

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

**DATE**

February 11, 2021

**PRESENT BOARD MEMBERS**

Mr. Gesario  
Mr. Gorman  
Mrs. Murano  
Mrs. Savarese  
Mrs. Scaraggi

**MEETING**

*Virtual* Business Meeting

**ABSENT**

**TIME**

7:30PM

**ADJOURNED**

8:41 PM

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Ms. Somers  
Mr. Gibbs  
Administration  
Faculty Members  
Community Members  
*The Progress*

**PLACE**

***Lester C. Noecker School Via Cisco Webex Meeting***

**I. CALL TO ORDER – Board President**

**STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE - Open Public Meeting Act**

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, notice of this regular meeting has been properly advertised in the newspapers of record, the agenda has been posted at the appropriate locations, directions for public comment have been posted on the district website, and a copy has been filed with the Borough Clerk of Roseland.

This regular meeting is being held virtually due to the continued state of emergency as per Executive Order No. 186.

**ROLL CALL:** Mr. Gesario, Mr. Gorman, Mrs. Murano, Mrs. Savarese, and Mrs. Scaraggi -  
*All present.*

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

**II. FLAG SALUTE**

**III. BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT**

*Mr. Gorman thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He further stated that he received some compliments from parents on the school's scheduling. He further stated that there were some concerns about students watching screens instead of being in the classroom and that progress is being made in the distribution of the vaccine. Hopefully the students will be back to a normal schedule. Mr. Gorman noted that each district has its own unique challenges. The administration is monitoring the situation and we are looking forward to going back to a normal schedule. The health of the community is at the forefront.*

**IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- ~ ● Negotiations

*Mr. Gorman stated that the first meeting was very positive and a lot of groundwork has been covered. Both sides are working together in making the new contract positive for both sides of the virtual table.*

- Finance/Facilities
  - Borough Council Liaison
  - Demographer Report Update

*Mrs. Savarese stated that the Finance/Facilities Committee began with a review of the demographic study with the Demographer, Dr. Haber. We were joined by Mayor Spango, Ms. Chumacas, and Mr. Trillo who participated in the meeting. During the review of the demographer report, Mayor Spango stated that there were new developments in the town that were not factored into Dr. Haber's report. Much discussion occurred and it was determined that the report will be updated and will be presented at a future Board Meeting.*

*Mrs. Savarese further stated that Mr. Gibbs provided updates to the 2021-2022 Budget and that we are waiting for additional information from the State. The preliminary budget will be presented at the next Board Meeting.*

*Mrs. Savarese stated that the food service program has turned from an operating loss to a profit with the implementation of the breakfast program.*

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

*The new safety fence located on the baseball field has been completed and has been inspected by Mr. Colitti.*

*The Roseland Environmental Commission requested that we put up a Butterfly garden. We are currently discussing as to where the garden will go.*

- HSA Liaison

*Mrs. Murano reported that she was unable to attend the last meeting but did receive an update from Mrs. Sturchio. An announcement was made to purchase some signs that will be placed in the driveway to remind students to mask up which will help the staff as they are taking temperatures. The book fair will take place at the school outside, perhaps in May.*

- SEPAC Liaison

*Mrs. Scaraggi stated that since the last Board meeting, Ms. Somers and Dr. Celebre met with the SEPAC Board along with their representative to help build a strong SEPAC for the district's families and students. She is looking forward to future executive meetings towards all future goals.*

*She further stated that in New Business, SEPAC is having their second parent collaboration meeting next Thursday, February 18th at 7:30 pm and after the meeting they will be sharing a parent survey. They are also very excited to share their FaceBook page.*

**V. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT** - note: the following presentations are included on the 2.11 Board Presentation found on the district website

- **Teachers Update**

*Mrs. Leone shared a teacher's report for each grade. The teachers have provided information for each class to which Mrs. Leone put together a slide presentation. The following items were discussed:*

- *Kindergarten is learning all about dental health! They learned that the floss dance is not the same as flossing your teeth! Hahaha*
- *We are also celebrating Black History month and learned all about the gymnast Simone Biles! The kids were mesmerized by her jumps, flips and twists!*
- *The First Graders are all working on their Children Around the World Project! Soon, our hallway will be filled with dolls dressed in clothing from around the world. This aligns perfectly with our current Non-Fiction reading/writing unit!*

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

- *They also recently published an ALL About Book to show their expert topics!*
- *We're excited to celebrate the 100th day of school next week and our Valentines Party!*
- *We started the month by making our predictions on whether the Groundhog would see his shadow. We were pretty much split on our predictions and also split on whether we wanted more winter weather- half loving it and half longing for warmer weather!*
- *So far we have learned about some very important, brave black Americans like Ruby Bridges, Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman, and Martin Luther King Jr. and how they stood up for themselves in a peaceful way and brought about changes to help others.*
- *We have been learning about Abraham Lincoln's train ride to Washington DC when he became President. The children were amazed to learn that Abraham Lincoln would give speeches from the back of the train when he went from town to town.*
- *In addition, we've been learning how to make changes in math, how to keep track of longer books in reading and we are continuing with our opinion writing unit.*
- *As you can see, we've been busy as bees in second grade. We are so proud of all the hard work each of our second graders is doing. They are AMAZING children.*
- *Pre-K- Exploring different art materials and creating artworks inspired by books, the holidays, and seasons. We are also working on refining our fine motor skills.*
- *K-1st - Creating Silly Face Hearts artwork inspired by street artist/pop artist Chris Uphues.*
- *2nd - Creating Silly Cityscapes inspired by artists James Rizzi & Vincent Van Gogh.*
- *3rd - Finishing up our Ecosystem landscapes and creating Fantasy Jungles inspired by artist Henri Rousseau.*
- *4th - Learning about Graphic Design. Creating Illuminated Initials and entries for the Doodle 4 Google Contest (Theme - What does inner strength mean to you)*
- *5th & 6th - Learning about Graphic Design. Creating Radial Symmetry Name Mandalas and entries for the Doodle 4 Google Contest (Theme - What does inner strength mean to you)*
- *Third Grade in Math, the children are learning about shapes and their attributes, such as angles, parallel lines, and intersecting lines.*
- *In nonfiction reading, they are becoming familiar with Chapter titles and subtitles and understanding how to retrieve information. Main idea and supporting details is another important topic of study in this unit. They will create boxes and bullet charts in their notebooks and realize the importance of identifying strong details.*
- *Writing- When they are writing informational text, they are the teachers. They are using graphic organizers to make a plan and draft details. Students will create their topics using strong supporting details with ideas for elaboration. They are using transition words to keep their writing flowing.*

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

- *Social Studies--Students are enjoying our unit on Landmarks. They are learning about national landmarks, international, and are in process of creating their own community landmarks.*
- *Our morning activities continue with DOL and quick writes.*
- *4th grade is working on extreme weather research projects in reading, writing opinion essays on year round school, and learning about decimals in math!*
- *Our 5th graders writers finished up their 3rd 'writing goal' in nonfiction writing. They worked like essay writers to grow new ideas about important people in our society. Next, they will use revision to grow their writing through well crafted facts, support for those facts, and domain specific vocabulary.*
- *This will be the end of our Nonfiction Unit and we begin our Literary Essay Unit next week!*
- *The 5th grade math students just finished learning about the coordinate plane and analyzing data from a coordinate graph. Today we started working with adding and subtracting decimals moving toward money related word problems.*
- *In 5th grade SS, we will be learning about the American Revolution. In 5th grade Science, we just finished our investigation on mixtures and solutions. We are going to start our investigation on making models and states of matter tomorrow.*
- *My 6th graders have the artifact exhibit which they are creating their projects and recording a video.*
- *In 6th grade, we are learning about the three types of heat transfer- radiation, conduction and convection.*
- *The sixth-graders are researching non-fiction topics of their choice.*
- *We are learning about lie detector tests, black holes, the Manhattan Project, the secret service and so many more interesting topics.*
- *6th grade math students are becoming super savvy shoppers! We've been learning all about percents and how they apply to taxes, tips, discounts, etc... Lot's of real life examples and problem solving!*
- *Music classes (K-3) have been working on Jazz Music. We have been reading and singing books on Jazz (*This Jazz Man and Trombone Shorty*). We have also been using a Virtual Xylophone to play familiar nursery rhymes.*
- *I have posted in Seesaw the link for the Virtual Xylophone and some music for the children to play with at home. <https://playxylo.com/>*

