

Rochelle Park Board of Education  
Virtual Regular Meeting Minutes 6:00 P.M.  
May 26, 2020

**I. Call to Order**  
**II. Roll Call**

Board Member	Present	Absent
Mr. Scott Kral, Vice President	X	
Mr. Adib Abboud	X	
Ms. Christina Holz	X	
Mrs. Teresa Judge-Cravello	X	
Mr. Gerard Sorrentino	X	
Ms. Layla Wuthrick		X
Mr. Matt Trawinski, President	X	

Others Present:

Dr. Richard Brockel, Interim Superintendent of Schools  
Mrs. Cheryl Jiosi, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Mrs. Cara Hurd, Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Mr. Michael Alberta, Principal  
Dr. Steven Lahullier, Coordinator of Technology Services  
Mrs. Ellen Kobylarz, Board Recording Secretary

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

**IV. Open Public Meeting 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, and posted to our website based on the executive order of the Governor in accordance with Chapter 231, P.L. 1975”.

**VI. Reports**

- A. Interim Superintendent Dr. Brockel reported the following:
- Governor Murphy stated in his daily update that graduations can be held after July 6<sup>th</sup>. In July teachers’ contracts end June 30<sup>th</sup>, people may be on vacation. Hopefully we will get an update before that. Guidance needed from the County Office.
- B. Business Administrator Mrs. Jiosi reported the following:
- School Board Candidate kit released on Friday. Legislation for electronic signatures is up for approval.
  - Special June 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting that’s to accept or reject construction bids. 9 people did show interest.
  - RFP for towing due June 4<sup>th</sup>. Only has one proposal.
  - Breakfast and Lunch continue to be served. 55 students were served last week, everyone from the school is included.
- C. Director of Curriculum and Instruction Mrs. Hurd reported the following:
- Link it- benchmark Spring 2020 will be done in the Fall. To see where they are.
  - Middle School students Mrs. Hurd made up a Google doc for students that have missed a number of assignments. One Google doc for each student, teachers have access to add

missing assignments and acknowledge if it's been submitted. Students missing a lot of work, not just one or two assignments.

D. Principal Mr. Alberta reported the following:

- Formally recognized Mrs. Kristin Colucci as Teacher of the Year and Liz Nam as our Professional Ed Service Professional of the Year.
- All staff meetings, CST meetings are going as planned. Lockers have been cleaned out and parents will be sent a letter to pick up their items.
- Teachers are coming in 5 at a time, with a schedule in place. Lower grade students' items will be put in bags for parent pick up. We also have a book drop off outside for school district book items.
- Mr. Alberta thanked, the teachers, parents, and students for their hard work. We are going a great job here.

E. Board Committees, as needed:

- Policy, Mrs. Judge Cravello, wanted to recognize the Veterans for their time served. She added there were three policies on the agenda. The one policy 5710 that was approved last month now has a small change. Mrs. Jiosi received new info after the last meeting.

G. Board Liaison:

- NJSBA/BCSBA Mrs. Holz, will be attending the BCBSA meeting this week. Historical Society is collecting pictures, memorabilia, for the towns 150-year celebration, email items you may have to rochelleparkhistory@rochellepark.com. Contact Christina or Gail Artola if you would like to be on a committee to arrange a celebration for the town's anniversary.
- Joint Boards Mrs. Judge Cravello, stated there was an email sent out regarding HHS graduation, but that is up in the air now.
- Liaison to the Township Committee Mr. Kral, thanked the Police and Fire Depts for their contribution to the Memorial Day Parade, due to the pandemic we were not able to have our traditional parade.

## **VII. Public Comment (Agenda Items Only)**

The Board of Education reserves the right to hold public comment on agenda items only, at its discretion, at its regular monthly public meetings in accordance with Bylaw 0167. Public comment will be limited to three minutes per person not to exceed 30 minutes. Citizens should give their name and address when recognized to speak. Please be reminded that this meeting is being recorded.

