

**ROCKAWAY BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION
ROCKAWAY, NEW JERSEY
THOMAS JEFFERSON SCHOOL
WORK SESSION MEETING
MAY 12, 2009**

I. Call to Order and Flag Salute

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m. by Board President, Eileen Haynes.

II. Notice of Announcement

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the Rockaway Borough Board of Education has provided adequate written notice of the time, date and place of this meeting to the Daily Record and The Citizen.

III. Roll Call

Board Members Present: Laura Lugo, Debra McNally, Vice-President, Ruben Fuentes and Board President, Eileen Haynes.

Board Members Absent: Paul Oster

Administration Present: Superintendent of Schools, Emil J. Suarez, Thomas Jefferson School Principal, Patrick Tierney and Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Joseph P. Hurley Jr.

IV. Auditor Interview

Vincent Montanino of VM Associates, Inc. discussed his credentials, clients and Rockaway Borough Board of Education's past audits.

Ms. McNally asked why does a district such as Educational Services Commission, who has a larger budget, get charged less for their audit. Mr. Montanino said that the largest reason is because they have two main sources of income, transportation and tuition. Rockaway Borough gets their funding from taxes and grants.

Mr. Montanino said he is in district for 3-4 days for the audit and spends a day in district in November, when he reviews the State reports due at that time.

Ms. Haynes asked if there is anything the Board can do to lower price. Mr. Montanino said that Mr. Hurley could prepare the CAFR. Mr. Hurley agreed and will meet with Mr. Montanino to discuss the procedures.

V. Comments from the Public

None.

VI. Discussion

1. Board and District Goals – Mr. Suarez discussed some Board and District Goals.

2. Residency – Mr. Suarez reviewed the process of re-registration. The Board wants to continue.

3. Long Range Facilities Plan – Mr. Suarez showed the tentative addition plans that were created to house the students.

Carol Rodgers asked when the addition would begin if the Board was to do it. Ms. McNally said the Facilities Review Committee is researching alternative and when they are done, they will provide the information to the Board. Mr. Suarez said we should know by the end of the year.

4. Additional Classroom – The Board discussed the options distributed by Mr. Suarez.

Ms. Gabarini asked how many students are currently in first grade. Ms. Haynes said 55.

Ms. Betty Golden told the Board that first grade population increased by 12 in 05-06, by 14 in 06-07 and 19 in 07-08. She thinks we need an additional first grade.

Ms. Champagne said that there was always an additional aide in her daughter's classroom, but there was no one there to help her. She does not like the idea of having the third grade in the modular.

Ms. Kawiecki asked if the district could do an “art on a cart” program and turn the art room into a classroom. Mr. Suarez said we could not use the room because it is too small to house a class.

Ms. Champagne asked if the teacher’s lounge could be made into a classroom and the lounge be moved into the modular. Mr. Suarez said the room is too small.

Ms. Munoz asked if we can combine the Lincoln and the Thomas Jefferson Library. Mr. Suarez will look into this.

Ms. Haynes likes the idea of moving the preschool and one kindergarten class into the modular. The rest of the Board agreed. This will cost \$37,200.

Ms. Haynes asked Mr. Hurley if there was money available for the installation of a bathroom into the modular. Mr. Hurley said that there is \$50,000 in the 09-10 budget for fire door replacement at the Lincoln School. Mr. Hurley told the Board that the State Fire Marshal wants the fire doors replaced as soon as possible.

5. Stimulus Money – Mr. Suarez discussed.
6. Regulations – Mr. Suarez discussed the following policies with the Board:
Immunizations
Lockdown Procedures
Harassment
Special Education
Mr. Suarez pointed out that he reviewed the policies with the appropriate staff as well.
7. NJQSAC – Mr. Suarez reviewed the committee members with the Board.
8. Non-association Salaries – Mr. Suarez discussed the non-association staff and suggested the Board give them a smaller raise prior to the conclusion of negotiations since they are the lowest paid. The Board agreed.
9. Pre-K Inclusion Extended School Year Program – Mr. Suarez suggested \$200 - \$250 per students. The Board wants to charge \$250.

VII. Resolutions

1. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve the attached list of contract renewals for the following employees for the 2009-2010 school year.

The motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote. (Lugo/Fuentes)

2. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve a Child Study Team request for Jeanette Murphy to provide 3 hours per week of home ABA instruction for student #86 at a rate of \$50 per hour effective 5/11/09 for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year.

The motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote. (Lugo/Fuentes)

3. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve a Child Study Team request for student #7 to attend the Calais School effective 5/5/09 through the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year at a per diem rate of \$218.36 for a full day and \$109.18 for a half-day. Transportation to be provided through Educational Services Commission at a rate of \$60/day.

The motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote. (Lugo/Fuentes)

4. Be it resolved by the Rockaway Borough Board of Education to approve the attached list of field trips.

The motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote. (Lugo/Fuentes)

VIII. Recommendations

1. Recommend approval of the Board Secretary’s and Treasurer’s Report for April 2009.
2. Recommend approval of the Cafeteria Checking Report and Reconciliation Report for April 2009.

3. Recommend approval of the Board of Education minutes from the April 14, 2009 and April 28, 2009 meetings of the Rockaway Borough Board of Education.
4. Recommend approval of the following 2009-20010 summer hires and assignments. All teachers will receive one-hour of prep time per week for summer assignments. Final hourly rates for assignments will be adjusted accordingly at the completion of negotiations.

Name	Position	Hours per day	Days	Hourly Rate
Denise Glenn	Summer Enrichment	3	15	\$35.27
Jennifer Matschke	Summer Enrichment	3	15	\$35.27
Sharon Izzo	Summer Enrichment	3	15	\$35.27
Maryann Medore	Summer Enrichment	3	15	\$35.27
Susan Milite	Summer Enrichment	3	15	\$35.27
Bob Kamenetz	Extended School Yr. – TJ	3.5	30	\$35.27
Carol Coulther	Extended School Year - Lincoln	3.5	30	\$35.27
Mary Leslie	Extended School Yr. – Pre-K (Inclusion)	2.5	20	\$35.27
Betty Golden	Extended School Yr	2.5	4	\$35.27
Ceil Crum	PALS Program Extended School Year	3.5	25	\$35.27
Jeanette Murphy	PALS Program Extended School Year	3.5	5	\$35.27
Jeri Hurley	ESL Enrichment Program	4	10	\$35.27
Lisa Belluzzi	Behaviorist Therapist	TBD	30	\$35.27
Lisa Cangelosi	Speech Specialist	TBD	30	\$35.27
Sandy Patamia	Personal Bus Aide	1.75	30	
Marcy Rattay	Personal Bus Aide	2.5	30	\$14.00/hr
Karen Nedo	Shared Personal Aide	3.5	15	\$14.00/hr
Diane Miller	Shared Personal Aide	3.5	30	To be Determined
Kathryn O'Hara	Instructional Aide	3.5	30	\$14.00/hr
Robin Heins	Instructional Aide	2.5	30	To be Determined
Morgan Abrams	Shared Personal/Bus/Substitute Aide	3.0	24	\$14.00/hr
Elizabeth Milite	Instructional Aide	3.5	30	\$14.00/hr
Renee Willard	Shared Personal Aide	3.5	30	\$14.00/hr
Nico Huelsenbeck	Summer Custodial Assistant	7.5	6/22/09-8/30/09	\$9.25/hr
Michael Van Dyne	Summer Custodial Assistant	7.5	6/30/09-8/30/09	\$9.00/hr
Jeri Hurley	Summer Substitute Teacher	TBD	TBD	TBD
Jackie Dellavalle	Summer Substitute Teacher	TBD	TBD	TBD
Dan Riccio	Summer Substitute Teacher	TBD	TBD	TBD
Betty Golden	Summer Substitute Teacher	TBD	TBD	TBD
Russ Grueter	Summer Substitute Teacher	TBD	TBD	TBD
Monica Koerner	Summer Substitute Teacher	TBD	TBD	TBD
Jane Perry	Summer Substitute Aide	TBD	TBD	TBD

5. Recommend approval of Sara Fuentes as a summer instructional aide for 3.5 hours per day for thirty days at a rate of \$14.00 per hour.
6. Recommend approval to enter into an agreement with Educational Services Commission of Morris County to provide Non Public Nursing Services for the 2009-2010 school year.
7. Recommend approval to submit the 2008-2009 REBEL2 Grant to the Willow Tree Center for grant period 9/2/08 – 6/12/09.
8. Recommend approval to accept \$1,000 from the REBEL2 Grant.
9. Recommend approval to enter into a contract with Honeywell Building Solutions to provide monitoring of the heating system for the 2009 – 2010 school year. The cost is \$2,647.