*Ms. Somers' commented:*

*Thank you Mrs. Leone and all of our teachers for sharing your classrooms with us. We love the peeks into your classrooms and I can't help but note how normal it all feels and sounds! Thank you all for maintaining the Noecker Spirit regardless of this year's circumstances.*

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

• **Principal Updates**

*Mr. Sandoval stated:*

*Although academics are at the core of what we do, they are undoubtedly intertwined with the social and emotional needs of our students. This evening, I wanted to share how, in addition to academics, we are supporting all students.*

**Positive Learning Environment**

*First and foremost, it starts with our teachers and instructional aides establishing and maintaining a positive learning environment. Whether hybrid or remote, you consistently hear phrases such as “Great job!,” “I love it!,” “Great thinking!,” or “I like the way...” followed by a description of how the student arrived at an answer. You see the positive reaction of students after their teacher acknowledges and reaffirms their answer. Those interactions are a critical part of encouraging and motivating students.*

**Breaks**

*Teachers also provide students with breaks:*

- *Logging off of zoom and encouraging students to go out and play in the snow*
- *Shutting their cameras off while they work independently*
- *Logging off to get a snack and to stretch*
- *Allowing students to stand and move about freely*
- *Incorporating brain breaks such as Go Noodle, where students can engage their bodies*

**Grade Level and Department Meetings**

*There are ongoing conversations between grade level teams, departments and the administrative team to check in, problem solve and discuss instruction and scheduling.*

**School Counselor**

- *Works with teachers to schedule time for games, mindfulness, yoga during core classes to, again, provide much needed brain breaks*
- *Works one to one with students who need individualized support*
- *Works with small groups of students*
- *Conducts outreach to families who need mental health resources*
- *Works with School Climate Committee*

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

***The School Climate Team***

*Staff members across grade levels and departments that create many of the initiatives you have seen throughout the year:*

- *Morning Announcements*
- *Spread Peace Project*
- *Bulletin Boards*
- *Kindness Challenge*
- *SEL Activities*
- *Read Alouds*
- *Belonging and Connectedness*
- *Week of Respect*
- *Paper Doll Activity*
- *Themed Days*

***Intervention & Referral Services Committee***

*For those students who require additional help we also use the Intervention and Referral Services Committee as a resource to assist teachers with strategies for struggling students. We create action plans, communicate with families, and monitor progress throughout the year.*

***Noecker Cares***

*Also known as our student council:*

- *Student leadership opportunities for 6th graders*
- *Passion Projects*
- *School Spirit Days*
- *Fundraisers*
- *Initiatives*

***Partnerships***

*I would be remiss if I did not include the support of our partnerships, which serve to close the circle of our school community:*

- *HSA and Helping Hands*
- *Borough of Roseland and Mayor's Office, Council members*
- *Class Parents*
- *6th Grade Parent Committee*
- *Board of Education*

*In summary, it is truly a collaborative effort.*

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

• **Superintendent Updates**

*Ms. Somers' comments:*

*Thank you, Mr. Sandoval. I appreciate the focus on students' socio-emotional needs and your collaboration with staff, the HSA, Noecker Cares, the School Climate Team, and all the other community members. I am confident that the efforts to build connectedness and support for our students will continue.*

*Tonight I would like to begin by my comments by providing background regarding our recent closure. I do completely understand how "out of nowhere" and suddenly it feels when the e-blast comes. Nurse Noronha and I feel it, too, and this last one was exceptionally sudden with multiple unconnected confirmed positive cases within hours on a Sunday morning. Because these cases could not be easily identified and, given that the county was in the Orange or High Risk column of the regional risk matrix, a school closure was warranted. We work very closely with the East Hanover Department of Health and follow their recommendations to ensure we are doing everything possible to maintain a safe and healthy environment. Linked here and on our website's Reopening Page you can review their guidance document. While we were closed, we had two additional positive cases and as a result of all of these, the building will be investigated for possible in-school transmission. Our closing potentially stopped further transmission. I encourage everyone to utilize the LCN COVID-19 Dashboard for updates on our numbers of quarantining or positive, as well as any cohorts that may be quarantining. We notify cohorts as needed, but the information is updated for everyone weekly at minimum.*