No one chose to speak

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

### TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

WHEREAS, Teacher Appreciation Week was celebrated the week of May 4th through May 8, 2020; and WHEREAS, the Rochelle Park Board of Education is aware of the vital contribution of our teachers, who are responsible for the translation of district ideas and philosophy, which they have helped to formulate into our students' programs and activities in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, the dedication, intelligence, creativity, sensitivity, and high standards of our teachers are a source of inspiration to the hundreds of students whose lives they touch, and

WHEREAS, teachers make public schools great, work to open students' minds to ideas, knowledge and dreams, keep American democracy alive by laying the foundation for good citizenship, continue to influence us long after our school days are only memories; and

WHEREAS the excellence of the services provided by our teachers are crucial to the success of the Rochelle Park Midland School #1;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that on behalf of the administration, parents, residents and Rochelle Park Board of Education, we express our gratitude to our professional staff for exemplary service to the district; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that Tuesday, May 5, 2020 be designated as National Teacher Day for the Rochelle Park Public School District and that we take this opportunity to extend an official thank you to all District staff whose devotion enriches the lives of the Midland School #1 students and community.

Motion by Mr. Abboud, seconded by Mr. Kral

Roll Call 6-0

Motion Carried

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION WEEK IN NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, Special Education Week will be celebrated the week of May 11th through May 16, 2020; and

WHEREAS, more than 232,500 children receive special education instruction in New Jersey's public and private schools; and

WHEREAS, more than 18,000 special needs children are enrolled in preschool and early intervention programs in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, thousands of parents, teachers, child study team members and school administrators give generously of their time and energy to support the learning needs of special education; and

WHEREAS, the theme for Special Education Week is "Creating, Learning & Growing"; and

WHEREAS, the public-school districts and the private schools of New Jersey make a major contribution to the public welfare by preparing thousands of exceptional persons to participate as residents of this state and as members of our society;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Rochelle Park Board of Education does hereby recognize May 11th through May 16, 2020 as Special Education Week in Rochelle Park and call upon all residents to recognize the achievements of New Jersey's special education students and the outstanding contributions made by educators, school board members, schools and agencies for the disabled and their parents toward quality education for the exceptional citizens of our state.

Motion by Mr. Abboud, seconded by Mr. Kral

Roll Call 6-0

Motion Carried

#### NATIONAL SCHOOL NURSE DAY- May 6, 2020

2020 Theme: School Nurses: Supporting Students in Times of Crisis

Whereas, students are the future and, by investing in them today, we are ensuring our world for tomorrow; and

Whereas, families deserve to feel confident that their children will be cared for when they are at school; and Whereas, all students have a right to have their physical and mental health needs safely met while in the school setting; and

Whereas, students today face more complex and life-threatening health problems requiring care in school; and

Whereas, the COVID-19 pandemic has emphasized the essential role school nurses play in student health and academic success; and

Whereas, school nurses have served a critical role in improving public health and in ensuring student's academic success for more than 100 years; and

Whereas, school nurses address the home and community factors (e.g., social determinants) that impact students' health; and

Whereas, school nurses act as a liaison to the school community, families, and healthcare providers on behalf of children's health by promoting wellness and improving health outcomes for our nation's children; and

Whereas, school nurses support the health and educational success of children and youth by providing access to care when children's cognitive development is at its peak; and

Whereas, school nurses are members of school-based teams (e.g., school health services, 504/IEP, disaster/emergency planning) to address the school population; and

Whereas, school nurses understand the link between health and learning and are in a position to make a positive difference for children every day,

Now Therefore be it Resolved, that the National Association of School Nurses celebrates and acknowledges the accomplishments of school nurses everywhere and their efforts of meeting the needs of today's students by improving the delivery of health care in our schools and offers gratitude for the nation's school nurses, who contribute to our local communities by helping students stay healthy, in school, and ready to learn, and keeping parents and guardians at work, not just on this National School Nurse Day, but at every opportunity throughout the year.

