



Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2025
Time: 6:00 pm Regular Board Meeting
Location: FD MEDIA CENTER

1. **Call to order**

The meeting was called to order by the Board President at 6:04 p.m., in the FD Media Center of the Rumson School District, Rumson, New Jersey.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Notice of Meeting**

Announcement of this meeting has been sent to the Asbury Park Press and the Two River Times, an Agenda has been posted in the Deane-Porter and Forrestdale School, Rumson Borough Hall and the Oceanic Library, and an agenda has been posted on the Rumson School District website.

4. **Roll Call**

Mr. Brown	Present	Mrs. Finney	Absent	Mrs. Sahadi	Present
Mrs. DeSena	Present	Mr. McManus	Present	Mrs. Scoble	Present
Mrs. Esposito	Present	Mr. Roberto	Present	Mrs. Swain	Present

5. **Welcome Visitors**

6. **Communications**

Permitted the fair and orderly expression of comments, on agenda items, we ask that the public:

- Wait to be recognized
- Preface comments with your name and address
- Direct all comments to the presiding officer
- Discuss only concerns that have been previously addressed through proper administrative channels
- Refrain from using any pupil or staff member's name

The Board is happy to listen to all comments, but this may not be the forum for any and all questions.

7. **Correspondence** - None

8. **Approval of Minutes**

RECOMMENDATION

Approved the following minutes:

February 26, 2025 Regular & Executive session meeting minutes

Moved: Mr. Brown **Seconded:** Mrs. DeSena
All in Favor: AYES: 8 **Absent:** Mrs. Finney

9. Report of Superintendent

The Superintendent reported on the following activities and events:

- **School Suspensions** - for the period of February 27, 2025 - March 19, 2025

Deane-Porter	Forrestdale	District
0	2	2

- **Enrollment** - as of March 19, 2025

Deane-Porter	Forrestdale	District
406	497	903

- **SSDS REPORT PRESENTATION**

Presented the Student Safety Data System (SSDS) report for Feb. 27, 2025 - Mar. 19, 2025

Incidents	Forrestdale	Deane-Porter	District	Incident
# of total SSDS Incidents	0	0	0	NA
# of HIB Investigations	0	0	0	NA
# of HIB Incidents determined	0	0	0	NA
# of Principal Determinations not resulting in an HIB Investigation	0	0	0	NA

- **Acceptance of Safety and Security Drill Report**

Accepted the Safety and Security Report for February 27, 2025, thru March 19, 2025

School	Type of Drill	Occupants Involved	Date and Time
DP/FD	Fire Drill	All Staff & Students	3/18/25 @ 1:30 PM

Approved the following consent agenda item (a) to be approved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent:

Moved: Mrs. Swain Seconded: Mr. Brown

Roll Call: AYES: 8 Absent: Mrs. Finney

- a. **SSDS/HIB REPORT APPROVAL**

Approved the Student Safety Data System (SSDS) report for Jan. 30, 2025 - Feb. 26, 2025

Incidents	Forrestdale	Deane-Porter	District	Incidents
# of total SSDS Incidents	0	0	0	N/A
# of HIB Investigations	1	0	1	FD 24-25 #04
# of HIB Incidents determined	0	0	0	NA
# of Principal Determinations not resulting in an HIB Investigation	1	0	1	FD 24-25 #05

10. **Education Committee**

- **Report of Meeting**
- **Approved the following consent agenda items (a -g) upon the recommendation of the Superintendent:**

Moved: Mrs. Swain **Seconded:** Mr. Brown

Roll Call Vote: AYES: 8 **Absent:** Mrs. Finney

a. 25-26 Future Resident / Non-Resident

Approved acceptance of the following Future Resident and Non-Resident students:

25-26 Grade	# Future Resident / Non-Resident	Tuition Fee each	Total Tuition
Kdg	1 (Future Resident)	\$13,500	\$13,500

b. PTO Innovation Fund Approvals

Approved accepting the following generous PTO Innovation Funds in the amount of **\$3,329.55** :

- RASA smART Sketcher 2.0 Grant Application
- Increasing Art Access for All: Digital Art Tutorials & The Outside the Lines Initiative
- Geodes Resources for Reading Activities

Funds to be placed in GAAP Account 20-001.

c. Field Trips

Approved the following scheduled field trips.

Class / Staff	Trip Description/ Location	Cost to Student
<u>7th & 8th Grade</u> Maureen Gordon	Mock Trial at NJ State Bar Foundation New Brunswick, NJ	None

d. Comprehensive Equity Plan

1. Comprehensive Equity Plan Development

Approved the **Comprehensive Equity Plan** development; authorized the Affirmative Action Team to conduct the needs assessment and develop a Comprehensive Equity Plan for school years 2025-26 through 2027-2028.

