

**RENSSELAER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
25 Van Rensselaer Drive
Rensselaer, New York 12144
December 19, 2018**

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

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. John Mooney, Mr. Tim Spath, Ms. Dana Endres, Ms. Jennifer Haggerty, and Ms. Vanessa Salisbury were present.

ROLL CALL

District Superintendent Ms. Gladys Cruz, Deputy Superintendent Mr. Harry Hadjioannou, Questar III Board Member Mark Mann, Ms. Meghan Heimroth, Mr. Mike Toney, Ms. Colleen Multer, Mr. Dom Pitaniello, Ms. Karen Urbanski, Mr. Will DeRuve, Mr. Jy'Quan Stewart, Mr. Kieran Teator, Ms. Purevsuren Batdorj, Ms. Sarah Fiess, Ms. Lark Rutecki, and Superintendent Joseph Kardash were also present. There were three others in attendance.

By Mr. Tim Spath:

**RESO # 1 - 12/19/18
Approve Minutes**

“RESOLVED, the Board approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education dated November 14, 2018.”

Second: Ms. Jenn Haggerty

Ayes - 5

Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

REPORTS

Rensselaer Junior/Senior High School Reports by Ms. Karen Urbanski:

Junior and Senior High School concerts took place this week. Tuesday nights performance by the Junior High School students was phenomenal! Senior High School performances this morning were fabulous! The Senior High concert is being broadcast via Facebook live. Our band and choral ensembles are one of the best, if not the best in the area!

Substitute coverage is down considerably. We have a consistent 12 to 14 individuals who are coming in to provide coverage. Many are alumni and community members.

Dean of Students Reports by Mr. Will DeRuve:

Future Business Leaders of America club was successful with their 'Dress for Success' venture. Students collected over 50 outfits for women going on interviews in 2019. Two racks of clothing have already been donated to Circles of Mercy, and a third is in the making! Students will collect attire for men in March.

Questar III Report by Ms. Gladys Cruz & Mr. Harry Hadjioannou:

District Superintendent Gladys Cruz spoke on programs and aid available to the district through the BOCES. She introduced three Rensselaer students in BOCES programs to speak on their experiences:

Jy'Quan Stewart from the Hospitality and Lodging program shared how his coursework has taught him to help others, work in teams and provide positive guest services

Kieran Teator from the New Visions program spoke about hands on learning experiences coupled with significant amounts of laboratory time and the benefit it has provided to his education. Students are connected with professionals in fields they have interest in, but exposed to lots of new things.

Purevsuren Batdorj from Tech Valley spoke to how a collaboration based education has shaped her views on the future and opened many avenues for her future ventures.

Sarah Fiess, School Outreach Coordinator at Tech Valley High School, talked about professional development that is offered by Tech Valley to teachers to learn more about project based learning, seeing how it works and how to implement it.

Deputy Superintendent Harry Hadjioannou spoke to how the business education program at Questar III Boces exposes students to multiple different career paths.

Mr. Jy'Quan Stewart, Mr. Kieran Teator, Ms. Purevsuren Batdorj, Ms. Sarah Fiess, and three others left at 6:55 p.m.

District Superintendent Gladys Cruz, Deputy Superintendent Harry Hadjioannou, Questar III Board Member Mr. Mark Mann and Board Member Ms. Dana Endres left at 7:06 p.m.

Business Office Report by Ms. Meghan Heimroth:

Provided the Board a compilation of the grandmaster schedule as a tool for budget planning purposes. It offers a quick review of the Grand Master schedule that was approved in August.

Cafeteria Reports by Ms. Teri Hopper:

October was our highest reimbursement ever. We will see revenue trend downward.

Rensselaer had no violations on the recent health inspection.

Pupil Personnel Service Report by Ms. Colleen Multer:

Working with Marsha Atwood, from Questar III BOCES, to focus on test scores, train teachers on iReady, and quality individualized education plan writing.

Van Rensselaer Elementary School Reports by Mr. Jeff Palmer:

Thanked the Board for reviewing substitute pay rates as there has been an uptick in the number of quality substitutes, namely retired teachers who have been coming in. Overall the need for substitutes has gone down.

Recognized the efforts of Patty Baumeister, a longstanding elementary teacher, who has been an integral member of the Rensselaer City School District. Patty will be retiring at the end of this year, but has already asked to be a sub for the following year.

Character Ed assemblies have been going well, students are becoming more creative with skits, not just songs, this year.

Athletic Reports by Mr. Dom Pitaniello:

Tip off tournament had a good turn out this year, particularly Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Lots of alumni were present.

Recognized four of our fall sports teams as scholar athletes, meaning 75% of the team had over a 90% average. Those teams were: Boys Cross Country, Girls Soccer, Girls Tennis, and Girls Volleyball.

Board President John Mooney recognized the dedication and commitment of educators Colleen Sholette and Patricia Baumeister to Rensselaer City School District.