*Fortunately there is light beginning to show at the end of the tunnel. The county has recently moved to the Yellow or Moderate Risk column of the regional risk matrix and local transmissions are trending downwards. While the NJ Department of Health has not yet issued its update, the CDC has just reported that those who have received the second vaccine will not need to quarantine. This will be a huge help to us at Noecker School. Vaccines will alleviate the stress our teachers are under even while the majority report feeling very safe at school and we recognize that schools are not super-spreading places. I do feel that teachers should be vaccinated and towards that goal, I, in collaboration with the Essex County Superintendents, signed a letter to Governor Murphy requesting prioritization for teachers for vaccines. I am thrilled that several of our teachers have already been vaccinated.*



**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

*We return to Step 2 of our reopening plan next week and are continually monitoring and planning for a move to Step 3. Step 3 will require further scheduling revisions which we know are a challenge for everyone, but we really do hope to do so safely at some point this school year depending upon community conditions. We have many factors to consider as our teachers' schedules are at capacity. Currently on our hybrid schedule we accommodate over 59 individual special education sections, remote cohorts at every grade level, and all regular programming and related services through a combination of in person and remote. Approximately 20% of our students are full-time remote and they have the same opportunities as their onsite peers with their own classes and assigned teachers. We have evaluated if any cohorts at any grade level could be combined to create space for additional instructional time, but it remains out of our reach due to social distancing guidelines. We recognize other districts are doing different things. Each district's schedule, instructional model, student population, and staffing are different. Each has its own limitations and unique challenges. We continue to seek opportunities to revise and improve our hybrid and remote models and thank our teachers and parents for continuing to share ideas and suggestions. To date we have added additional instructional time, revised special area schedules, tweaked hybrid scheduling, tweaked remote scheduling, revised delayed opening days, remained flexible, and plan for not only the rest of this school year, but are beginning to anticipate what next school year may bring.*

*In part due to our small, socially distanced cohorts, the majority of our teachers have reported that, in spite of the hybrid schedule, they remain on target with their curricular pacing. There are minimal distractions or disruptions in our current schedule, teachers and students are focused, and instructional time is utilized very efficiently. What we note most is just how much everyone appreciates the attention they are able to give and receive with the smaller class sizes. This has enabled pacing to remain on track, increase student teacher contact time, enable immediate formative assessment, and identify students who need additional support. Teachers have also continued their professional development and curriculum work when they can to refine units and ensure focus on key content and standards.*

*Our special areas, however, report not being on track which is a result of the full remote status of many of them. Our parents confirmed the challenges of remote specials in their first survey and it will be interesting to see if our tweaks have helped. The second parent survey opened yesterday and already there are over 100 responses! A quick review found fairly similar numbers so far with regards to scheduling and instruction. Many comments state what we all wish and that is that we were in school more and that this was all over. That we continue to receive top marks in health and safety means a great deal as this has been the driving goal for this school year. The survey results will be shared with the administrative team, teachers, and the School Climate Team so that we can continue to address the needs of the community where we are able. As Mr. Sandoval noted,*

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

*we continue to look for opportunities to support socio-emotional learning and connection as those areas were identified in both community and teacher surveys. We appreciate all of the feedback and thank everyone for their support during this surreal school year. It's hard to believe it's been almost a calendar year already!*

*Next month we will be sharing the Preliminary Budget which is looking reasonably positive so far thanks to Mr. Gibbs hard work last year in planning long-term for supporting district initiatives such as the continued development of our special education program. We await State Aid numbers at this point.*

*I think it is important to remind everyone to breathe deeply and remind yourself that you are doing a great job under extraordinary circumstances. None of this is easy and it is okay to feel any way that you do, but our relationships with each other are what matter most and the support we each give and receive matters. As Mother Theresa said, "We cannot all do great things, but we can do small things with great love." And with that I wish you a happy Valentine's day! Thank you!*

**VI. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY REPORT**

• **Business Office Updates**

*Mr. Gibbs stated that on this evening's agenda you will see an approval for the waiver of requirements for SEMI (Special Education Medicaid Initiative) as there are less than 40 students that would qualify.*

*Also, on this evening's agenda is the retroactive approval of the purchase of a Water Jetter. The Water Jetter is used to apply high pressure water through the school's sewers line to clear any debris that would be clogging the system. The Water Jetter should alleviate the need to hire a contractor to unclog the school's sewer lines in the future.*

*An update to the Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) is on the agenda for approval which will be implemented in the 2021-2022 Budget. The Long Range Facilities Plan is a fluid document based upon the district's needs.*