Motion by Mrs. Judge Cravello, seconded by Ms. Holz

Roll Call 6-0

Motion carried

### **Routine Matters Resolutions R1-R7**

#### **R1. Approval of Minutes**

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the minutes of the following meetings:

March 10 2020 Regular Meeting & Executive  
March 31, 2020 Special Meeting  
April 28, 2020 Regular Meeting

#### **R2. Attendance**

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the attendance report for the month of April 2020 as listed:

<u>Enrollment</u>		<u>Left</u>	<u>Entered</u>
Midland School	504		
Hackensack H.S.	133		
Academies/Technical Schools	24		
Totals	661		

<u>Pupil Attendance</u>		<u>Teacher Attendance</u>	
Possible Days	8568	Possible Days	1008
Days Present	8568	Days Present	1008
Days Absent	0	Days Absent	0
% Present	100%	% Present	100%
% Absent	0%	% Absent	0%

#### **R3. Emergency & Crisis Situations**

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following Fire and Security drills Due to the covid 19 pandemic school closing on March 16, 2020 no drills were held during the month.

R4. Harassment Intimidation and Bullying

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following HIB Report for April 2020 on behalf of the Rochelle Park School District.

April 2020

Reported Cases: 0

Number of Cases open: 0

Number of Cases closed: 0

Number of Incidents determined to be HIB: 0

R5. School Calendar

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following changes to the 2019-2020 school calendar as presented. The changes represent the three unused snow days taken off the end of the school year making the last day June 16, 2020.

R6. Bylaws & Policies

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves a first reading of the following Bylaw, Policy and Regulation:

Policy and Regulation 7510 Use of School Facilities

Policy 7480- Motor Vehicles on School Property

Bylaw 0164.1 Virtual Board Meetings

R7. School District School Health Related Closure Preparedness Plan

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the revised School District School Health Related Closure Preparedness Plan pursuant to P.L.2020, c.27.

**R1-R7**

**Motion Mr. Trawinski Second Mr. Kral**

**Roll Call 6-0**

**Motion Carried**

**Personnel Resolutions P1-P9**

P1. Appointment

RESOLVED: that applications be submitted to the County Superintendent of Schools in accordance with the revised statute N.J.S.A. 18A; 6-7.1 et.seq. requesting authorization for emergent hiring pending completion of Criminal History Check for the following individual for the reason indicated and on the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board of Education appoint Amanda Bellagamba to the position of Teacher September 1, 2020 until June 30, 2021 on BA Step2 at a salary of \$ 53,120.00

P2. Summer Tutor

RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education appoints Cara Serpineto to the position of Teacher/Tutor – 4 hrs. per week for the summer of 2020 not to exceed 20 hours in total at the rate of \$32.00 per hour to meet IEP requirements.

**P3. Appointment Payroll Services**

RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education enter into a contract with Mrs. Brancato of KCB Payroll Consultants at \$75.00 per hour not to exceed 10 hours per payroll for the 2020-2021 school year.

**P4. Extracurricular Activities**

RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education rescinds the appointment of Jennifer O'Brien as the co- play director for the 2019-2020 school year.

**P5. Extracurricular Activities**

RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education appoints Angel Baker as the play director for the 2019-2020 school year.

**P6. Creation of Positions**

RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education establishes the following positions for the 2020-2021 school year.

Boys Basketball Coach  
Girls Basketball Coach  
Community Service Advisor

**P7. Substitute Custodians**

RESOLVED: upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Rochelle Park Board of Education approve the following individuals to the list of substitute custodians for the 2020-2021 school year at a rate of \$14.00 per hour.

Liridon Leka  
Christian Centrella (pending criminal history)

**P8. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the participation of the persons named at the following workshops/conferences.

Name	Workshop/Conference	Date	Cost
Theresa Roman	Get your virtual teach on	6/1-2/2020	99.00
Allison Hilla	Get your virtual teach on	6/1-2/2020	99.00
Kaitlin Gallagher	Get your virtual teach on	6/1-2/2020	99.00

**P9. Octopus Training**

RESOLVED: upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following teachers to participate in Octopus Technology Software Training over the Summer. Each teacher will be compensated for four hours at the approved contract rate of \$32.00 per hour. The teachers will then turn key the training to the staff in Sept 2020.