By Ms. Vanessa Salisbury:

RESO #2 - 12/19/18
Accept & File Account Reconciliation

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby accepts and orders filed the November 2018 account reconciliations of the Extraclassroom Activity Fund submitted by Central Treasurer, Michael Toney.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salisbury:

RESO #3 - 12/19/18
Adopt 2019-2020 Budget Calendar

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby adopts the 2019-2020 Budget Calendar as presented by the School Business Official.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

By Ms. Vanessa Salisbury:

RESO #4 - 12/19/18
Accept & File Treasurer's Report

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby accepts and orders filed the November 2018 Treasurer’s Report submitted by the District Treasurer.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salisbury:

RESO #5 - 12/19/18
Accept & File Claims Audit Report

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby accepts and orders filed the November 2018 Claims Audit Report submitted by Michael Wolff.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salisbury:

RESO #6 - 12/19/18
Approve Agreement - Lansingburgh CSD

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby approves the Special Education Services contract with Lansingburgh Central School District for services from December 4th, 2018 through June 26th, 2019.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby approves the first reading of RCSD Policy #4531 - Field Trips.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

RESO #7 - 12/19/18
Approve First Read of
Policy # 4531

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby approves the first reading of RCSD Policy #4531.1 - Extended Trips.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

RESO #8 - 12/19/18
Approve First Read of
Policy # 4531.1

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby approves a tax credit for Verizon Wireless in the amount of \$1,155.90 for 2017 and \$1,247.54 for 2018.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

RESO #9 - 12/19/18
Approve Tax Credit
2017 & 2018 - Verizon

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby approves to reimburse Superintendent Joseph Kardash one half of his airfare expense to the AESA conference in Colorado Springs, Colorado in the amount of \$279.16.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

RESO #10 - 12/19/18
Approve Tax Credit
2017 & 2018 - Verizon

Motion Carried
Unanimously

PERSONNEL

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby accepts the resignation of Regina Lutskiy, Teachers Aide, effective December 2, 2018.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

RESO #11 - 12/19/18
Accept Resignation -
Regina Lutskiy

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby accepts the resignation of Colleen Sholette, Secondary Teacher, for the purpose of retirement effective June 30, 2019.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

RESO #12 - 12/19/18
Accept Retirement -
Colleen Sholette

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby accepts the resignation of James Haworth, Cleaner, for the purpose of retirement effective December 31, 2018.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

RESO #13 - 12/19/18
Accept Retirement -
James Haworth

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby accepts the resignation of Michael Miller, Cleaner, for the purpose of retirement effective January 16, 2019.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

RESO #14 - 12/19/18
Accept Retirement -
Michael Miller

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby accepts the resignation of Patricia Baumeister, Elementary Teacher, for the purpose of retirement effective June 30, 2019.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

RESO #15 - 12/19/18
Accept Retirement -
Patricia Baumeister

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the updated request of Diane Rizzo for an unpaid leave of absence for 10 weeks, commencing on October 10, 2018 and ending on or about December 19, 2018.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

RESO #16 - 12/19/18
Approve Unpaid
Leave - Diane Rizzo

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board

hereby approves the request of Meghan Murphy for 7 consecutive weeks of Family Medical Leave as per Rensselaer City School District Policy 9520.2 commencing on or about April 29, 2019 and ending on or about June 17, 2019.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

RESO #17 - 12/19/18

**Approve FMLA -
Meghan Murphy**

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board

hereby approves the request of Ashley Fitzgerald for 8 consecutive weeks of Family Medical Leave as per Rensselaer City School District Policy 9520.2 commencing on or about January 28, 2019 and ending on or about March 25, 2019.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

RESO #18 - 12/19/18

**Approve FMLA -
Ashley Fitzgerald**

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board

hereby appoints for the following tutors for the 2018-2019 school year:
Steve Rees

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

RESO #19 - 12/19/18

Appoint Tutors

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board

hereby appoints Kiersten Cosgrove as a long-term substitute teacher, at the daily rate of \$140, to fill the position held by Jessica Mouawad who has been granted a leave of absence. Ms. Cosgrove’s appointment will begin on or about January 23, 2019 and is intended to continue for the term of Ms. Mouawad’s leave, but no later than April 17, 2019.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

RESO #20 - 12/19/18

**Appoint Long-Term
Substitute Teacher -
Kiersten Cosgrove**

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board

RESO #21 - 12/19/18

**Approve Student
Teachers**

hereby approves the following student teachers from The College of St. Rose with cooperating teachers.”

Cooperating Teacher

Mike Toney
Ann Gillin

Student Teacher Term

Kimberly Spence 3/11/19-5/3/19
Nicole Murphy 1/15/19-3/8/19

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

RESO #22 - 12/19/18

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Kiersten Cosgrove as a substitute teacher (Masters rate) effective December 19, 2018.”

**Approve Substitute
Teacher - Kiersten
Cosgrove**

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

RESO #22 - 12/19/18

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Laura McGlynn as a substitute teacher aide effective December 19, 2018 pending fingerprint clearance.”

**Approve Substitute
Teacher Aide - Laura
McGlynn**

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

RESO #22 - 12/19/18

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Joshua Kenna as a substitute teacher (Non-Degree rate) effective December 19, 2018 pending fingerprint clearance.”

**Approve Substitute
Teacher - Joshua
Kenna**

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

USE OF FACILITIES

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

RESO #23 - 12/19/18

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board

**Approve Use of Fields
& Gymnasiums**

hereby approves the request of CSEA Local 871 for the use of the faculty lounge for a general membership meeting January 8th, 2019 from 5 p.m.

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4

Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the request of Debra Sklar for the use of one (1) classroom for the purposes of teaching English Thursday evenings from

RESO #24 - 12/19/18
Approve Use of Fields & Gymnasiums

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4

Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

**COMMITTEE ON
SPECIAL
EDUCATION**

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the Committee on Special Education Minutes dated November 7, 2018 through November 30, 2018.”

RESO #25 - 12/19/18
Approve CSE Minutes

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4

Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

OTHER

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves an out-of-state fieldtrip for 45 Seniors to Shakespeare and Company in Lenox, Massachusetts on April 8th, 2019.”

RESO #26 - 12/19/18
Approve Out of State Fieldtrip

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 4

Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Mr. Spath:

"Motion to adjourn at 7:32 p.m."

RESO #27 - 12/19/18
Adjourn

Second: Ms. Salsbury

Ayes - 4

Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously