ROSLYN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT Meeting of the Board of Education

Thursday, February 15, 2024

7:00 P.M.

Administration Building – Boardroom

MINUTES

Meryl W. Ben-Levy, President David Dubner Alison Gilbert Robert Koonin Leigh Minsky

ALSO PRESENT

Allison Brown Superintendent

Michael Goldspiel Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education Karina Báez Assistant Superintendent for Primary Education

Susan Warren Assistant Superintendent for Business and Administration

Nancy Carney Jones District Clerk
Blake Sohmer Student Delegate

ABSENT

Michael Levine, Vice President David Seinfeld

Ms. Ben-Levy called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

7:00 p.m. - Board of Education Meeting

Preliminary Announcements Emergency Procedures Cell Phones

Pledge of Allegiance

Recognition:

Regeneron 2024 Semi-Finalists Scholars- Jacob Gross, Cayden Shen, and Shayla Zheng
Regeneron 2024 Finalist - Jacob Gross
Valedictorian – Jacob Gross
Salutatorian – Cole Goodman

Jacob Gross was unable to attend this evenings meeting and he will be invited to attend the March meeting.

Regeneron Science Talent Search Scholars

Dr. Allyson Wesley, Research Coordinator, introduced the following students who are the Regeneron Science Talent Search 2024 Scholars. Cayden Shen and Shayla Zheng are among three hundred (300) students from across the United States chosen to be Scholars. The students presented a synopsis on their projects.

- Cayden Shen "Using an Inexpensive Night Vision Camera as a Detector in NIR Spectroscopy"
- Shayla Zhen "Fusion Confusion: Cell Fusion as a Novel Mechanism Behind JQ1 Resistance in Triple-Negative Breast Cancer".

On behalf of the Board of Education, Ms. Ben-Levy presented the students with a Certificates of Recognition for their outstanding achievements.

Salutatorian

Dr. Scott Andrews, Principal, Roslyn High School introduced Cole Goodman this year's Salutatorian. "Mr. Goodman earned a grade-point average of 106.685. He is a National Merit Finalist, a United States Presidential Scholars Program candidate, and an AP Scholar with Distinction. He is president of DECA, president of the Forensics Team, and president of the Stock Market Club. Cole is a dedicated and active member of the community. He volunteers his time to supporting school wide events. Additionally, he volunteers for Audubon New York and tutors students through his charitable organization Learn to Donate, which donates all proceeds to causes such as: The Humane Society, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, and 333 Charity. Outside of school, Cole works as a personal trainer and marketing manager for BOUT Boxing."

Mr. Goodman expressed his appreciation for the education he has received from the Roslyn School District.

On behalf of the Board of Education, Ms. Ben-Levy presented Mr. Goodman with a Certificate of Recognition for his outstanding achievements.

Recommendation to accept the Treasurer's Report for December 2023 (Attachment T.1)

Ms. Ben-Levy moved, seconded by Mr. Minsky carried by a vote of 5-0, (Messrs. Levine and Seinfeld absent) to accept the Treasurer's Report for December 2023.

Ms. Ware, Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's report. She announced we are in the process of changing our bank from Capital One to Webster Bank. The current interest rates have been beneficial to the District and School lunch continues to be positive.

Recommendation to accept the Claims Auditor's Report for January 2024

Ms. Ben-Levy moved, seconded by Mr. Minsky carried by a vote of 5-0, (Messrs. Levine and Seinfeld absent), to accept the Claims Auditor's Reports for January 2024.

Recommendation to accept the Claims Auditor's Quarterly Reports for October, November and December 2023

Ms. Ben-Levy moved, seconded by Mr. Minsky carried by a vote of 5-0, (Messrs. Levine and Seinfeld absent) to accept the Quarterly Reports for October – December 2023.

Shari Diamond, Partner, and Ray Morris, Cerini & Associates, LLP presented an overview of the Claims Audit report the second quarter of the school year, October to December 2023.