Angela Jacobus  
Kaitlyn Gallagher  
Theresa Roman  
Susan Carney  
Stephanie Fernandes  
Maria Leccese

**P1-P9**

**Motion Mr. Abboud Second Mr. Kral**

**Roll Call 6-0**

**Motion Carried**

**Finance Resolutions F1-F16**

F1. Bills List

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Rochelle Park Board of Education approves the payment of bills for May 1, 2020 to May 22, 2020.

A. Regular Bills- Fund 10	866,996.08
B. Federal Grant - Fund 20	26,293.30
C. Referendum- Fund 30	9,000.74
D. Cafeteria - Fund 60	3,025.11
Total for the month of May	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 905,315.23

F2. Additional Bills List in May

RESOLVED: that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Rochelle Park Board of Education authorizes a second check run for the month of May 2020 with the amounts to be approved at the June, 2020 meeting.

F3. Secretary & Treasurer's Reports

RESOLVED: that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education accepts, and affixes to the minutes, the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Financial Reports for the month of March 2020.

F4. Student Activities

RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts, and affixes to the minutes, the Student Activities report for the month of March 2020.

F5. Transfers

RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts, and affixes to the minutes, the line item transfers for March 2020

F6. Certifications

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, as per New Jersey Administrative Code and New Jersey Statutes Annotated legislation and requirements, the following statement is approved:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(c), I certify that as of March 31, 2020 no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8.1, and

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6a:23-2.11(c), I certify that no budgetary line item account has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C.6:20-2.11 (a).

Cheryl Jiosi, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

F7. Secretary & Treasurer's Reports

RESOLVED: that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Rochelle Park Board of Education accepts, and affixes to the minutes, the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Financial Reports for the month of April 2020.

F8. Student Activities

RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts, and affixes to the minutes, the Student Activities report for the month of April 2020.

F9. Transfers

RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts, and affixes to the minutes, the line item transfers for April 2020

F10. Certifications

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, as per New Jersey Administrative Code and New Jersey Statutes Annotated legislation and requirements, the following statement is approved:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(c), I certify that as of April 30, 2020 no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8.1, and

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6a:23-2.11(c), I certify that no budgetary line item account has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C.6:20-2.11 (a).

Cheryl Jiosi, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

F11. Payroll Authorization

RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the payroll for April 2020 as follows:

April 2020	
Fund Gross Payroll	
Fund 10	\$537,035.64
Fund 20	\$6,639.49
Fund 61	\$10,490.47
Fund 62	
Total	\$554,165.60

F12. Approval of Food Service Management Company

Be it resolved that the Rochelle Park Board of Education "SFA" approves the second renewal of the Food Service Management contract with The Pomptonian, Inc." FSMC" for the food service operation for 2020-2021.

The FSMC shall receive, in addition to the costs of operation, an administrative/management fee of \$15,990.00 to compensate the FSMC for administrative and management costs. This fee shall be billed in 10 monthly installments of \$1,599.00 per month as a cost of operation. The SFA guarantees the payment of such costs and fee to the FSMC.

The FSMC guarantees the SFA a No Cost Operation for school year 2020-2021.

F13. Price List

Resolved: on the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the attached price list for the 2020-2021 school year.

F14. Resolution Opposing Senate Bill 2392/Assembly Bill 3969

Legislation Affecting Transmission of Property Tax Revenue to School Districts

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 2392 and Assembly Bill 3969, currently pending in the state Legislature, would authorize the Department of Community Affairs to permit municipalities to delay or alter the transmission of property tax revenue to school districts during gubernatorial-declared emergencies; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's public schools are highly dependent on property tax revenue to support education programs; and

WHEREAS, on average, local property taxes constitute close to 60% of public-school revenue, with the percentage even greater in a significant number of districts; and

WHEREAS, delaying or altering the transmission of property tax revenue from municipalities would result in a financial crisis for school districts, seriously disrupting the educational process; and