10. WHEREAS, the Alliance For Competitive Energy Services (hereinafter referred to as “ACES”), an alliance composed of the New Jersey School Boards Association (hereinafter referred to as “NJSBA”), the New Jersey Association of School Administrators, and the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials, will from time to time during the Effective Period as defined below solicit bids from natural gas suppliers for retail natural gas supply services including interstate transportation to the local natural gas distribution utility company (Natural Gas Supply Services) through an energy aggregation program in which NJSBA will act as Lead Agency of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System #E8801-ACESCPS in accordance with the “Public School Contracts Law”, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 *et seq.*, and the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act, N.J.S.A. 48:3-49 *et seq.* (“EDECA”) and the regulations promulgated thereunder; and

WHEREAS, the Rockaway Borough Board of Education is a participating member of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System and is eligible thereby to obtain Natural Gas Supply Services for its own use through one or more contracts to be awarded to natural gas suppliers following said bids for Natural Gas Supply Services pursuant to the aggregation program; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency will from time to time during the Effective Period from May 2009 through May, 2011, hereinafter referred to as “Effective Period”, issue one or more Requests for Bids for Natural Gas Supply Services on behalf of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System pursuant to the Public School Contracts Law and EDECA; and

WHEREAS, due to significant volatility and the potential for price increases in the wholesale natural gas market, Participating Members will preauthorize the Lead Agency to award contracts for Natural Gas Supply Service for no more than two years at a time in each service territory to one or more natural gas suppliers that submit bids which are reasonably forecasted to provide estimated savings to the Participating Member based upon its previous natural gas usage and utility provided Basic Gas Supply Service rates; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency will only award contracts for said Natural Gas Supply Services to natural gas suppliers that submit bids with pricing reasonably estimated to be lower than the utility-provided basic gas supply service; and

WHEREAS, the District agrees to purchase all Natural Gas Supply Services for its own use during the Effective Period through any natural gas supplier(s) awarded a contract, it being understood that the term of any one contract shall not exceed two-years;

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency will notify the Department of Community Affairs’ Division of Local Government Services by mail prior to the issuance a Request for Bids for Natural Gas Supply Services, with the understanding that if the Division of Local Government Services does not respond within 10 business days, it will be deemed to have approved the issuance of the Request for Bids or the Request for Rebids.

NOW, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the District binds itself to the ACES Cooperative Pricing System ##E8801-ACESCPS to purchase all Natural Gas Supply Services needed for its own use during the Effective Period from the natural gas supplier or suppliers awarded a contract for Natural Gas Supply Services by the Lead Agency; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lead Agency of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System is hereby authorized to execute a master performance agreement that obligates the district to purchase Natural Gas Supply Services at the terms and conditions stated therein with a third-party supplier or suppliers who have been awarded the contract or contracts by the Lead Agency on behalf of the participating members of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System #E8801-ACESCPS (or any CPS number to be assigned in the future), provided that no single contract shall have a term exceeding two years, and provided further that all such contracts shall be at prices reasonably forecast and estimated by the Lead Agency to provide savings to the Districts relative to the price charged for basic gas supply service by the natural gas public utility that would otherwise provide such service; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that ACES is authorized to continue to bid to obtain Natural Gas Supply Services at any time during the Effective Period on behalf of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System including, for example, a rebid if energy market conditions do not initially lead to a successful bid, on additional dates to be determined by the Lead Agency; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage. The authorization provided to the NJSBA pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Laws (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5)), and the Local Public and Public School Contracts Laws Administrative Code (N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.1 *et seq.*) shall be valid until May, 2011 (the Effective Period) at which time the

Cooperative Pricing System will be subject to renewal. Any rescission of this resolution shall not affect any Natural Gas Supply Services contract entered into prior to such rescission.

IX. Information

1. County Superintendent's Regionalization Committee – May 14, 2009 at 6:30pm in the Morris Knolls High School/Board of Education Conference Room.
2. Facilities Review Committee – Mr. Fuentes and Ms. McNally reviewed the committee's progress.
3. We have been notified by the Department of Education that our Special Education Program continues to meet all requirements as per the state required data review.
4. High Honor Roll – The Thomas Jefferson High Honor Roll students will attend the May 19th meeting.
5. Kellen Chapin, district architect, will be attending the May 19th meeting to discuss the Long Range Facilities Plan.
6. Laura Newman, Ceil Crum and Lisa Belluzzi will be attending the May 19th meeting to do a brief presentation on the PALS program
7. Principals Reports – Mr. Suarez discussed the events that took place in April.

X. Comments from the Public

Carol Coulther asked if the teachers could get additional prep time over the summer. She asked for 30 minutes. They are currently receiving 12 minutes.

XI. Executive Session

The next topic on the agenda relates to litigation which constitutes an exception to the Open Public Meetings Act.

Therefore, the Board is permitted to have a private discussion and I will entertain a motion in that regard:

I move that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter, the nature of which will be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists. At the conclusion of this discussion, the Board may reconvene in public session and action may be taken.

The motion was approved at 9:44pm in a unanimous roll call vote. (McNally/Fuentes)

XII. Open Session

A motion was approved to return to open session at 9:51 p.m. (Fuentes/McNally)

XIII. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, a motion was approved at 9:52 p.m. to adjourn for the evening.

The motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote. (Fuentes/McNally)

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph P. Hurley Jr.
Business Administrator/Board Secretary