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

- PARCC was down yesterday, not the district but the PARCC site, that will set the schedule back one day. Parents were notified.
- Two workshops are on the agenda for approval one for Ms. Johnson to attend UDL part 2 and one for Mrs. Judge Cravello to attend Legal Bootcamp.
- A number of field trips are on the agenda for approval.
- We have two Special Education placements; both are not new just current changes.
- We have a resolution to change May 24<sup>th</sup> to a half day for field day, in the event of inclement weather we will move that day to June 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Lastly we have a resolution to approve our 5 year curriculum revision cycle.

**V. Director of Curriculum & Instruction Report- Mrs. Hurd reported the following:**

- Curriculum Consortium update- Instrumental Grades 4-8 is complete. Music Grades K-3 is also complete. We will be meeting for Music Grades 4-8 on Friday April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

- PARCC/NJASK Science- Most of April was spent working with Priscilla to make sure the PARCC testing was ready to go. Priscilla focused on the technology aspect and Mrs. Hurd on the rosters and schedules of the teachers and students. Currently we are in the middle of administering the PARCC testing in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> Grades. This will conclude on April 28<sup>th</sup>, and grades 3-5 will begin on May 2<sup>nd</sup> through May 11<sup>th</sup>.
- NJASK Science, Grades 4 and 8 will be on May 25<sup>th</sup>, make-ups June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**VI. Principal's Report- Mr. Cannici reported on the following:**

- Congratulations to the cast, crew, volunteers, and staff on the Spring Play. They did a wonderful job. Mr. Cannici had the pleasure of seeing all three shows and thoroughly enjoyed the performances.
- Summative Evaluation Conferences have begun with the instructional staff members. Areas being reviewed are but not limited to Professional Development plans, student growth objectives, individual teacher performances and goals for the 2016-2017 school year.
- Midland's spring concert will be held on April 27<sup>th</sup> for the Evening event and April 28<sup>th</sup> for the students in grades 3-8.
- Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences were held on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Cannici hoped the parents who attended the conferences enjoyed informative, productive meetings with the staff members.
- Report cards will be distributed on Friday April 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- April is Autism Awareness month, the staff and students are encouraged to wear blue on Friday April 29<sup>th</sup>. The Pre K class is collecting a \$2.00 donation for Autism. In addition if you bring in a white shirt they will be tie dying them blue to wear on Friday.
- PTA Report- no report

**VII. Building & Grounds Supervisor Report-Mr. Woods reported the following:**

- Mr. Woods and the custodial staff will be using Spring Break to catch up on building maintenance. They have a new floor stripping machine- uses no chemicals- green cleaning. The 3<sup>rd</sup> floor will be stripped and waxed.
- The ballfields were recently air rated and seeded, 25 years of topsoil was purchased as well as new clay for the fields.
- New desks and chairs arrived for the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.
- Construction update, fire alarm system still being worked on.
- New drains and concrete were placed in the courtyard area, and around by the PreK room.
- The contractor came back to spackle and paint in the media center.

**VIII. 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. Lauerman, seconded by Mrs. Buyck, to open public comment at 7:45 P.M.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried

Mrs. Rodriguez Central Ave What is the plan for the following school year Kindergarten, and PreK self-contained students?

*Dr. Zoeller stated that they are largely IEP driven; adding once we know what is in the IEP's the class structure can be formulated.*

Mrs. Rodriguez asked if a child starts in September, and that child needs to be in an enclosed program.

*Dr. Zoeller stated a single child may not be cost effective it keep in district, more than one we would budget.*

Mrs. Rodriguez ended by stating; Speaking for herself and the other parents in the program they would like to see this program closed, so that no other children have to go through what they have gone through.

Mrs. Wuthrich South Dr. - Pre K- eight lottery spots, what happens if one of the eight is identified after, say in Sept? She was also wondering why only eight, also why a 9A.M.start time when parents have to go to work. She grew up in town, went to school in Midland, and came back to town so that her children could have that experience.

