

**RENSELAER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
25 Van Rensselaer Drive
Rensselaer, New York 12144
May 22, 2019**

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

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Ms. Teri Hopper, Mr. Will DeRuve, Ms. Meghan Heimroth, Ms. Colleen Multer, Mr. Dom Pitaniello, Mr. Jeff Palmer, Board Member Elect Lark Rutecki and Superintendent Joseph Kardash were also present. No others were in attendance.

By Ms. Jennifer Haggerty:

**RESO # 1 - 05/22/19
Approve Minutes**

“RESOLVED, the Board approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education dated April 30, 2019.”

Second: Ms. Dana Endres

Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

REPORTS

Business Office Report by Ms. Meghan Heimroth:

Reported that the budget passed!

Cafeteria Reports by Ms. Teri Hopper:

Reported that the cafeteria staff will be feeding Questar III students over the summer at three locations, Sackett Educational Center, George Washington, and here at Rensselaer. This program is only for students enrolled in summer programs.

Rensselaer City School District Reports by Mr. Joseph :

Reported on an agreement with The Sage Colleges to offer credits for college in health. With this agreement, the District creates an opportunity for every single student to leave for college with credits towards their future pursuits.

Spoke about recent testing that was done on campus by the Rensselaer County Department of Health for lead dust. The County tested multiple locations on campus, such as window sills (interior and exterior), roof, dug outs, door frames etc., for lead dust, which could be carried to the school from sources like: I-90, Dunn Landfill, and homes in the area with lead paint. The testing found no detectable lead particulates. The county stated that they start their testing with lead particulates because it is the finest and easiest to travel. Since there were no detectable particulates, they have concluded that other, heavier, denser material that doesn't travel as easily would not be detectable.

Pupil Personnel Service Report by Ms. Colleen Multer:

Annual reviews for students are continuing.

We are reopening the behavior specialist position for additional applicants.

Van Rensselaer Elementary School Reports by Mr. Jeff Palmer:

Participation rate on Math and ELA exams was high, very few opt-outs this year. Spirit days, organized by the PTA were a hit and helped boost morale.

State Ed. was recently here, auditing practices. They have offered recommendations to better assist our staff in achieving their goals and the mission on the school.

We also had our SNAP ceremony, with the highest participation we've seen, about 600 students all together. Pam Goodwin goes above and beyond to make sure this program continues to run.

The art show on May 21, 2019 was a hit. It had the best attendance we've seen due to the hard work and dedication of Kelly Thomas and Tessa Sedlar and the immense talent of our students.

Rensselaer Junior/Senior High School Reports by Mr. Will DeRuve:

Went to a workshop about the reunification process during a crisis. Working to implement what was learned with our current practices in the event of emergency evacuation.

Modified sports dinner was great, we have many amazing multi-sport athletes. Our girls modified softball team remains undefeated this year!

Rensselaer Junior/Senior High School Reports by Mr. Dom Pitaniello:

Testing is being finished up in the junior high school.

The High school awards night was May 20, 2019 and it went great. Many students were recognized for their hard work and continuing effort throughout the year, and their career.

NEW BUSINESS

By Ms. Vanessa Salisbury:

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby accepts and orders filed the April 2019 account reconciliations of the Extraclassroom Activity Fund submitted by Central Treasurer, Michael Toney.”

RESO #2 - 05/22/19
Accept & File Account Reconciliation

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salisbury:

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby accepts and orders filed the April 2019 Treasurer’s Report submitted by the District Treasurer.”

RESO #3 - 05/22/19
Accept & File Treasurer's Report

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salisbury:

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby accepts and orders filed the April 2019 Claims Audit Report submitted by Michael Wolff.”

RESO #4 - 05/22/19
Accept & File Claims Audit Report

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salisbury:

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby accepts and orders filed results of the May 21, 2019 School Budget Vote as certified by the Rensselaer County Board of Elections.”