*The State has put a hold on the Security Grant that the Board approved at the December 8th, 2020 Board meeting. The amount of the grant is \$24,078.00 for the purchase of Security Cameras in accordance with the school's Long Range Facilities Plan. According to the State, the grant should be available sometime in, "early Spring".*

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

*The FEMA reimbursement for supplies needed in order to help combat the COVID Virus is also on hold. According to Belinda Williams, our FEMA representative, "all public school FEMA reimbursements are on hold until FEMA gets further guidance from the White House".*

*Due to lack of enrollment, the Before Care Program has been cancelled effective January 29th, 2021. I did reach out to Joanne Browne, the Director of the Program, regarding the 2021-2022 contract and she is working on a sliding scale contract based on enrollment.*

*As of Monday, January 25th the school is using fiber optics for its internet connection. The students and staff were able to use the new fiber optics connection for one week prior to going remote without any issues.*

- *Budget Updates*

*The 2021-2022 Budget is on track with the Budget Calendar as the department heads have submitted their budgets and Ms. Somers and I reviewed them on Thursday, January 28th.*

*The Governor's Budget Address is scheduled for February 23rd of which the school's State Aid numbers should follow within a few days after the Address. The March Board Meeting is scheduled for March 18th which will be a preliminary approval of the 2021-2022 Budget to be submitted to the County Office on or before March 22nd, 2021. If approved by the County Office, the 2021-2022 Budget will be adopted at the April 29th, 2021 Board Meeting.*

*Mr. Gibbs thanked Mayor Spango, Ms. Chumacas, and Mr. Trillo for attending the Demographic Study portion of the Finance/Facilities Committee meeting and providing their input.*

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENT** – On agenda items only

Members of the public may speak for a maximum of three (3) minutes by the clock during this portion of the meeting. The public may speak **on agenda items only** during this three (3) minute period. All comments should be directed to the Board President and depending upon the nature and complexity of the question, it may or may not be answered during the meeting by the Administration. If so, the response would occur after this public portion of the meeting has concluded. Everyone has the freedom to speak, but please be advised that anything said in public may have legal ramifications and there is no protection regarding statements made by the public.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

*Jacqueline DeMarco, 14 Evergreen Place, Roseland, stated that she wanted to thank everyone for creating a healthy and safe environment and especially for the teachers that have gone above and beyond. She further stated that she understands that Ms. Somers stated that we are moving forward but are not there yet. She questioned what is needed in order to get to the next step.*

*Ms. Somers stated that this is one of the really hard questions with the entire pandemic given how suddenly things can change within the building; it is really hard to give a black and white answer to the questions. She further stated that she thought that we were doing beautifully after being closed after the holiday recess and was actively watching the weather for the snow storm to come, when positive cases forced the school closed. She felt that as more staff are vaccinated, the numbers begin to decline, and COVID is not being spread in the community we may be able to move forward. She is hopeful for Spring as the next phase of the plan includes lunch and recess for grades 3-6 and students can go outside for those. Unfortunately, this situation doesn't work in black and white.*

*Mr. Gorman stated that we have to look at the larger picture such as the county and our own district that if we are looking to have more in class instruction we need to have a ready supply of substitutes in case teachers need to go out for whatever reason. He further stated that as time goes along that we may have more guidance from the State.*

*Ms. Somers stated that the entire state is dealing with this, but districts really do need more support from the Department of Education. It has been an ongoing topic among the Essex County Superintendents. She further stated that she is always focused on us, our students, our families, and our staff as health and safety come first.*

**VIII. APPROVAL OF ACTION ITEMS**

**BOARD MINUTES/REPORTS**

RPT-026-21 Approve Board Meeting Minutes

RPT-027-21 Approve the January, 2021 Code of Conduct Report

RPT-028-21 Approve the January, 2021 Enrollment Report

RPT-029-21 Approve the January, 2021 HIB Report

MOTION by Mrs. Savarese, SECOND by Mrs. Scaraggi

*No Discussion*

**ROLL CALL:** Mr. Gesario, Mr. Gorman, Mrs. Murano, Mrs. Savarese, and Mrs. Scaraggi - *All Ayes.*

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

RPT-026-21 Approve Board Meeting Minutes

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the Reorganization and Regular Board Meeting for January 5, 2021.

RPT-027-21 Approve the January 2021 Code of Conduct Report

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the January 2021 Code of Conduct Report.