*Dr. Zoeller- explained we don't operate an integrated preschool program; it's inclusive, formulated as a PreK program in which we put Special Ed. in the program. District personnel looked at the start time and felt it was better to start later. He added that we do have a Latchkey program. We are trying to keep in line with the teacher contact. Mr. Cannici met with representatives to work something out. The program has always started later than the main school opening time. Personnel felt the program now is too large, has too many tuition based students. This is why there are only eight spots open. Having more tuition based students generates more revenue, but special education students need more attention.*

Motion by Mrs. Judge Cravello, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to close public comment at 7:55 P.M.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried

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

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

### **ROUTINE MATTERS RESOLUTIONS R1-R9**

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

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

#### **March 16, 2015 Regular Meeting & Executive Session**

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman,

Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**POLICY#5200 ATTENDANCE**

**R2. RESOLVED:** that the Board of Education approves the attendance report for the month of March 2016 as listed:

<u>Enrollment</u>		<u>Left</u>	<u>Entered</u>
Midland School	495	1-2 <sup>nd</sup> Grader	
Hackensack H.S.	146.5	1-Kndg	
Academies/Technical Schools	17		
Totals	658.5		

  

<u>Pupil Attendance</u>		<u>Teacher Attendance</u>	
Possible Days	10996	Possible Days	1034
Days Present	10452.5	Days Present	1001
Days Absent	543.5	Days Absent	33
% Present	95.0%	% Present	96.8%
% Absent	5.0%	% Absent	3.2%

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

*Mr. Scully asked on R2. Pupil attendance based on any day a student is not in attendance.  
Dr. Zoeller referred to Mr. Cannici. Yes, any date a student is out for any reason.  
Mr. Scully asked teacher's based only on sick days by state statute.  
Dr. Zoeller I don't know if its statute or regulatory, but yes the figures are only on teacher sick days.  
Mr. Scully then days absence can be higher, hence percentage lower for teacher attendance if you added in the other days.  
Dr. Zoeller Yes, with the other days added in would make the percentage lower, we are required to only report on faculty sick time. We follow what the state guidelines are.*

**POLICY #8420 EMERGENCY & CRISIS SITUATIONS**

**R3. RESOLVED:** that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the following Fire and Security drills held in the month of March 2016 for the Rochelle Park School District.

**Fire Drill – March 9, 2016  
Lockdown Drill- March 30, 2016**

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**POLICY #5512.01 HARRASSMENT INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING**

**R4. RESOLVED:** that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the following HIB Report for March 2016 on behalf of the Rochelle Park School District.

**March 2016**  
Reported Cases: 1

Number of Cases open: 0  
Number of Cases closed: 1  
Number of Incidents determined to be HIB: 1  
School Suspensions 3

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**POLICY #2340- FIELD TRIPS**

**R5. RESOLVED:** on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following field trip request:

**Mr. Stack, Ms. Leccese, and Mrs. Oliver to accompany the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students to the Bronx Zoo on May 23, 2016 at a cost of \$39.50 per student to be borne by the parents.**

**Mr. Ramirez, Mrs. Rainone, Mrs. Giglio, Mrs. Hurd, Mrs. McCormick, Mr. Van Hassel, Mrs. Fuchs, Mrs. Raimondi, Mrs. Colucci, Dr. Sacco, Mrs. Gonzales to accompany the 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> grade students to the Bronx Zoo on June 8, 2016 at a cost of \$40.00 per student to be borne by the parents.**

**Mrs. Roskowski, Mrs. Calderone, Mr. Hornes to accompany the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students to the Camden Aquarium on June 7, 2016 at a cost of \$40.00 per student to be borne by the parents.**

**Mr. Stack, Mrs. Oliver, Ms. Leccese to accompany the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students to the Saddle River on June 7, 2016 at no cost to the district or parents.**

**Mrs. Hernando, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Miller to accompany the 1<sup>st</sup> grade students to the Liberty Hall Museum in Union on May 12, 2016 at a cost of \$22.00 per student to be borne by the parents.**

**Ms. Barbieri, Mrs. Kroog, Ms. Geoffroy, Mrs. Zambrano, Ms. Scarpa, Mrs. Gomez, Mrs. Pallouras, Mrs. DeSimone, Mrs. Holzman and Ms. Aregood to accompany the Pre-K to “Jump On In” in Hasbrouck Heights on May 24, 2016 at a cost of \$19.00 per student to be borne by the parents.**

**Mrs. Sobeck, and Mrs. Hani to accompany the Kindergarten students to a High -Touch High -Tech Workshop in school titled “Weather or Not” on May 20, 2016 at a cost of \$8.75 per student to be borne by the parents.**

**Mr. Calabro, Mrs. Cherello, and Ms. Sherry to accompany the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students to Provident Bank Park in Pomona NY on June 7, 2016 there is no cost to the district for this trip it is being sponsored by the LEADS program.**

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**POLICY #0162- NOTICE OF BOARD MEETINGS**

**R6. RESOLVED:** on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves a Public Hearing on April 28, 2016, 7:00 PM for the purpose of the Public Budget Hearing:

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**POLICY #5120 NEEDS ASSESSMENT PUPILS**

**R7. RESOLVED:** that on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the revision of the following special education placement and related services for the 2015-2016 school year.