The auditors reviewed 1,247 claims from the second quarter from the General, Custodial (Trust & Agency), School Lunch, Federal, and Capital Funds payments. These quarters showed an overall incident percentage of .16%, which included two (2) confirming purchase orders – signed by the district.

Ms. Diamond reiterated the excellent communication the auditors have with the District which maintains the high level of internal controls.

Recommendation to accept the minutes from the following meeting: January 25, 2024

Ms. Ben-Levy moved, seconded by Mr. Koonin, carried by a vote of 5-0, (Messrs. Levine and Seinfeld absent), to accept the minutes for January 25, 2024.

Board President's Comments

Ms. Ben-Levy remarks this evening expressed her frustration with the State of New York in regard to the State's current proposed budget and the lack of state aid for education. She stated that "the State of New York has determined that education is not its number one priority." On behalf of the Board of Education, Ms. Ben-Levy, Ms. Brown, Ms. Warren and Mr. Joyce have spoken with members of the state legislator; Senator Martins, State Assemblypersons Levine and Silitti in regard to what is going

on in Albany. One of Ms. Ben-Levy's major concerns is the proposal to eliminate the Hold Harmless formula for state aid. Her hope is "that the State of New York get it priorities straight as our children are our future!".

Superintendent's Comments

Ms. Brown thanked Ms. Ben-Levy for speaking with the local politicians and voicing her demands for increased State Aid from the State of New York for the children of Roslyn.

Ms. Brown expressed how proud she is of the students that were recognized at this evening's meeting and how proud she is to be the Superintendent of this district. She also announced the Boys Varsity Basketball team won their game this evening and will be playing Jericho in the Quarterfinals.

Student Delegate's Comments

Mr. Sohmer outlined the events at the High School.

- February 3 Annual Benefit Charity Show proceeds from this evening were donated to the Drew Hassenbein Foundation.
- February 7 The Valedictorian, Jacob Gross and Salutatorian, Cole Goodman were announced.
- February 8 National Honor Society Induction Ceremony 171 students were inducted.
- February 9 The Asian Cultural Exchange celebrated their Annual Lunar New Year festival. There was a great turnout.
- February 11 Five students competed in the Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (JSHS). Three students became finalist, Cayden Shen, Shayla Zhen and Tessla Chen. They will be competing at York College on Saturday, February 17th in the finals.
- February 15 Varsity Boys Basketball beat Great Neck North
- February 16 Varsity Girls Basketball Team are in the playoffs at East Meadow

Ms. Ben-Levy extended an invitation to the Members of the Board to attend the Middle School Spotlight performance on March 7 - 9.

Discussion Item:

2024-2025 Draft Budget

Ms. Warren, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Administration presented a PowerPoint presentation *Superintendent's 2024-2025 #2 Proposed Draft Budget Presentation.*

Ms. Warren outlined the challenges and reduction in State Aid and how Governor Hochul's current budget has adverse effects on the District. In the current state budget the district's Foundation Aid is expected to be an increase of only \$255,548. The State aid is further reduced as the State has allocated \$864,525 of the district's aid as funding for Pre-K. The district is only a pass through for that money as the

money is used to pay the Pre-K provider and the money can only be used for Pre-K. In addition, the District has also lost Federal Stimulus Funds.

Ms. Warren explained that to reduce the budget Central Administration made the following decisions:

- To delay the purchase of items that are not critical to our program at this time.
- Lower the transfer to capital line
- Lower the money allocated for equipment and furniture

Another reduction to the budget was aided by the number of retirement's district wide.

On January 25 the proposed budget-to-budget increase was 4.45% as of February 15 the new proposed budget has been reduced to 4.02%.

As of February 15 - The proposed budget is \$ 132 602,170

Budget-to-Budget \$ 5,127,365 - 4.02% increase

Proposed Levy 24-25 \$ 106,861,040

Levy-to-Levy \$ 3,116,209 - 3.0% tax levy

The Board of Education entered into a lengthy discussion in regard to the budget.

PUBLIC COMMENT Limited to Agenda Items ONLY

(Will be limited to ½ hour, no more than 2 minutes per speaker. One speaker per topic).

Though not required by law, the Roslyn Board of Education invites public comment during its meetings. Please fill out an index card with your name, address and comment topic. Citizens will be recognized by the presiding officer. Please direct all comments to the Board. This is not a time for citizen-to-citizen exchanges. We ask that comments not include the names of students or staff members, and comments are not permitted with respect to confidential matters. Please also be reminded that Board meetings are designed by law to facilitate the school district's business and provide for public Board deliberations. Thank you

No public comment.

Ms. Ben-Levy made a motion to move the agenda as a consent agenda.

Ms. Ben-Levy moved, Mr. Koonin seconded and carried by a vote of 5-0, (Messrs. Levine and Seinfeld absent) to move the agenda as a consent agenda.

Ms. Ben-Levy moved, Mr. Dubner seconded and carried by a vote of 5-0, (Messrs. Levine and Seinfeld absent) to adopt the consent agenda.

ACTION ITEMS

Action may be taken for each individual resolution or by the titled subgroups. Bracketed information following resolutions is not part of the Board's official action and does not become part of the official record.

PERSONNEL:

ALL PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS LISTED ARE FUNDED IN THE CURRENT BUDGET UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

P.1. It is the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the following

resolution be adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Roslyn Board of Education approves the appointments, resignations, terminations, elimination of positions, transfers, and leaves of absence as detailed in the Personnel Action Reports attached as **(Attachment P.1 Professional)**

P.2. It is the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Roslyn Board of Education approves the appointments, resignations, terminations, elimination of positions, transfers, and leaves of absence as detailed in the Personnel Action Reports attached as **(Attachment P.2 Classified)**

- **P.3. BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education hereby approves the salary increase for a non-affiliated staff member known to the Board of Education, effective February 16, 2024.
- **P.4. BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Roslyn Union Free School District herewith approves the amended 2023-2024 Salary Benefits Agreement for Michael Betts and authorizes the Board President to execute the same on behalf of the Board of Education.
- P.5. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby appoints Edward Joyce as the District Purchasing Agent effective February 27, 2024 through June 30, 2024 at the annual rate of \$25,000, said amount to be prorated for the period of February 27, 2024 through June 30, 2024; and that in his absence, Susan Warren shall be responsible for the purchasing functions, including the signing of purchase orders for the District.
- **P.6. BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Roslyn Union Free School District herewith approves the amended 2023-2024 Salary Benefits Agreement for Edward Joyce and authorizes the Board President to execute the same on behalf of the Board of Education.

BUSINESS/FINANCE:

ALL ITEMS ON THE BUSINESS/FINANCE PORTION OF THE AGENDA ARE WITHIN THE BUDGET UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED

B.1. Recommendation to approve the following contracts and to authorize the Board of Education President to execute (those contracts marked with an asterisk have been prepared pursuant to a previous award of an RFP or bid):

(i) Contractor: Great Neck Public Schools

Services: Health and Welfare Services for 20 students attending out of

district schools for the 2023-24 school year.

Fees: \$1,136.71 per student

Total estimated to be \$22,734.20

(ii) Contractor: Mineola Union Free School District

Services: Health and Welfare Services for 27 students attending out of

district schools for the 2023-24 school year

Fees: \$1,073.00 per student

Total estimated to be \$28,971.00

(iii) Contractor: Smithtown Central School District

Services: Health and Welfare Services for 1 student attending out of

district schools for the 2023-24 school year

Fees: \$1,297.24 per student

Total estimated to be \$1,297.24

- **B.2.** Recommendation to approve Capital Budget Appropriation Transfers as per attached. (Attachment B.2.)
- **B.3.** Recommendation to approve **2023-24** general fund appropriation requests:

FROM BUDGET CODE 2855-156-08-6800-309 2855-156-09-6800-309	COACH STIPENDS - HS COACH STIPENDS - MS Subtotal	AMOUNT \$52,443.00 \$15,959.00 \$68,402.00
TO BUDGET CODE 2855-429-08-6800-309 2855-429-09-6800-309	INTER-SCH UNIFORMS HS INTER-SCH UNIFORMS HS Subtotal	AMOUNT \$58,402.00 \$10,000.00 \$68,402.00

REASON FOR TRANSFER REQUEST: To cover the cost of additional athletic uniforms.