RPT-028-21 Approve the January 2021 Enrollment Report

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the January 2021 Enrollment Report.

RPT-029-21 Approve the January 2021 HIB Report

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the January 2021 HIB Report.

**FINANCE/FACILITIES**

FIN-139-21 Approve Acceptance of the Report of the Treasurer of School Monies – December 2020 & January 2021

FIN-140-21 Approve Acceptance of the Report of the Board Secretary – December 2020 & January 2021

FIN-141-21 Approve Acceptance of the Board of Education’s Monthly Certification of Major Budgetary Account/Fund Status – January 2021

FIN-142-21 Approve Payment of Bills and Claims – January 2021

FIN-143-21 Approve the Budgetary Line Item Transfers – December 2020 & January 2021

FIN-144-21 Approve Acceptance of the Cafeteria Report – December 2020 and January 2021

FIN-145-21 Approve Waiver of Requirements for the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program – 2021-2022

FIN-146-21 Retroactively Approve the Purchase of a Water Jetter from W.W. Grainger, Inc.

FIN-147-21 Approve Travel and Work Related Expenses

FIN-148-21 Approve On-line Heartsaver Adult/Child CPR and AED Training for Staff

FIN-149-21 Approve Additional Compensation for Employees

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

- FIN-150-21 Approve Home Instruction for Student No. 2181230274  
FIN-151-21 Approve Participation in the NJ Consortium Virtual Challenge for Gifted and Talented Students  
FIN-152-21 Approve Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP)  
FIN-153-21 Approve Home Instruction for Student No. 9864154807  
FIN-154-21 Approve the Settlement Agreement for Student No. 5020918729

MOTION by Mrs. Savarese, SECOND by Mrs. Murano

*No Discussion*

**ROLL CALL:** Mr. Gesario, Mr. Gorman, Mrs. Murano, Mrs. Savarese, and Mrs. Scaraggi - *All Ayes.*

- FIN-139-21 Approve Acceptance of the Report of the Treasurer of School Monies – December 2020 & January 2021

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, receives the Report of the Treasurer of School Monies for the periods ending December 31, 2020 & January 31, 2021.

- FIN-140-21 Approve Acceptance of the Report of the Board Secretary – December 2020 & January 2021

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, receives the Board Secretary's Report for the periods ending December 31, 2020 & January 31, 2021.

- FIN-141-21 Approve Acceptance of the Board of Education's Monthly Certification of Major Budgetary Account/Fund Status – January 31, 2021

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.12(c)4, certifies that as of January 31, 2021, after review of the Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.12(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

FIN-142-21 Approve Payment of Bills and Claims – February 11, 2021

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the payment of Bills and Claims for the period ending February 11, 2021:

General Fund Bills & Claims	\$ 432418.11	
General Fund Payroll	\$ 522,885.75	through 01-31-21
Special Revenue Bills & Claims	\$ 8,403.75	
<u>Cafeteria Fund Bills &amp; Claims</u>	<u>\$ 9,058.56</u>	
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>\$ 972,766.17</b>	

FIN-143-21 Approve the Budgetary Line Item Transfers – December 2020 & January 2021

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the attached Line Item Budget Transfers for the month of December 2020 & January 2021, as per N.J.S.A. 18A:8.1.

FIN-144-21 Approve Acceptance of the Cafeteria Report – December 2020 and January 2021

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the Cafeteria Report for the period ending December 2020 and January 2021.

FIN-145-21 Approve Waiver of Requirements for the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program – 2021-2022

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following resolution:

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2021-2022 budget year, and

WHEREAS, the Roseland Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than forty (40) Medicaid eligible classified students for the 2021-2022 budget year, and

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Roseland Board of Education hereby authorizes the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Essex an appropriate waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A23A-5.3 for the 2021-2022 school year.

FIN-146-21 Retroactively Approve the Purchase of a Water Jetter from W.W. Grainger, Inc.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, retroactively approves the purchase of a Water Jetter in the amount of \$3,800.00 from W.W. Grainger, Inc., 100 Hadley Rd., South Plainfield, N.J. 07080 for the purpose of unclogging sewer line drains in the school.

FIN-147-21 Approve the Travel and Work Related Expenses

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and in accordance with the travel policy, hereby approves the February 11, 2021 list of travel related expenses.