**CASE# 12-08**  
**CLASSIFICATION: ED**  
**PLACEMENT: NOVA North BCSS**  
**RELATED SERVICES: Counseling**  
**TRANSPORTATION: N/A**  
**TUITION: \$56,880. (pro rated 284.40 per day)**  
**EFFECTIVE: 3/21/2016**

**CASE# 02-07**  
**CLASSIFICATION: Autistic**  
**PLACEMENT: Tri-Valley**  
**RELATED SERVICES: Increase in Aide Salary due to benefits- Originally the salary for the aide was approved in July 2-2015 for \$18,200.00**  
**TRANSPORTATION: Supplied by Region V**  
**TUITION: \$63,962.00 (previously approved)**  
**EFFECTIVE: 9/01/2015**

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**POLICY #8210 - SCHOOL YEAR**

**R8. RESOLVED:** on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approves a revision to the School Calendar for the 2015-2016 school year. Changing May 24, 2016 from a full day to a half day (12:41 P.M. dismissal for students) for the purpose of Field Day. If Field day is cancelled due to inclement weather on May 24, 2016, that will revert back to a full day. Therefore, in addition the Board of Education approves a half day on June 2, 2016, 12:41 P.M. dismissal for students as a rain date for Field day (only if needed).

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**R9. RESOLVED:** on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approves the attached Five-Year Curriculum Revision Cycle.

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, second by Mrs. Lauerman,  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS P1-P2**  
**POLICY #3240 – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**\*P1. RESOLVED:** on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approves the participation of the persons named at the following workshops/conferences:

Ms. Johnson to attend UDL Part 2 in Morris Plains on May 25, 2016 at no cost to the district for registration.

Mrs. Judge Cravello to attend Legal Bootcamp in Harrison NJ on April 16, 2016 at a cost of \$99.00 to the district for registration.

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, seconded by Mr. Allos  
Roll Call 6-0-1  
Motion Carried

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

**P2. RESOLVED:** on the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approve Jessica Kutniewski to the list of substitute teachers for the 2015-2016 school year at a rate of \$85.00 per day:

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, seconded by Mr. Allos  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**FINANCE AND INSURANCE-RESOLUTIONS F1-F8**

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

**POLICY #6460 PAYMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES**

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

A) General – Fund 10	\$887,532.39
B) Federal Grant- Fund 20	\$15,822.45
C) Referendum– Fund 30	\$10,514.94
D) Debt Service – Fund 40	.00
E) Cafeteria – Fund 60	\$32,617.77
F) Afterschool Program-Fund 61	\$99,075.54
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$966,319.21</b>

**ATTACHEMENT**

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

**POLICY #6820 – FINANCIAL REPORTS**  
**Monthly Budgetary Line Item Status Certifications**

**F2. 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 March 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. Lauerman, second by Mr. Allos,  
 Roll Call 7-0  
 Motion Carried

**Transfers**

**F3. RESOLVED**, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the line item transfers March 2016.

**ATTACHMENT**

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

**POLICY#6660- STUDENT ACTIVITY FUND**

**F4. RESOLVED:** that the Rochelle Park Board of Education accept the Student Activity Fund Financial Reports for the months of March 2016.

