

**RENSELAER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
25 Van Rensselaer Drive
Rensselaer, New York 12144
December 20, 2017**

The President, Mr. John Mooney, called the meeting to order at 6:35 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 at roll call, but expected to arrive later in the evening.

ROLL CALL

Questar III District Superintendent Gladys Cruz, Questar III Deputy Superintendent Matthew Sloane, Questar III Deputy Superintendent Harry Hadjoannou, Mrs. Christina Lane (on behalf of the RTA), Mr. Dominick Pitaniello, Mr. Dave Howell, Mr. Jeffrey Palmer, Ms. Karen Urbanski, Ms. Meghan Heimroth, Mrs. Colleen Multer and Superintendent Sally Ann Shields were also present. There were no others in attendance.

By Mr. Burns:

**RESO #1-12/20/2017
Approve Minutes**

“RESOLVED, the Board approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education dated November 15, 2017 with a correction to the dates noted in resolution #11.”

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Mr. Spath:

**RESO #2-12/20/2017
Executive Session**

“Be it resolved that the Board of Education enter into executive session at 6:36 p.m. during which time matters concerning personnel will be discussed.”

Second: Mr. Burns

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION AT 6:55 P.M.

By Mr. Spath:

**RESO #3-12/20/2017
Reappoint
Superintendent – Sally
Ann Shields**

“BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Rensselaer City School District hereby re-appoints Sally Ann Shields as Superintendent of Schools, for the period January 1, 2018 to June 30, 2018, approves the employment agreement addendum, dated December 20, 2017 setting forth the terms and conditions of Sally Ann Shields’ continued employment, authorizes payment thereunder, and authorizes the President of the Board to execute said employment agreement on behalf of the School District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the amendment of the resignation of Sally Ann Shields for the purpose of retirement to be an effective date of June 30, 2018.”

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

**RESO #4-12/20/2017
Support a Minimum
Legal Sales Age of 21
for Tobacco Products**

“WHEREAS, tobacco use is the foremost preventable cause of premature death in the United States, responsible for approximately 480,000 deaths a year and approximately 8.5 million persons in the U.S. living annually with tobacco-related chronic illnesses;

WHEREAS, the annual economic impact of smoking in the U.S. is approximately \$300 billion in health care and lost worker productivity costs;

WHEREAS, nearly all smokers start smoking before the age of 21, and the risk of smoking initiation does not lower until the age of 22;

WHEREAS, the transition from experimental to regular smoking typically occurs around the age of 20;

WHEREAS, the developing brains of those 21 and under are particularly susceptible to the addictive properties of nicotine, and tobacco industry documents show that those who start smoking by the age of 18 are almost twice as likely to become lifetime smokers as those who start after they turn 21;

WHEREAS, electronic smoking device use among minors has recently tripled, and use of electronic smoking devices is associated with and may encourage the use of conventional tobacco products;

WHEREAS, 90% of all adults who purchase tobacco products for minors are between the ages of 18 and 20;

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby accepts and orders filed the November 2017 Claims Audit Report submitted by Michael Wolff.”

**RESO #7-12/20/2017
Accept & File Claims
Audit Report**

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby accepts and orders filed the November 2017 account reconciliation of the Extraclassroom Activity Fund submitted by Central Treasurer, Michael Toney.”

**RESO #8-12/20/2017
Accept & File Account
Reconciliation**

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

PERSONNEL

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby accepts the resignation of Ryan Morris, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds, effective December 27, 2017.”

**RESO #9-12/20/2017
Accept Resignation –
Ryan Morris**

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby appoints Morgan Dehmel as a substitute teacher effective December 4, 2017. Provided she render satisfactory service, this appointment is intended to continue for an undetermined period of time at the daily rate of \$140.00. No term of employment is conferred by this resolution of appointment.”

**RESO #10-12/20/2017
Appoint Substitute
Teacher – Morgan
Dehmel**

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby appoints Deborah Fennelly as a substitute teacher effective December 13, 2017. Provided she render satisfactory service, this appointment is intended to continue for an undetermined period of time at the daily rate of \$140.00. No term of employment is conferred by this resolution of appointment.”

RESO #11-12/20/2017
Appoint Substitute
Teacher – Deborah
Fennelly

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Mr. Spath:

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

Meghan Connolly
Rita Fisher
Jennifer Leonard

Language Club Advisor
Odyssey of the Mind Co-Coordinator
Ramblur Advisor

RESO #12-12/20/2017
Appoint 2017-2018
Advisors

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Carly Wood as an uncertified substitute teacher (Bachelors rate) effective December 5, 2017.”

RESO #13-12/20/2017
Approve Uncertified
Substitute Teacher –
Carly Wood

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Tiffany Shambeau as an uncertified substitute teacher (Bachelors rate) effective December 18, 2017.”

RESO #14-12/20/2017
Approve Uncertified
Substitute Teacher –
Tiffany Shambeau

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Yolanda Maeweather as an uncertified substitute teacher (Masters rate) effective December 20, 2017.”

RESO #15-12/20/2017
Approve Uncertified
Substitute Teacher –
Yolanda Maeweather

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Kelly Mizener as an uncertified substitute teacher (Bachelors rate) effective December 14, 2017.”

RESO #16-12/20/2017
Approve Uncertified
Substitute Teacher –
Kelly Mizener

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Kelly Mizener as a substitute teacher aide at the hourly rate of \$12.00 effective December 14, 2017.”

RESO #17-12/20/2017
Approve Substitute
Teacher Aide – Kelly
Mizener

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Sue Keneston as a substitute cleaner at the hourly rate of \$15.00, effective December 8, 2017.”

RESO #18-12/20/2017
Approve Substitute
Cleaner – Sue
Keneston

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Kristyn Smith as a substitute teacher aide at the hourly rate of \$12.00 effective November 29, 2017.”

RESO #19-12/20/2017
Approve Substitute
Teacher Aide –
Kristyn Smith

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Judy Muscatiello as a substitute school bus driver at the hourly rate of \$19.00 effective November 27, 2017.”

RESO #20-12/20/2017
Approve Substitute
School Bus Driver –
Judy Muscatiello

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Tracey Kilhullen as a substitute teacher aide at the hourly rate of \$12.00 effective November 20, 2017.”

RESO #21-12/20/2017
Approve Substitute
Teacher Aide – Tracey
Kilhullen

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Evan Sanders, student teacher from SUNY Oneonta, with cooperating teacher, Kelly Connor, for the period of January 8, 2018 through March 9, 2018.”

RESO #22-12/20/2017
Approve Student
Teacher

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

Use of Facilities

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the request of Rensselaer Girls Softball Association for use of the south gym on Thursdays from 6-8pm beginning January 2018 through March 2018 for the purpose of holding an off-season softball clinic. This approval is pending receipt of usage fee and receipt of certificate of insurance.”

RESO #23-12/20/2017
Approve Use of
Gymnasium –
Rensselaer Girls
Softball

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby declares as surplus and allow for disposal of all equipment listed on the Electronics Recycling Winter 2017 spreadsheet.”

**RESO #24-12/20/2017
Declare Surplus
Electronics**

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby accepts a donation in the amount of \$500.00 from the Fraternal Order of Eagles to be used to purchase art supplies; and authorize adjustment to the school district budget.”

**RESO #25-12/20/2017
Accept Donation**

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

By Mr. Spath:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby accepts a donation in the amount of \$87.39 from The Benevity Community Impact Fund for the Van Rensselaer Elementary School; and authorize adjustment to the school district budget.”

**RESO #26-12/20/2017
Accept Donation**

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Second: Mrs. Endres

Ayes – 4 Nays – 0

JSHS Announcements by Ms. Urbanski:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Thanks extended to Mr. McGough, Ms. Ladouceur and their students for the outstanding performances at the holiday concerns.
- Thanks extended to Kate Foley and Pam Goodwin for putting together a Science Olympiad Team. The team consists of seventeen 7th and 8th grade students who will compete on February 10th.
- Odyssey of the Mind Competition will be held here this year.

VR Announcements by Mr. Palmer:

- Thanks extended to Mrs. Nixon for her work on the can drive. More than 1500 cans of food were donated.
- Thanks extended to RTA for their Annual Toy Drive
- Thanks extended to the Pre-K and Kindergarten teachers for the money they raised to purchase pajamas. 60 pairs of pajamas were purchased/donated.
- Thanks extended to our band and chorus for the great concerts.
- Thanks extended to Santa for visiting classrooms at VR yesterday.

IT Announcements by Mr. Howell:

- We are working with Questar III on content for the new website.
- We are starting to receive some of the equipment ordered with funding from the Smart Schools Grant. We have provided Doane Stuart with their portion of equipment.

RTA Announcements provided by Mrs. Lane:

- The Universal Foundations Class used the December bagel sale profits to purchase Christmas gifts for a family in our community. They shopped and wrapped all the gifts which were presented to Circles of Mercy on Tuesday.
- The Universal Foundations Class catered a luncheon for the staff in the PPS Department hosted by Ms. Multer. The students planned, prepared and set up the luncheon buffet for 60 people.
- The Universal Foundations students went to Concerns-U two times this month to help the volunteers unload the food from the Regional Food Bank and unpacked it in the Food Pantry.
- The Rensselaer Concert Band has been invited to play for Rensselaer County’s Inauguration Ceremony on January 1st. We will bring around 38 students to play the Star Spangled Banner and Americans We.
- Student Council is preparing to open a school store called the “Ram-Mart”. We are hoping to have it open by the end of January.
- The Ramblurr is being resurrected by Ms. Leonard and some of her students.

By:

**RESO #27-12/20/2017
Executive Session**

“Be it resolved that the Board of Education enter into executive session at 7:05 p.m. during which time matters concerning personnel will be discussed.”

Second:

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION AT __:__ P.M.

By: Mr. Burns

**RESO #28-12/20/2017
Adjourn**

“Motion to adjourn at __:__ p.m.”

Second: Mr. Pratt

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Williams
Clerk to the Board of Education

DRAFT