B.4. Recommendation to approve **2023-24** general fund appropriation requests:

FROM BUDGET CODE 2110-433-09-9000-901	TCHG MEMB DUES MS Subtotal	AMOUNT \$7,959.00 \$7,959.00
TO BUDGET CODE 2630-490-03-9000-311	BOCES COMP SVCES DW Subtotal	AMOUNT \$7,959.00 \$7.959.00

REASON FOR TRANSFER REQUEST: To cover the cost of program licensing fees contracted for through BOCES, allowing us to receive aid on the expense.

B.5. Recommendation to approve **2023-24** general fund appropriation requests:

FROM BUDGET CODE		<u>AMOUNT</u>
2250-430-03-9000-307	SP ED CONTRACT SVCES	\$30,000.00

 Subtotal
 \$30,000.00

 TO BUDGET CODE
 AMOUNT

 2250-472-03-9000-307
 PRIVATE SCH TUITION
 \$30,000.00

 Subtotal
 \$30,000.00

REASON FOR TRANSFER REQUEST: To cover tuition costs for students attending private school.

B.6. Recommendation to approve **2023-24** general fund appropriation requests:

FROM BUDGET CODE 9060-800-03-9000-303	MEDICAL INS ADM Subtotal	<u>AMOUNT</u> \$4,700.00 \$4,700.00
TO BUDGET CODE 1620-421-03-9000-310	CARTING - DIST Subtotal	AMOUNT \$4,700.00 \$4,700.00

REASON FOR TRANSFER REQUEST: To cover waste removal invoices District-wide.

B.7. Recommendation to approve **2023-24** general fund appropriation requests:

FROM BUDGET CODE 2850-450-08-6500-801	Marching Band Supplies HS Subtotal	AMOUNT \$1,728.97 \$1,728.97
TO BUDGET CODE 2850-448-08-6500-801	FIELD TRIP EXP- M BAND Subtotal	AMOUNT \$1,728.97 \$1,728.97

REASON FOR TRANSFER REQUEST: To supplement the cost of busing for an upcoming Winter Guard trip.

- **B.8.** Recommendation to approve a payment in the amount of \$41,415.91, to Ingerman Smith, L.L.P. for legal services rendered to the district for the period ending 11/30/2023.
- **B.9.** Recommendation to approve a payment in the amount of \$31,166.95, to Ingerman Smith, L.L.P. for legal services rendered to the district for the period ending 12/31/2023.
- **B.10.** Recommendation to approve the following payment(s) to BBS Architects for professional services rendered to the district and reimbursable expenses pertaining to capital improvements at the locations indicated in the table below. [Funds will be deducted from the Capital Budget Codes indicated in the table

below.]

Payment	Location/ Project	Budget	PO #S	Inv#
\$54.00	HH Reimbursables	2110-245-07-24OT	H24-00071	R00003

- **B.11. BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Roslyn Union Free School District hereby approves the Agreement with Adventureland for the 8th grade field trip being hosted by the PFA.
 - **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the necessary document to effectuate said Agreement on behalf of the Board of Education subject to approval by counsel.
- **B.12.** Recommendation that, pursuant to receipt of a gift in the amount of \$5,688.00, the Board of Education hereby accepts the gift, and hereby establishes the Seth Zuckerman Memorial Scholarship to be accounted for in the CM Fund. The Senior Awards Committee will make the selection each year based on the following criteria:
 - Either (1) or (2) seniors enrolled in BOCES and/or pursuing an interest in a vocational program
 - Passion for computers/technology, intending to work in IT, and/or excels in building machines or tools
 - Not academic-based
 - \$1,000.00 award (1 student); \$500.00 award each (2 students)
- **B.13.** Extraclassroom Activity Treasurer Reports (Attachment B.13.)
 High School, December 2023
 Middle School, December 2023
- **B.14.** Recommendation by Craig Johanson, Middle School Principal, to declare as obsolete the attached item which is inoperable, cannot be repaired, and is no longer in use in the district. It is recommended that it either be discarded or sold as scrap as is deemed appropriate. (Attachment B.14.)