RESO #5 - 05/22/19
Accept Certified Budget Vote Results

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salisbury:

WHEREAS, The Cooperative Purchasing Service is a plan of a number of public school districts in the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego

RESO #6 - 05/22/19
Approve Cooperative Purchasing with DCMO BOCES

BOCES Area in New York, to bid jointly, equipment, supplies and contract items, and

WHEREAS, The Central School named below is desirous of participating with other districts in the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES in the joint bidding of the items mentioned above as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-o, and

WHEREAS, The Central School named below wishes to appoint the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES to advertise for bid, accept, tabulate bids and award bids on their behalf; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Central School listed below hereby appoints the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES to represent it in all matters relating Cooperative Purchasing bid notifications, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Central School listed below authorizes the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES to represent it in all matters leading up to the entering into a contract for the purchase of the above mentioned commodities, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Central School listed below agrees to (1) assume its equitable share of the costs of the Cooperative Bidding; (2) abide by majority decisions of the participating districts; (3) abide by the Award of the BOCES Board; (4) and that after the award of the bid it will conduct all negotiations directly with the successful bidder(s).

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5

Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salisbury:

RESO #7 - 05/22/19
Approve Generic
Bidding with DCMO
BOCES

WHEREAS, It is a plan of a number of public school districts in the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES Area in New York, to bid jointly equipment, supplies and contract items, and

WHEREAS, The Central School named below is desirous of participating with other districts in the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES Area in the joint bidding of the items mentioned above as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-o, and

WHEREAS, The Central School named below wishes to appoint a committee made up of participating schools to assume the responsibility for drafting of

specifications, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bids, tabulating bids and providing the information to their Board of Education who will make the awards; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Central School listed below hereby appoints the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES to represent it in all matters relating above, and designates the Evening Sun Newspaper as the legal publication for all Cooperative Purchasing bid notifications and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Central School listed below authorizes the above committee to represent it in all matters leading up to the entering into a contract for the purchase of the above mentioned items, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Central School listed below agrees to (1) abide by majority decisions of the participating districts on quality standards; (2) that it will award contracts based on information provided from the bid; (3) and that after the award of the bid it will conduct all negotiations directly with the successful bidder(s).

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5

Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salisbury:

RESO #8 - 05/22/19

**Approve Food and
Cafeteria Supplies
with DCMO BOCES**

WHEREAS, It is a plan of a number of public school districts in the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES Area in New York, to bid jointly Cafeteria supplies including but not limited to food and paper items, and

WHEREAS, The Central School named below is desirous of participating with other districts in the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES Area in the joint bidding of the commodities mentioned above as authorized by General Municipal Law, Section 119-o, and

WHEREAS, The Central School named below wishes to appoint a committee made up of participating schools to assume the responsibility for drafting of specifications, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bids, tabulating bids and awarding bids and reporting the results to the schools; therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Central School listed below hereby appoints the Delaware-Chenango-Madison-Otsego BOCES to represent it in all matters relating above, and designates the Evening Sun Newspaper as the legal publication for all Cooperative Purchasing bid notifications, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Central School listed below authorizes the above committee to represent it in all matters leading up to the entering into a contract for the purchase of the above mentioned commodities, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of the Central School listed below agrees to (1) assume its equitable share of the costs of the Cooperative Bidding; (2) abide by majority decisions of the participating districts on quality standards; (3) that it will award contracts according to the recommendations of the committee; (4) and that after the award of the bid it will conduct all negotiations directly with the successful bidder(s).

Second: Mr. Tim Spath Ayes - 5 Nays - 0 Motion Carried Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby adopts the proposed 2019-2020 School Calendar.”

**RESO #9 - 05/22/19
Adopt Proposed 2019-2020 School Calendar**

Second: Mr. Tim Spath Ayes - 5 Nays - 0 Motion Carried Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby approves the creation of the Eileen Jones Activity Fund for the purpose of students supporting fellow students including, but not limited to: participation in clubs and school events.”

**RESO #10 - 05/22/19
Approve Creation Of Extra Classroom Activity Fund**

Second: Mr. Tim Spath Ayes - 5 Nays - 0 Motion Carried Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby approves the agreement between CDB Connections and Rensselaer City School District for special education services provided during the Summer of 2019.”

**RESO #11 - 05/22/19
Approve Agreement - CDB Connections**

Second: Mr. Tim Spath Ayes - 5 Nays - 0 Motion Carried Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, the Board hereby approves the agreement between Music Speaks and Rensselaer City School District for music therapy services provided from July 8, 2019 through June 26, 2020.”

**RESO #12 - 05/22/19
Approve Agreement - Music Speaks**

Motion Carried

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5

Nays - 0

Unanimously

PERSONNEL

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

RESO #13 - 05/22/19

**Approve FMLA -
Ashley Zimbal**

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the request of Ashley Zimbal for 12 consecutive weeks of Family Medical Leave as per Rensselaer City School District Policy 9520.2 commencing on or about September 3, 2019 and ending on or about November 25, 2019.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5

Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

RESO #14 - 05/22/19

**Approve FMLA -
Sarah Agans**

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the request of Sarah Agans for 14 consecutive weeks of Family Medical Leave as per Rensselaer City School District Policy 9520.2 commencing on or about September 3, 2019 and ending on or about December 11, 2019.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5

Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

RESO #15 - 05/22/19

**Approve Unpaid
Leave - Elizabeth
Whitney**

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the request of Elizabeth Whitney for an unpaid leave of absence May 10, 2019.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5

Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

RESO #16 - 05/22/19

**Appoint Teacher -
Jessica Falace**

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board appoints Jessica Falace to a probationary appointment as a teacher in the Special Education tenure area effective September 3, 2019, for a four-year term tentatively scheduled to conclude on September 2, 2023, contingent upon her successful completion of the probationary term and having received composite or overall APPR ratings of either “Effective” or “Highly Effective” in at least three of the four preceding years and a rating higher than “Ineffective” at the conclusion of the 2022-2023 school year. Ms. Falace will be paid at a salary of Masters – Level A of the negotiated agreement between the RTA and the RCSD Board of Education. [Ms. Falace holds a Master’s Degree and NYS Initial Certification in SWD Birth-Grade 2, SWD Grades 1-6, Childhood Education Grades 1-6, and Early Childhood Education Birth - Grade 2.]

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

RESO #17 - 05/22/19

**Appoint Teacher -
Kiersten Cosgrove**

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board appoints Kiersten Cosgrove to a probationary appointment as a teacher in the Special Education tenure area effective September 3, 2019, for a four-year term tentatively scheduled to conclude on September 2, 2023, contingent upon her successful completion of the probationary term and having received composite or overall APPR ratings of either “Effective” or “Highly Effective” in at least three of the four preceding years and a rating higher than “Ineffective” at the conclusion of the 2022-2023 school year. Ms. Cosgrove will be paid at a salary of Masters – Level A of the negotiated agreement between the RTA and the RCSD Board of Education. [Ms. Cosgrove holds a Master’s Degree and NYS Initial Certification in SWD Grades 1-6, and Childhood Education Grades 1-6.]

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby amends the appointment of Tara Rothenberger from the April 16, 2019 Minutes to conclude on May 12, 2023.”

RESO #18 - 05/22/19

Amend Resolution from Previous BOE Meeting for Clerical Error: Appointment of T. Rothenberger

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

Motion Carried Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Karen Urbanski as a Substitute Teacher (Masters Rate) effective May 13, 2019.”

RESO #19 - 05/22/19

Approve Substitute Teacher - Karen Urbanski

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

Motion Carried Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Samantha Kardash as a Substitute Teacher (Bachelors Rate), Substitute Teacher Aide, and Substitute Cleaner effective May 23, 2019.”

RESO #20 - 05/22/19

Approve Substitute Teacher/Aide/Cleaner - Samantha Kardash

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

Motion Carried Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Kimberly Spence as a Substitute Teacher (Masters Rate) effective May 6, 2019.”

RESO #21 - 05/22/19

Approve Substitute Teacher - Kimberly Spence

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

Motion Carried Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Gabrielle Pike as a Substitute Teacher (Bachelors Rate) effective May 7th, 2019.”

RESO #22 - 05/22/19

Approve Substitute Teacher - Gabrielle Pike

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

Motion Carried Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

RESO #23 - 05/22/19

Approve Student Teachers

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the following student teacher(s) from The Sage Colleges with cooperating teacher(s).”

Cooperating Teacher

Heidi Blake
Michelle Belvedere

Student Teacher Term

Emily Fluegge 5/13/19-6/28/19
Sarah Lant 5/13/19-6/28/19

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

RESO #24 - 05/22/19

Approve Election Officials

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the following Election Officials for the May 21, 2019 budget vote at a stipend of \$115.00.”

Pauline Letzelter
Theresa Gates
Terry Jackson
Mary Ryan

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

RESO #25 - 05/22/19

Approve Substitute Teacher - Kathryn Moore

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves Kathryn Moore as a Substitute Teacher (Masters Rate) effective May 23, 2019 pending fingerprint clearance.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

USE OF FACILITIES

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the request of Rensselaer Summer Basketball for use of three School gymnasiums on Wednesday evenings starting June 26, 2019 through July 31, 2019 from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m., for the purpose of Basketball games pending the receipt of a usage fee and certificate of insurance.”

RESO #26 - 05/22/19
Approve Use of Fields & Gymnasiums

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the request of CSEA Local 871 for the use of the Faculty Lounge for a End of Year meeting June 11, 2019 from 5:30-8

RESO #27 - 05/22/19
Approve Use of Fields & Gymnasiums

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5 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 March 5, 2019 through May 9, 2019.”

RESO #28 - 05/22/19
Approve CSE Minutes

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5 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 field trip for the seniors to Six Flags New Jersey on June 13, 2019.”

RESO #29 - 05/22/19
Approve Out-of-State Fieldtrip

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the Health & Welfare contract in the amount of \$2,476.96, for 4 Rensselaer City resident students attending a private/parochial school in the Troy City School District..”

RESO #30 - 05/22/19

Approve Health & Welfare Contract - Troy City

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5

Nays - 0

Motion Carried Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the Health & Welfare Contract, in the amount of \$9,552.06, for 14 Rensselaer City resident students attending a private/parochial school in the North Colonie Central School District.”

RESO #31 - 05/22/19

Approve Health & Welfare Contract - North Colonie

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5

Nays - 0

Motion Carried Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the Health & Welfare Contract, in the amount of \$49,476.83, for 57.30 Rensselaer City resident students attending a private/parochial school in the Albany City School District.”

RESO #32 - 05/22/19

Approve Health & Welfare Contract - Albany City

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5

Nays - 0

Motion Carried Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board accepts a \$750.00 donation to the art department on behalf of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, and authorize adjustment to the 2018-2019 school district budget.”

RESO #33 - 05/22/19

Accept Donation

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5

Nays - 0

Motion Carried Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board accepts a \$12.00 donation to the Rensselaer Junior Senior High School on behalf of the Hannaford Helps Schools Program, and authorize the adjustment to the 2018-2019 school district budget.”

RESO #34 - 05/22/19

Accept Donation

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5

Nays - 0

Motion Carried Unanimously

By Ms. Vanessa Salsbury:

RESO #35 - 05/22/19

**Accept Donation &
Authorize
Disbursements**

“RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board
accepts a \$250.00 donation to the Rensselaer Junior Senior High School
on behalf of The Hudson River Bank and Trust , and authorize the
Business Office to disburse the donation into two checks in the amount of
\$125.00 each to Allison Knapp and Omar Garcia.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5

Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

By Ms. Dana Endres:

RESO #36 - 05/22/19

Executive Session

“Be it resolved that the Board of Education enters into executive session at
7:05 p.m. during which time matters concerning matters leading to the
appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension,
dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation will be
discussed.”

Second: Mr. Tim Spath

Ayes - 5

Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION AT 7:18 P.M.

By Mr. Tim Spath:

RESO #37 - 05/22/19

Adjourn

"Motion to adjourn at 7:19 p.m."

Second: Ms. Dana Endres

Ayes - 5

Nays - 0

Motion Carried
Unanimously