

**RENSELAER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
25 Van Rensselaer Drive
Rensselaer, New York 12144
August 23, 2017**

The President, Mr. John Mooney, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. John Mooney, Mr. Ed Burns, Mrs. Dana Endres and Mr. Tim Spath were present. Mr. Ken Pratt was absent from the meeting.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Ryan Morris, Mr. Dave Howell, Ms. Meghan Heimroth, Mrs. Teri Hopper, and Superintendent Sally Ann Shields were also present. There was one other in attendance.

By Mr. Burns:

**RESO #1-08/23/2017
Approve Minutes**

“RESOLVED, the Board approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education dated August 2, 2017 (striking resolutions #8 and #9).”

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

An addendum was distributed with 5 additional items for Board of Education consideration this evening.

**Additional Items for
the Agenda**

Mrs. Shields received a letter from Colleen Pidgeon of ConcernsU thanking the Class of 2017 for their generous donation.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Shields announced that the Van Rensselaer Elementary School has been identified as a Local Assistance Plan School for the 2017-2018 school year. The identification is based on the performance of certain groups of students in the school on state assessments and/or the school’s participation rate on state assessments. Local Assistance Plan Schools are required to conduct a Self-Reflection, which provides school-based teams with the opportunity to reflect on the practices that exist within the school in preparation for identifying the appropriate next steps for the school. The LAP will be posted on the District’s website. Van Rensselaer Elementary School was awarded a \$20,000 grant to be used to implement strategies and purchase materials and supplies.

**LOCAL
ASSISTANCE PLAN**

Meghan Heimroth introduced Ken Claflin of Cusack & Company. The District has contracted with the CPA firm for auditing services. Mr. Claflin explained that Cusack & Company, CPAs LLC has built a strong reputation for delivering quality auditing services in a timely fashion to not-for-profits, governments and other entities. We are experienced auditors who are well versed in nonprofit accounting and auditing standards and principles, and understand the operations and needs of nonprofits as a result of the hands-on experience we have obtained through working with our many audit clients. Approximately 70% of their clients are not-for-profit or government agencies.

REPORTS

The independent audit of the 2016-2017 school year will begin next week and will take approximately two weeks. Four of five accountants will be working on the audit. Mr. Claflin will return to review the audit findings with the Audit Committee and the Board of Education.

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby accepts and orders filed the July 2017 Claims Audit Report submitted by Michael Wolff.”

RESO #2-08/23/2017 Accept & File Claims Audit Report

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby accepts and orders filed the June 2017 Treasurer’s Report submitted by the District Treasurer.”

RESO #3-08/23/2017 Accept & File Treasurer’s Report

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby approves the 2017-2018 Grand Master Schedule for the Rensselaer Junior/ Senior High School and the Van Rensselaer Elementary School.”

RESO #4-08/23/2017 Approve Master Schedule

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby approves the AS-7 Service Agreement with Questar III BOCES for the 2017-2018 school year; and further authorize the District Clerk to sign same.”

RESO #5-08/23/2017
Approve AS-7 Service Agreement

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby approves a Local Assistance Plan for the Van Rensselaer Elementary School; and further authorizes posting the LAP on the District’s website.”

RESO #6-08/23/2017
Approve LAP

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

PERSONNEL

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby accepts the resignation of Amy Legere, effective August 21, 2017.”

RESO #7-08/23/2017
Accept Resignation – Amy Legere

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the request of Carolyn Maas for an unpaid leave of absence from August 30 through September 1, 2017.”

RESO #8-08/23/2017
Approve Unpaid Leave – Carolyn Maas

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the request of Lisa Cocola for 8 consecutive weeks of Family Medical Leave as per Rensselaer City School District Policy 9520.2 commencing September 5, 2017 and ending on or about October 31, 2017.”

RESO #9-08/23/2017
Approve FML – Lisa Cocola

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the request of Meghan Connolly for an unpaid leave of absence on September 1, 2017.”

RESO #10-08/23/2017
Approve Unpaid Leave
– Meghan Connolly

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“WHEREAS, Questar III BOCES will close the Green Technologies Program and excess teacher Karl Kunker at the end of the 2016-2017 school year; and

WHEREAS, Rensselaer City School District will take over, pursuant to Education Law Section 3014-b, the Green Technologies Program at the start of the 2017-2018 school year.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Rensselaer City School District Board of Education hereby appoints Karl Kunker, previously employed as a tenured Technology teacher by Questar III BOCES, as a tenured teacher in the Technology tenure area, effective September 1, 2017. In accordance with Section 3014-b, Mr. Kunker is conferred with tenured status, accumulated leave from his prior employment with Questar III BOCES, and will be paid at a salary of Masters – Level M of the negotiated agreement between the RTA and the RCSD Board of Education.”

RESO #11-08/23/2017
Appoint Technology
Teacher – Karl
Kunker

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby appoints Kimberly LaJoy as a long-term substitute teacher, at the daily rate of \$140, to fill the position held by Kelly Clum who has been granted a leave of absence. Ms. LaJoy’s appointment will begin on or about August 30, 2017 and is intended to continue for the term of Mrs. Clum’s leave, but no later than October 20, 2017.”

RESO #12-08/23/2017
Appoint LTS Teacher
– Kimberly LaJoy

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby appoints Dorothy Kretzschmar as part-time teacher aide at the hourly rate as per the negotiated agreement between the CSEA and the RCSD Board of Education effective August 30, 2017.”

RESO #13-08/23/2017
Appoint Part-Time
Teacher Aide –
Dorothy Kretzschmar

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby appoints Dustin Connors as a full-time teacher aide at the hourly rate as per the negotiated agreement between the CSEA and the RCSD Board of Education, effective August 30, 2017.”

RESO #14-08/23/2017
Appoint Full-Time
Teacher Aide – Dustin
Connors

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby appoints Hannah Spath as a full-time teacher aide at the hourly rate as per the negotiated agreement between the CSEA and the RCSD Board of Education, effective August 30, 2017.”

RESO #15-08/23/2017
Appoint Full-Time
Teacher Aide –
Hannah Spath

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby appoints Nicole Spath to the position of Senior Typist on a 90-day probationary full-time basis effective September 11, 2017 at the hourly rate of \$19.95 in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the CSEA and the RCSD Board of Education.”

RESO #16-08/23/2017
Appoint Senior Typist
– Nicole Spath

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby appoints Melody Kearney as a long-term substitute teacher, at the daily rate of \$140, to fill the position held by Meghan Spath who has been

RESO #17-08/23/2017
Appoint LTS Teacher
– Melody Kearney

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby reappoints Sally Ann Shields as Superintendent of Schools, for the period of July 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017, approving the Addendum to her employment agreement dated August 23, 2017 setting forth any changes in the terms and conditions of Sally Ann Shields’ employment agreement, including establishing her salary as of July 1, 2017 in the annual sum of \$166,800.00, authorizing payment thereunder, and authorizing the President of the Board to execute said Addendum on behalf of the School District.”

**RESO #21-08/23/2017
Reappoint
Superintendent and
Approve Addendum to
Employment
Agreement – Sally Ann
Shields**

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

**Committee on Special
Education**

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the Committee on Special Education Minutes dated August 4 & 17, 2017.”

**RESO #22-08/23/2017
Approve CSE Minutes**

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

**RESO #23-08/23/2017
Approve CPSE
Minutes**

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the Committee on Preschool Special Education Minutes dated June 8, July 27 and August 3 & 17, 2017.”

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

**RESO #24-08/23/2017
Approve Collaboration
Agreement**

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves a Collaboration Agreement with Capital District Beginnings, Inc. effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020.”

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

RESO #25-08/23/2017
Approve Agreement

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves an Agreement for Special Education Services with Catherine Guthrie for the 2017-2018 school year.”

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Mr. Spath:

RESO #26-08/23/2017
Accept Donation

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby accepts a \$97.10 donation from The Benevity Community Impact Fund for the Van Rensselaer Elementary School; and authorize adjustment to the school district budget.”

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Mr. Spath:

RESO #27-08/23/2017
Approve Pre-K Contract

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves a Contract with CEO Head Start for a Statewide Universal Full-Day Prekindergarten Program for the 2017-2018 school year.”

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Mrs. Shields – District Updates:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The teachers return with three conference days on 8/30, 8/31 and 9/1
- Students return on 9/5

Ryan Morris – Building Updates:

- LED lighting installation is nearly complete. Will be finished before the students return.
- They are wrapping up with the roof project and working on a punch list now. They lost about 2 weeks of time due to the weather. The reps have been here several times throughout the project.
- All classrooms have been cleaned. We have a few hallways to finalize and continue to work on the fields when weather permits.

Teri Hopper – Cafeteria Updates:

- Kitchen staff returns Monday 8/28 to set up.
- They will attend a training on Tuesday 8/29 at Saratoga Schools
- Training will continue here on Wednesday 8/30

By Mrs. Endres:

**RESO #29-08/23/2017
Executive Session**

“Be it resolved that the Board of Education enter into executive session at 6:54 p.m. during which time matters concerning personnel will be discussed.”

Second: Mr. Spath

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION AT 7:15 P.M.

By Mr. Burns:

**RESO #30-08/23/2017
Adjourn**

“Motion to adjourn at 7:15 p.m.”

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Williams
Clerk to the Board of Education

DRAFT