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION:

- **C&I.1** Recommendation to accept the confidential stipulations of the CPSE for the dates listed below as well as the implementation plans for the corresponding special education programs, services and parent notification as previously approved by the Committee on January 16, 18, 19, 22 and 24, 2024.
- **C&I.2** Recommendation to accept the confidential stipulations of the CSE for the dates listed below as well as the implementation plans for the corresponding special education programs, services and parent notification as previously approved by the Committee on November 14, 2023, December 21. 2023, January 4, 10, 16, 19, 25 and 29, 2024.

- C&I.3 Recommendation to approve Patricia Frohnhofer to attend the New York State Teacher Center Spring Symposium in Albany, New York from March 5, 2024 through March 6, 2024 at an estimated cost not to exceed \$436.00. (Cost of the trip will be paid through Roslyn's Laura Adler Teacher Center Grant).
- C&I.4 Recommendation to approve Cynthia Younker to attend the National School Public Relations Association Conference in Seattle, Washington from July 13, 2024 through July 18, 2024 at an estimated cost to the district not to exceed \$3.989.99.
- **C&I.5** Recommendation for the Board of Education to authorize the Board President to execute an Instructional Services Contract with Nassau BOCES for the Regional Summer School High School Program as outlined in the agreement from July 1, 2024 through August 31, 2024.
- C&I.6 Recommendation to approve 1 Chaperone and 1 student to attend the Regeneron STS Finals in Washington DC from March 11, 2024 through March 13, 2024 at an estimated cost to the district not to exceed \$1,931.00. (All fees for the student are covered by the Regeneron Competition).
- C&I.7 Recommendation to approve 1 Chaperone and 4 students to attend the Eastern Psychological Association Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from March 1, 2024 through March 2, 2024 at a cost to the district not to exceed \$1,941.00.
- **C&I.8** Recommendation to approve 3 Advisors and 18 students to attend the Science Olympiad State Tournament in Syracuse, New York from March 15, 2024 through March 17, 2024 at an estimated cost to the district not to exceed \$5,453.00. [Total cost of trip is not to exceed \$12,430.00; student contribution \$6,978.00; District contribution is not to exceed \$5,453.00].
- C&I.9 Recommendation to approve 1 Advisor, 2 Chaperones and 16 students to attend the DECA ICDC Conference in Anaheim, California from April 26, 2024 through May 1, 2024 at an estimated cost to the district not to exceed \$37,545.00. [Total cost of the trip is not to exceed \$61,755.00; student contribution is \$24,210.00; district contribution is not to exceed \$37.545.00].

BOARD OF EDUCATION:

- **BOE.1** Recommendation to conduct the *Second reading* of Board of Education Policy 9550 - Expression of Breast Milk in the Workplace. (Attachment BOE.1)
- BOE.2 Recommendation to conduct the second reading of the revised Board of Education Policy 2530 - Membership in School Board and School District Associations (Attachment BOE.2)
- **BOE.3 BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the Roslyn Public Schools

hereby abolish the following policies:

2530 Membership in School Board and School District Associations

And hereby adopts the following policies:

2530 Membership in School Board and School District Associations 9550 Expression of Breast Milk in the Workplace

BOE.4 WHEREAS, the Board of Education has reviewed Policy 6700 (Purchasing) and have determined that said policy requires revision:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education wishes to adopt the following revised policy: Policy 6700 (Purchasing) and implement those changes contained therein effective immediately; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby suspends Policy 2510 (Formulation, Adoption and Amendment of Policies) for the purpose of adopting the following revised policy: Policy 6700 (Purchasing) and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby adopts Revised Policy 6700 (Purchasing) effective immediately. **(Attachment BOE.4)**

- **BOE.5** Recommendation that Ruth Quintero be designated as Assistant to the District Clerk and Translator at a rate of \$24.57 per hour for up to 11 hours for the for the May 21, 2024 budget vote.
- **BOE.6** Recommendation that Rodney Benson be designated as Chief Election Inspector at a rate of \$18.00 per hour for the 2023-2024 school year:
- **BOE.7** Recommendation that the District Election Clerks and Inspectors of Election be paid at a rate of \$16.00 per hour for the 2024 school year for the Annual Meeting, Budget Vote and Election of Trustees. The Board also authorizes the District Clerk to hire additional workers as needed.
- **BOE.8** BE IT RESOLVED, that Ruth Quintero is appointed as acting District Clerk for the May 21, 2024 Annual Budget Vote and Election in the event the District Clerk is unable to perform the duties of her position at a compensation to be determined.
- **BOE.9** Recommendation to approve Meryl Waxman Ben-Levy and Alison Gilbert to attend the 2024 Annual School Law Conference presented by the Education Law Committees of the Suffolk County and Nassau County Bar Associations to be held on March 22, 2024 at a cost not to exceed \$500.00.
- BOE.10 BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby nominates: Susan Bergtraum and Martin R. Kaye for the Nassau BOCES Board effective July 1, 2024 for a three (3) year term.

BOE.11 WHEREAS, on May 20, 2014, a majority of the qualified voters of the Roslyn Union Free School District, in the County of Nassau, New York (the "District") present and voting at the Annual District Meeting and Election duly called and held on May 20, 2014, approved a bond proposition that authorized the District to (i) expend up to \$41,302,303 in connection with the construction of facility improvements and alterations at various District buildings and sites (the "Project"), (ii) spend up to \$4,000,000 in District funds on-hand to pay a portion of the cost of said Project, (iii) issue not to exceed \$37,302,303 in bonds to finance the balance of the cost of said Project and (iv) use additional surplus funds to offset the amount of bonds issued to finance the Project; and

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2014, the Board of Education of the District adopted a bond resolution (the "Bond Resolution"), authorizing the issuance of \$37,302,303 in bonds to finance a part of the cost of the Project; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said Bond Resolution, the District issued its \$24,505,000 School District Serial Bonds – 2016 and \$3,945,000 School District Serial Bonds – 2017 (collectively, the "Bonds") to finance a part of the costs of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the District also used \$12,852,000 in District funds on-hand/surplus funds to pay the balance of the cost of the project; and

WHEREAS, following the settlement of ongoing litigation with one of the District's former general contractors for the project, District now has \$203,821.60 in available funds (consisting of \$182,297.35 in previously encumbered funds and \$21,524.25 in unencumbered funds after a \$320,000 settlement payment) that are attributable to the Project.

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ROSLYN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT, IN THE COUNTY OF NASSAU, NEW YORK, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Board of Education of the Roslyn Union Free School District, in the County of Nassau, New York (the "District"), hereby determines that the \$203,821.60 in available funds discussed in the recitals hereof is associated with the District's Project financed by the Bonds and that pursuant to applicable law hereby directs the transfer of said funds from the Capital Fund of the District to the Debt Service Fund of the District to be used to pay the principal of the outstanding Bonds issued to finance the Project.

Section 2. The Assistant Superintendent for Business and Administration and/or the District Treasurer are hereby authorized to take any and all other actions necessary in connection with the foregoing, and all matters related thereto.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Comments # 2

No comments.

Ms. Ben-Levy moved, seconded by Mr. Dubner carried by a vote of 5-0, (Messrs. Levine and Seinfeld absent), to accept the Personnel Agenda Items P.1 - P.6, Business/Finance Agenda Items B.1 - B.14, Curriculum and Instruction Agenda Items C&I.1 - C&I.9 and Board of Education Agenda Items BOE.1 - BOE.11, as a consent agenda.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, Ms. Ben-Levy moved, seconded by Mr. Koonin carried by a vote of 5-0, (Messrs. Levine and Seinfeld absent) to adjourn at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Carney Jones

Nancy Carney Jones

District Clerk