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

**POLICY #6510 – PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION**

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

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Gross Earnings</b>	<b>DCRP &amp; Board Share FICA</b>	<b>State Share FICA</b>
<b>10 – General Fund</b>	<b>\$464,191.81</b>	<b>\$7,205.14</b>	<b>\$27,566.40</b>
<b>20 – Federal Grant</b>	<b>\$3,236.30</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$247.57</b>
<b>61 – Afterschool Program</b>	<b>\$9,608.29</b>	<b>\$735.03</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$477,036.40</b>	<b>\$7,940.17</b>	<b>\$27,813.97</b>

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



**RESOLUTION TO CONTINUE MEMBERSHIP IN THE NORTHEAST BERGEN COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD INSURANCE GROUP**

**F6. WHEREAS, a number of Boards of Education in Bergen County have joined together to form a Joint Insurance GROUP as permitted by N.J. Title 18A-.18B and;**

**WHEREAS, said GROUP was approved effective July 1, 1985 by the New Jersey Commissioner of Insurance and has been in operation since that date and;**

**WHEREAS, the Bylaws and regulations governing the creation and operation of this Insurance GROUP contain elaborate restrictions and safeguards concerning the safe and efficient administration of the public interest entrusted to such a GROUP, and;**

**WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Rochelle Park has determined that membership in the NORTHEAST BERGEN COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD INSURANCE GROUP is in the best interest of the District;**

**NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Education of Rochelle Park does hereby agree to renew membership in the NORTHEAST BERGEN COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD INSURANCE GROUP and hereby accept the Bylaws as approved and adopted. The renewal term is from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator is authorized to execute the application for membership and the accompanying certification on behalf of the District and;**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator is authorized and directed to execute the Indemnity and Trust Agreement and such other documents signifying membership in the GROUP as are required by the Group's Bylaws and to deliver the same to the Executive Director.**

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

Mrs. Judge Cravello- Can you talk about this insurance policy?

Dr. Zoeller- this has been the insurance carrier for a number of years at least seven. It is a consortium, by doing so we can buy things cheaper, a more competitive rate. All employees mandated trainings can be done on-line for free. The BA office two years ago did put a RFQ, and this company still came back the cheapest. We are recommending continuing with this company at this time.

**Correction of Approval of Submission of 2016-2017 Tentative School District Budget to Bergen County ECS**

**F7. RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, to hereby authorize the submission of the tentative 2016-2017 School District Budget to the Interim Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval:**

Fund	Budget	Tax Levy
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<b>General</b>	<b>\$11,991,267</b>	<b>\$10,978,185</b>
<b>Special Revenue Fund</b>	<b>151,844</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Debt Service Fund</b>	<b>590,528</b>	<b>453,337</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,733,639</b>	<b>\$11,431,522</b>

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves the tax levy for the General Fund \$10,962,631 and the use of banked cap \$15,554 having fully exhausted all eligible statutory spending authority in the budget year for a total of \$10,978,185 for the 2016-2017 school year. The banked Cap will be used for additional lap top computers. This need will be completed by the end of the 2016-2017 year.**

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

Mr. Scully – inquired on this resolution, feeling that it was approved last month and why again tonight. Dr. Zoeller- explained that it is exactly the same resolution as last month with the exception of the sentence “The banked Cap will be used for additional lap top computers.” This is a new requirement by the NJ DOE that they are requiring us to have incorporated into the resolution. Some of this money will go towards the purchase of another lap top cart for next year.

**F8. 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 activities at any time which may cause changes to the calendar.**

<b>Group/Organization</b>	<b>Use/Purpose/Room</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Rental Fee</b>
<b>Northern New Jersey Council BSA</b>	<b>Computer Lab/Media Center</b>	<b>April 19, 2016</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Boy Scouts of America Troop 213</b>	<b>Baseball field area</b>	<b>June 14, 2016</b>	<b>None</b>

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

**X. Reports – Committee Action Items**

**Building & Grounds – Mrs. Abraham-** Next meeting May 5<sup>th</sup> – nothing else to report at this time  
**Business, Finance, and Transportation-** Mrs. Leakas-Budget hearing will take place on April 28<sup>th</sup> in the media center. Transportation is moving.

**Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment-** Mr. Scully- The committee was not able to meet. Meeting has been rescheduled for next Thursday. Appreciates the update, Mrs. Hurd.

**Legislative and Policy-** Mrs. Judge Cravello- still updating policies, 1601 legislation- on school safety, making it a fourth degree crime if this passes.

**Personnel/Negotiations/Staff Relations-** Mr. Allos – computer system implemented for evaluations, both employee and administration can see the feedback, it saves time, cost effective, all done on line, well worth the money. Everyone seems to like it, training was provided. Negotiations a mediator has been requested and will move forward when that person is in place.