WHEREAS, although public school buildings are closed during the current health emergency, the education of our students is taking place through remote instruction and, therefore, continued timely transmission of all property tax revenue due to the school district is critical for the educational process to continue without interruption; and

WHEREAS, under our state's current structure, municipalities are designated as the authorities to collect property taxes, but those taxes are levied for specific purposes—e.g., municipal, school, county, fire district—and these obligations must continue to be met; and

WHEREAS, municipal governing bodies are empowered under current law to borrow in order to ensure that full payments to school districts are made;

WHEREAS, the Rochelle Park Board of Education recognizes the impact of the current public health emergency on the state and local governments, as well as local school districts, but believes that this legislation would only worsen the situation for our communities; and

WHEREAS, while S-2392/A-3969 would require a municipality to pay a percentage of the revenue due to a school district based on consultation between the state Departments of Community Affairs and Education, the amount of taxes collected at the time and the financial condition of the municipality and school district, it does not address subsequent payment to the school district to make up the full shortfall amount; and

WHEREAS, as currently written, S-2392/A-3969, which is designed to ease a financial burden on municipalities, would place a severe strain on school districts and the students and families that they serve.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rochelle Park Board of Education urges the State Legislature and Governor to oppose S-2392/A-3969; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be delivered to Governor Philip D. Murphy, State Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, and the 38th Legislative District's representatives in the state Senate and General Assembly; and be it further

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

F15. Donation

RESOLVED: on the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, the Board of Education accepts the donation of \$1500.00 towards a defibrillator from the Highmark company.

*Mrs. Jiosi would like to thank Mr. Abboud and his company for obtaining this for the school.*

F16. Transfer of Current Year Surplus to Reserve

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:212 and N.J.S.A. 18A:7G13 permit a Board of Education to establish and/or deposit into certain reserve accounts at year end, and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned statutes authorize procedures, under the authority of the

Commissioner of Education, which permits a Board of Education to transfer anticipated excess current revenue or unexpended appropriations into reserve accounts during the month of June by Board resolution, and

WHEREAS, the Rochelle Park Board of Education wishes to deposit anticipated current year surplus into a Capital Reserve account at year end, subject to the verification upon completion of the Audit, and

WHEREAS, the Rochelle Park Board of Education will not exceed the maximum allowable amount defined by the district's Long-Range Facility Plan to be transferred to the Capital Reserve Account; and

WHEREAS, the Rochelle Park Board of Education wishes to deposit the first \$250,000.00 as tax relief for the 2020/2021 budget year, then transfer the remaining monies above the excess of the 2% cap in surplus into the Capital Reserve account.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Rochelle Park Board of Education, that it hereby authorizes the district's School Business Administrator to make this transfer consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

F1-F16

Motion Mr. Kral Second Mr. Abboud

Roll Call 6-0

Motion carried

#### **IX. Public Comment (Agenda and non-agenda items)**

The Board of Education reserves the right to hold public comment on agenda and non-agenda items, at its discretion, at its regular monthly public meetings. Public comment will be limited to three minutes per person not to exceed 30 minutes. Citizens should give their name and address when recognized to speak.

No one chose to speak

#### **X. Announcements**

A Special Meeting will be held on June 9, 2020 at 6:00 PM. The next Regular Meeting will be held on June 23, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. in the Library/Media Center. Both meetings will be virtual based on the executive order of the Governor in accordance with Chapter 231, P.L. 1975".

#### **XI. Executive Session (if needed)**

Be it resolved that the Rochelle Park Board of Education will convene in Executive Session to Discuss confidential personnel matters.

Motion Mr. Kral, Second Mr. Sorrentino to open at 6:30 P.M.

Roll Call 6-0

Motion Carried

Motion Mr. Kral, Second Mr. Abboud to close at 8:13 P.M

Roll Call 6-0

Motion Carried

#### **XII. Adjournment**

Motion Mr. Abboud, Second Mr. Kral 8:15 P.M.

Roll Call 6-0

Motion Carried