

**RENSELAER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
25 Van Rensselaer Drive  
Rensselaer, New York 12144  
September 20, 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, Mr. Ken Pratt and Mr. Tim Spath were present.

**ROLL CALL**

Ms. Kristin Murray (on behalf of the RTA), Mr. Jeffrey Palmer, Ms. Meghan Heimroth, Mrs. Teri Hopper, Mr. Aaron Harbeck, Attorney Christopher Honeywell and Superintendent Sally Ann Shields were also present. There were no others in attendance.

By Mr. Pratt:

**RESO #1-09/20/2017  
Approve Minutes**

“RESOLVED, the Board approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education dated August 23, 2017.”

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

An addendum was distributed adding 3 items to the agenda for this evening.

**Additional Items for  
the Agenda**

By Mr. Spath:

**RESO #2-09/20/2017  
Approve Membership  
and Authorize  
Payment of Dues**

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby approves membership in Capital District School Boards Association for the 2017-1018 school year; and further authorize payment of dues in the amount of \$200.00.”

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

**RESO #3-09/20/2017  
Accept & File  
Treasurer’s Report**

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

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

**RESO #4-09/20/2017**  
**Approve MOA**

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby approves a Memorandum of Agreement with the Boys and Girls Club of Southern Rensselaer County commencing September 1, 2017 and ending June 22, 2018.”

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

**RESO #5-09/20/2017**  
**Accept Resignation –**  
**Katy Staats**

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby accepts the resignation of Katy Staats, School Nurse, effective September 28, 2017.”

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

**RESO #6-09/20/2017**  
**Approve Unpaid Leave**  
**– Anne Marie**  
**Coulombe**

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the request of Ann Marie Coulombe for an unpaid leave of absence from October 4-11, 2017 for personal reasons.”

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

**RESO #7-09/20/2017**  
**Approve Unpaid Leave**  
**– Regina Zobel**

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the request of Regina Zobel for an unpaid leave of absence on November 20 & 21, 2017.”

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

**RESO #8-09/20/2017**  
**Appoint LTS – Lisa**  
**Fyvie**

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby appoints Lisa Fyvie as a long-term substitute teacher, at the daily rate of \$140, to fill the position held by Lisa Cocola who has been granted a leave of absence. Ms. Fyvie’s appointment will begin on August 30, 2017 and is intended to continue for the term of Mrs. Cocola’s leave, but no later than October 31, 2017.”

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

**RESO #9-09/20/2017  
Appoint Coaches & Advisors**

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby appoints the following coaches and advisors for the 2017-2018 at stipends as per the negotiated agreement between the RTA and the RCSD Board of Education:

Webmaster (RJSHS)	Jennifer Leonard
Webmaster (VR)	Christina Lane
School Newspaper (VR)	Amy Mooney
Junior Seminar Advisor*	Laura Frasco
(*remove Tricia Steck as Junior Seminar Co-Advisor)	

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

**RESO #10-09/20/2017  
Approve Mentor/  
Protégé Pairings**

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the following mentor/protégé pairings for the 2017-2018 school year:

<u>Protégé</u>	<u>Mentor</u>
Rita Fisher	Ann Gillin
Rachna Shankar	Dawn DeJulio
Kelly Thomas	Tessa Sedlar
John Curran	Lisa Boland
Deb Danz	Colleen Sholette
Kate Foley	Scott Beiter
Heather Jenner	Jennifer Leonard
Carolyn Maas	Beth Whitney
Mike McGough	Deb Sklar
Jessica Mouawad	Laurie Britton-Smith
Charles Seagle	Tricia Steck
Tessa Sedlar	Mary Mahar
Bill Spath	Joel Preston

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

**RESO #11-09/20/2017  
Approve Substitute  
Typist – Marjorie  
Celentano**

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Marjorie Celentano as substitute typist at the hourly rate of \$16.00, effective September 1, 2017.”

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Emily Dreher Cloud as an uncertified substitute teacher at the daily rate of \$65.00 effective September 5, 2017.”

**RESO #12-09/20/2017**  
**Approve Uncertified**  
**Substitute Teacher –**  
**Emily Dreher Cloud**

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Dennis Turner as an uncertified substitute teacher at the daily rate of \$65.00 effective September 5, 2017.”