FIN-148-21 Approve On-line Heartsaver Adult/Child CPR and AED Training for Staff

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves a self-paced on-line Heartsaver Adult/Child CPR and AED Training for eleven (11) staff members, training provided by CProfessionals, Inc., at a total cost of \$802.45.

FIN-149-21 Approve Additional Compensation for Employees

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve additional compensation for employees presenting at and/or attending evening events or summer meetings.

FIN-150-21 Approve Home Instruction for Student No. 2181230274

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, retroactively approves Home Instruction for Student No. 2181230274, services provided by board approved home instruction staff at a their at their respective hourly rates, not to exceed a total of 20 hours, pending Absences.



**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

FIN-151-21 Approve Participation in the NJCGTP Steam Challenge for Gifted and Talented Students

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves 15 Noecker students to participate in the New Jersey Consortium for Gifted and Talented Programs “To the Moon and Beyond Steam Challenge” beginning on February 10, 2021, at a cost of \$10.00 per student (15 students), \$150.00 total.

FIN-152-21 Approve Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP)

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and in accordance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:26-3 et seq., authorizes the necessary amendments to its Long Range Facilities Plan in order to reflect proposed projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board authorizes the submission of the aforementioned projects to the Essex County Executive Superintendent of Schools and the New Jersey Department of Education for approval; and be it further

RESOLVED, that District Administration, the District Architect and/or the Board Attorney, are hereby authorized to execute those actions deemed appropriate to amend the District's Long Range Facilities Plan.

FIN-153-21 Approve Home Instruction for Student No. 9864154807

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves Home Instruction for Student No. 9864154807, services provided by board approved home instruction staff at their at their respective hourly rates, not to exceed a total of 10 hours per week, pending absences.

FIN-154-21 Approve the Settlement Agreement relating to Student No. 5020918729

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves a Settlement Agreement relating to Student No. 5020918729.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

**PERSONNEL/MANAGEMENT**

PER-016-21 Approval of Additional Staff for Stipend Duties in 2020-2021

PER-017-21 Approve Observation Hours for Employee No. 100502

PER-018-21 Approval of Roseland School District Substitutes for the 2020-2021  
School Year

PER-019-21 Approval of Jillian Lagattuta as a Leave Replacement Teacher for Employee  
No. 100040

PER-020-21 Approval of Mentor Payments for the 2020-2021 School Year

MOTION by Mr. Gesario, SECOND by Mrs. Savarese

*No Discussion*

**ROLL CALL:** Mr. Gesario, Mr. Gorman, Mrs. Murano, Mrs. Savarese, and Mrs. Scaraggi - *All Ayes.*

PER-016-21 Approval of Additional Staff for Stipend Duties in 2020-2021

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the additional staff members to perform extra duty beyond their contractual obligations for the 2020-2021 school year.

PER-017-21 Approve Observation Hours for Employee No. 100502

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves 175 hours (15 weeks) of class observation beginning February 12, 2021 for Employee No. 100502, also a student of Caldwell University.

PER-018-21 Approval of Roseland School District Substitutes for the 2020-2021  
School Year

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves Roseland School District Substitutes for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

PER-019-21 Approval of Jillian Lagattuta as a Leave Replacement Teacher for Employee No. 100040

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves Jillian Lagattuta as leave replacement teacher for Employee No. 100040, assignment to begin March 1, 2021 through the last day of school in June 2021, Position Control No. 035, at a salary of BA, Step 1, \$ 52,436.00, with benefits, pending criminal history approval.

PER-020-21 Approval of Mentor Payments for the 2020-2021 School Year

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following Mentor payments for the 2020-2021 school year:

<b>Mentor</b>	<b>Mentee</b>	<b>Fee</b>
Employee No. 100395 (Jenna Buccelli)	Jillian Lagattuta	\$1,000.00

**IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Members of the public may speak for a maximum of three (3) minutes by the clock during this portion of the meeting. The public may speak **on agenda items only** during this three (3) minute period. All comments should be directed to the Board President and depending upon the nature and complexity of the question, it may or may not be answered during the meeting by the Administration. If so, the response would occur after this public portion of the meeting has concluded. Everyone has the freedom to speak, but please be advised that anything said in public may have legal ramifications and there is no protection regarding statements made by the public.

*Margaret Wohltmann, 5 Lyons Ave., Roseland, stated many thanks regarding the 5th grade program. She further reiterated what Mrs. DeMarco stated earlier. She further questioned where we are within the process going full-time. She felt that this needs to be a community decision and not up to Ms. Somers alone or the Board of Education. She mentioned that students should be back in school. She questioned as to whether we are using our resources within the region. She also felt that there were a lot of technical issues at the Board meeting in this format.*

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

*Mr. Gorman stated that he has heard or read some of the same studies but unfortunately we need more guidance from the State. The guidance at the beginning of the school year was limited. We as a Board felt that we are really limited as to what can be done based on the current requirements. He further stated that understands her concerns and that we look forward to getting back to a normal school day as soon as possible. Your other comments as to how we conduct the meeting will be taken into consideration.*

*Ms. Somers stated that one of the reasons why we have 100% of our staff working is because they feel safe at school. They feel safe because we have taken every measure to make sure that social distancing is adhered to. Some districts may not have consistency, some departments of health have different standards. We are diligent in keeping our community safe. She further stated that she is not comfortable going against the recommendations of the Department of Health. The document that the Department of Health uses in making determinations is on our web-site. As far as making the decision, it is not just Ms. Somers who makes the decision. She feels that the staff is operating at 110% because they know that they are being kept safe.*

*Jennifer Russak, 32 Roseland Ave., Roseland, she is responding to Ms. Somers's comment with respect to Roseland using the same health department as East Hanover. She further stated that East Hanover is currently on a full day schedule for their special education students.*

*Ms. Somers stated that every district has different structures such as scheduling, instructional models, staffing, spacing but the decisions of the health department aren't related to that. She further stated that East Hanover is doing six feet. The staffing and scheduling would not be related to the health department.*

*Mrs. Russak stated that she was confused in that we are following their guidance to which Ms. Somers stated that we are following six feet social distancing, which is their guidance.*

*Mrs. Russak further questioned how they are able to get their special education children back to the building for five full days a week to which Ms. Somers stated that it would be scheduling and staffing.*

*Suzanne Brock, 20 Belaire Court, Roseland, stated that she is looking for a clearer answer as to what we need to get our special education students back to a classroom five days a week and what would it look like to make that happen?*

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

*Ms. Somers stated that we have looked at this very carefully and our schedule is not designed for all of the students every day as there are 59 different sections across different subjects for special education students. Some classes are small because we are a small school. We have a schedule that meets all of the needs of our students and their families whether it be inclusion, remote inclusion, replacement, remote replacement, or any scheduling request. Staffing, space, health and safety, and scheduling have been maximized to support students' and families' needs and scheduling requests. We have looked at it a number times. We haven't stopped trying to make improvements. Other schools may be larger, have more staff, less students, and they may mix student cohorts.*

*Mrs. DeMarco stated that our special education students need to be a priority. She questioned why isn't there additional instruction in the afternoons for the students with an IEP? Just the 8:45 to 1:05 pm time frame and no additional support or small groups whether on a full remote or remote days on a hybrid schedule. Is there anything remote wise that we can provide additional support for them?*

*Ms. Somers stated that there a number of small groups that are being run in the afternoons. The teachers have limited office hours. They are teaching their cohort in the morning and then they have lunch and their planning time, as well as doing small groups. She further stated that if you have questions about your child that you reach out to your case manager or Dr. Celebre, or to the child's teacher, as they have been very responsive to our families.*

*Mr. Gorman reiterated that if there are questions regarding what is going on at the school to reach out to Ms. Somers or the appropriate staff members.*

*Dan Russak, 32 Roseland Ave Roseland, stated that he feels that the staff seems to be spread thin and given that the budget will be given next month that we should hire more staff.*

**X. OLD BUSINESS**

*No old business*

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021 – 7:30 PM**

---

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Mrs. Murano stated that as the district is going into the yellow we should look at our policies as to how Board meetings are conducted in this type of forum and or a different type of setting.*

*Mr. Gorman stated that we will do that.*

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Mrs. Savarese, SECOND by Mrs. Scaraggi

**ROLL CALL:** Mr. Gesario, Mr. Gorman, Mrs. Murano, Mrs. Savarese, and Mrs. Scaraggi - *All Ayes.*

**The next Regular Board/Preliminary Budget Meeting will be held virtually on  
Thursday March 18, 2021 at 7:30 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,



Gordon Gibbs  
Board Secretary/Business Administrator