**Special Education-** Mrs. Cilento-Buyck- no report at this time

**Technology- Mrs. Lauerman-** Lap carts now being used in the classrooms. Next year total of seven carts. The status of the donated iPADS will be coming in thanks to Dr. Schepis. Last year trials for PARCC went smoothly, students are getting better with the computers, we have Fast Bridge testing. T1 line is not necessary at this time. The evaluation system that Mr. Allos also spoke about cut down the time spent on evaluations and observations.

**NJSBA/BCSBA- Mrs. Judge Cravello-** Meeting May 5<sup>th</sup>, Maggiano's in Hackensack- Was invited to opening day of baseball and apologizes that she could not be there because she was at Legal Boot Camp that past Saturday. She came away from that training with a wealth of information; packets were made for all the board members of the handouts given out at the training.

**Municipality- Mr. Allos** – Delighted to see Mr. Valenzuela, asked him brief us on township events. **Mr. Valenzuela** - shredding event will be held Sat. municipal lot.9-1 P.M.

**Mr. Allos** commended the town on giving the residents the opportunity to have their documents shredded.

**Community- Mr. Scully-** Soccer first sign up this past weekend, and next three weekends. Boy Scout Troop 114 Annual Spaghetti dinner this weekend. \$10.00 Adult, \$5.00 children under 11. Baseball opening day it was nice to be invited to the event, he thanked the Board members, Mrs. Abraham, Mrs. Leakas and Mrs. Buyck who were in attendance and the one town councilman who attended. He talked about the school play, by far the best play he has seen, great production.

**Joint Boards- Mrs. Leakas-** April 5<sup>th</sup>, Mrs. Lauerman and Mrs. Leakas attended the Hackensack Fashion PTSA Show; Mrs. Leakas congratulated everyone on a great event. Hackensack will be off on May 27, 31, June 3, 2016, for the unused snow days. BOE meeting April 26<sup>th</sup> 7P.M. PTSA May 11<sup>th</sup>.

## **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.

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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. Judge Cravello, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to open public comment at 8:15 P.M.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried

Mrs. Rodriguez- Central Ave, Parents are upset, their child's lives, health are at risk. She believes something has to change, doesn't feel the school is safe. We have requested a meeting over a year ago. Something needs to be done. Children are regressing stopped eating would not be here if it was ok. Feels child is not safe, or given proper attention. Son has nervous breakdowns every morning. Can't continue to send her child to a school she doesn't feel he is safe in.

Mrs. Mansilla Chestnut Ave- What was just said is very disheartening. 27 kids in the class, her son was taken out of smaller class to a big class. Focus on him in a small group he didn't get it. Feels they have been used as guinea pigs, and that now the change is being made, He's going to Kindergarten,

and again to a large group. Are you going to open a small kindergarten class? What is the limit in a regular kindergarten class? How many kids are allowed in that class? Say there's 3 or 4 when do you separate them out into a special kindergarten?

*Dr. Zoeller responding that he is not contemplating opening a Special Education kindergarten class unless we have a certain number of students, it is IEP driven and then budgetary means determines the direction the district would precede in. We will budget for a third teacher if needed; the state doesn't have hard caps -25 with an aide. I have to see the IEP's to determine the placement.*

Mrs. Khizriel W. Passaic St. She found out 3 weeks ago that her son is being left alone for an hour in the classroom, it was addressed to administration. He's regressing, already lacks social skills. Was told mainstreaming starts at 4 years old. Does that mean that he will be left alone for another 6 months? If you are not doing programming for one child is it possible for him to be transferred?

*Dr. Zoeller- stated he will talk to Mr. Cannici and Mrs. Genovese- Dr. Zoeller further clarified; there are no other children in the classroom at the time. With no other children, there is an aide with him. Correct he is not alone in the classroom. I will look into it for you.*

Mrs. Khizriel confirmed there are adults with her son during this hour in question.

Mrs. Strnadova Terrace Ave- speaks on behalf of other parents, due to the increase accidents, injuries, there is a safety concern, children are nonverbal multi disabled children, she would like camera's in the classrooms so that she knows what is happening behind closed doors. Asked the Board and Administration what is being done to increase the safety of our nonverbal-multi disabled children? Has copied Dr. Zoeller on emails, but has not been given a reply by him.

*Dr. Zoeller will not discuss this in public when you have retained an attorney. Teachers have rights and you will not find cameras installed in classrooms. He welcomes the opportunity to talk about these incidents, but not in a public setting. He's not going to recommend to the BOE to place cameras in the classroom it becomes a labor issue. He will also not speak about individual incidents in the public.*

Mrs. Strnadova - would you answer a parent who is not represented by an attorney would you answer them. If cameras will not be put there, what will you do so that the parents feel more comfortable?

*Dr. Zoeller disputed that the program is fundamentally unsafe, teacher and one to one aides on each student that's not to say that little kids do get bumps and bruises, special needs students it happens more often. The incident you are referring to it is being investigated and you will get an answer, these things takes time. A nonverbal student doesn't bring to the teacher that they were scratched and you don't see it to that night. If something serious happens the teacher is responsible to notify you.*

Mrs. Strnadova stated that she has not gotten an answer as to how these things happened. She knows it takes time to investigate but what do they do in the meantime to be sure that their children are safe. Wants to know when it happened, where it happened. Contaminated water came home, added it was sad that a school that has disabled children has not followed the Autism Awareness month prior to now.

*Dr. Zoeller- If the nonverbal students don't bring it to a teacher's attention she may not know. If we know that in incident has occurred I believe it has been brought to your attention. If not then I would*

*like to know. The contaminated water was in a water bottle you sent to school, it was your water bottle.*

*President Leakas- stopped the conversation which was well over five minutes. Other residents that are here to talk, this conversation will continue.*

Mr. Cronin- Rochelle Ave- read a letter he sent to the Board of Education voicing his disappointment with the decision made by the Board on a recent facilities request from Sacred Heart Church. Sacred Heart wanted to use the area around the school to do a living stations of the cross. The BOE granted use of the parking lot for overflow parking. His letter contained instances in the past where the church was allowed to have a service that was performed on school grounds. He noted the demographics of the town. Referenced the referendum in the late 90's, during that time promises were made to Class 1 groups to use the facilities, and he asked in the future that the BOE remember those promises. Sacred Heart hosts many community programs within the town.

This discussion continued on with dialog from both sides of the table.

*President Leakas stated that the board is guided by laws, and a neutral body who cannot show any preferences. She congratulated the organizers of the event; it was the talk of the town, adding that we as a board are here to protect our school and community ant to abide by our policies.*

Mr. Cronin thanked the board, he stated he speaks for himself in his own special way and he hoped he wouldn't have to bring this up again.

Mr. Seymour- Marinus St – Asked to have the law or policy that was used to determine the use by Sacred Heart? He also reiterated the history behind the old referendum.

His second question referred to the computer lab, what has been done to see that all the children can see the board. He stated the Board knew in February, why has nothing been done since then. The goal of the school is to education these students. He suggested the Board go into that room after the meeting.

*Dr. Zoeller explained that earlier, before the public meeting started, the Board, Administration, Mr. Fogarty and representatives from the Teachers Union met to discuss the room which resulted in good input, along with suggestions for modifications. Administration will review the ideas presented. The Board did go into the room after the February meeting. There have also been no complaints from parents or children regarding that room and their inability to see the board.*

This topic also brought a discussion between both sides of the table before the meeting had to move on due to time and other's wanting to speak.

The topic of the Special Education program was discussed again; they do not feel that they are being heard. The board assured them that they are being heard.

Mr. Trawinski Forest Pl. asked if the district would be ordering Science textbooks for the students this year. Commented on the media center, if there is problems with that room go back to the architects, they should rectify the problem. Feels the Board is not listening to the children.

*President Leakas refuted that stating that the whole referendum was delayed a year investigating the heating system.*

Mr. Trawinski asked again about science textbooks.

*Dr. Zoeller invited Mr. Trawinski to come into the school and meet with administration, and the science teacher to go over where we stand with the textbooks.*

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, to close public comment at 9:45 P.M.  
Roll Call 7-0

Motion Carried

**XII. Announcements**

A Special Budget Hearing will be held on April 28, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. in the Media Center. The next Board of Education Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 12, 2016 at 7:30 P.M. in the Media Center.

**XIII. 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:

**Legal**

**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 Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Judge Cravello, to open Executive Session at 9:46 P.M.  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, to close Executive Session at 10:05 P.M.  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

Motion by Mrs. Judge Cravello, seconded by Mrs. Abraham, to resume Regular Meeting Agenda at 10:06P.M.  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried

**XIV. Adjournment**

Motion by Mrs. Ciliento Buyck, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to adjourn meeting at 10:07P.M.  
Roll Call 7-0  
Motion Carried