**RESO #13-09/20/2017**  
**Approve Uncertified**  
**Substitute Teacher –**  
**Dennis Turner**

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Heather Hogan as substitute cleaner effective September 21, 2017, at the hourly rate of \$15.00.”

**RESO #14-09/20/2017**  
**Approve Substitute**  
**Cleaner – Heather**  
**Hogan**

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Melody Kearney as certified substitute teacher (master’s level) effective September 5, 2017.”

**RESO #15-09/20/2017**  
**Approve Certified**  
**Substitute Teacher –**  
**Melody Kearney**

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Amber Arduini as substitute teacher aide at the hourly rate of \$12.00 effective September 15, 2017.”

**RESO #16-09/20/2017**  
**Approve Substitute**  
**Teacher Aide – Amber**  
**Arduini**

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

**Use of Facilities**

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the request of Upstate Scouting Service for use of the main and north gymnasiums for the purpose of hosting a boys basketball college showcase on Sunday, October 1, 2017 from 8:00am-3:00pm. This approval is pending receipt of \$325 usage fees and certificate of insurance. Additional maintenance fees will be billed by the District.”

**RESO #17-09/20/2017  
Approve Use of  
Gymnasiums**

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the request of Girl Scout Troup #1188 for use of the elementary cafeteria for bi-weekly meetings on Fridays from 6-8pm beginning September 2017 through June 2018.”

**RESO #18-09/20/2017  
Approve Use of  
Cafeteria**

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the request of Rensselaer CYO Basketball for use of the north and south gymnasiums on a not-to-interfere with school activities basis, weekdays from 5:30-8:30pm, commencing November 1, 2017 through January 24, 2018 (12-weeks). A formal schedule will be determined by the District. This approval is contingent upon receipt of usage fee. A certificate of insurance is on file in the District Offices.”

**RESO #19-09/20/2017  
Approve Use of  
Gymnasiums**

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves year-end budget transfers for fiscal year ending June 30, 2017 as submitted by the School Business Official.”

**RESO #20-09/20/2017  
Approve Year-End  
Budget Transfers**

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves establishment of the DeThomasis Diversity & Inclusion Leadership Scholarship Program; and further accepts a \$10,000.00 donation toward the scholarship fund.”

**RESO #21-09/20/2017  
Approve DeThomasis  
Scholarship Program**

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves a School District Tuition Agreement with Parsons Child and Family Center for one Rensselaer City resident student for the 2017-2018 school year and summer program.”

**RESO #22-09/20/2017  
Approve Agreement -  
Parsons**

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

VR Announcements by Mr. Palmer:

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- We began the school year with three conference days that had a nice balance of professional development for the teachers and staff, as well as time for teachers to work in their rooms.
- The school year is going very well with a smooth opening. We had many last minute student registrations, which brings the VR enrollment to 710. Currently we have five sections of 20-21 students in Kindergarten.
- Recognized the transportation department for a great job throughout the opening days of school. Rhonda and the drivers were all very accommodating for parents and students.
- VR Open House is tomorrow evening. All are invited to attend.

Cafeteria Announcements by Mrs. Hopper:

- With the enrollment up, our meal participation is also up. Last Friday we had our third highest number of students participating.

Business Office Announcements by Ms. Heimroth:

- Our ST-3 (Annual Financial Report) was submitted to SED.
- The auditors were here for two weeks and completed the audit. They are working on the report and management letter. We have just under a 4% fund balance and will be bumping up our reserves.

RTA Announcements by Ms. Murray:

- The conference days were perfectly balanced and went very well.

District Announcements by Mrs. Shields:

- Thanks extended to all faculty and staff for a very smooth opening to the school year. On the first day of school, there was silence in the hallways by 7:45 with all students in their classrooms. Transportation ran smoothly in the mornings and afternoons. It is a great start to the year.

By Mr. Pratt:

**RESO #23-09/20/2017  
Executive Session**

“Be it resolved that the Board of Education enter into executive session at 6:47 p.m. during which time contractual matters will be discussed.”

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

**RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION AT 7:30 P.M.**

By Mr. Pratt:

**RESO #24-09/20/2017  
Adjourn**

“Motion to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.”

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 5      Nays – 0

Motion Carried  
Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Williams  
Clerk to the Board of Education