- 2. Comprehensive Equity Plan Submission** Approved the **Comprehensive Equity Plan** submission; authorized the submission of the proposed Comprehensive Equity Plan for school years 2025-2026 through 2027-2028 to the County Office of Education.

e. Home Instruction

Retroactively approved **Silvergate** to provide home instruction for SID # 242895, effective 3/06/25 until further notice.

f. 25-26 Full Day Preschool Program

Approved the Rumson School District Full-Day PreSchool Program.

g. 25-26 PreSchool Students / Non-Resident Preschool Students

Approved the following 25-26 Preschool Full-Day Tuition Students

# of PreK Students	PreK Student Tuition Rate/Year	Total Tuition
25	\$12,000 each	\$300,000
2 (staff members)	\$6,000 each	\$12,000
TOTAL: 27		\$312,000

11. Personnel Committee

- **Report of Meeting**
- **Approved the following consent agenda items (a-h) upon the recommendation of the Superintendent:**

Moved: Mrs. Swain **Seconded:** Mr. Brown

Roll Call Vote: AYES: 8 **Absent:** Mrs. Finney

a. Resignation Notice

Accepted the resignation notice from **Samantha Oujo**, 1:1 Instructional Aide, effective March 24, 2025.

b. Unpaid Medical Leave

To approve the unpaid medical leave request from **Amanda Fahy, Guidance Counselor**, to commence on 4/11/25 through on/or about 4/30/25.

c. Guidance Counselor Leave Replacement

To approve, as per N.J.S.A. 18A:16-1.1, Kaitlyn Feeny, as Guidance Counselor Leave Replacement from on/about April 11, 2025 to on/or about April 30, 2025, independently contracted from and to be paid by ESS at the rate of \$310/day. This is for a time to be determined by the Board of Education and the time served in this position does not contribute toward acquiring tenure.

d. Custodian/Groundskeeper

Approved the appointment of **Michael Damiano, Custodian/Groundskeeper** hired at a salary of \$46,248 with additional pay of \$3,400 for Groundskeeper per the negotiated agreement between the Rumson Board of Education and the Rumson Education Association, to begin on/or about July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 pending Criminal History Review, Pre-employment medical, and Child Protective Measures. In year one there is a probationary period of one hundred eighty (180) days duration during which the employee may be summarily dismissed without notice.

e. Assignment Changes

Approved the following assignment changes effective March 24, 2025:

Staff Member	Current Assignment	New Assignment
Sarah Galyas	Kdg 1:1 Instructional Aide	PreK 1:1 Instructional Aide
Collette Gifford	Grade 4 1:1 Instructional Aide	Kdg 1:1 Instructional Aide

f. Personal Day Less Sub Pay / Unpaid Day Request

Approved the following personal day less sub pay / Unpaid day request: (*retroactive)

Staff Member	Date(s) Requested	Personal Day Less Sub Pay / Unpaid Day
Kate Sullivan	3/31/25	Half-day unpaid PM
Meghan O'Connor	2/27/25 & 2/28/25	Two (2) unpaid days
Erin Haluska	RESCINDED DAYS OFF 3/11/25; 3/12/25; 3/24/25; 4/01/25; 4/02/25	RESCINDED FIVE (5) UNPAID DAYS

g. Additional Compensation

Approved the following additional compensation: (*retroactive)

Name	Date	Event/Location	Hours/Amount paid
Margaret DeMaria Amanda O'Neill	2/24/25 - 3/05/25*	Home Instruction SID # 242895	\$53.00/hr Up to 5 hrs/week each
Tricia Zifchak Joe Spernal Allie Copman Jennie Lucci	3/09/25*	St. Patrick's Day Parade Chaperone	Up to 3 hrs total @ \$53.00/hr 12:00 pm - 3.00 pm

h. Medical Leave Extension

To approve the medical leave extension for Kathryn Benny, using 8 sick days and 2 unpaid days, returning on April 8, 2025.

12. Finance and Facilities Committee

- Report of Meeting
 - Approved the following consent agenda items (a-i) upon the recommendation of the Superintendent:
- Moved: Mrs. Swain Seconded: Mr. McManus
Roll Call Vote: AYES: 8 Absent: Mrs. Finney

a. Board Secretary's Monthly Certification

Accepted the Board Secretary's Monthly Certification Budgetary Line Item Status Report:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)3, I certify that as of February 28, 2025 no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a).

Board Secretary

Date

b. Bills & Claims

1. Approved the March 2025 bills presented for payment as per the Bills & Claims report and hand check list.

Fund 11	\$ 655,300.05
Fund 20	\$ 26,160.83
Fund 60	\$ 70,758.68
Fund 61	\$ 805.60
TOTAL	\$ 753,025.16

2. Approved the following gross payroll expenses:

March 15, 2025 \$ 645,163.86

c. Board Secretary's Report / Monthly Reconciliation Report

Accepted the Board Secretary's Report to the Board of Education for the month ending February 28, 2025, including a report of amounts appropriated, expended and transferred into or out of any item of appropriation, and to note that the report has been reconciled with PANDA, LLC Reconciliation Service.

Accepted The Monthly Certification Budgetary Major Account Fund Status Report:

RESOLVED: that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2-11(c)4 the Board certifies that as of February 28, 2025, after review of the Board Secretary's and monthly financial reports, in the minutes of the Board each month no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b).

d. Transfers

Approved the Board to ratify transfers made in the past 30 days by the Chief School Administrator within the 2024-2025 budget.

e. Use of Facilities

Approved the following facility use request: (*retroactive approval)

Organization	Use Request	Date(s) /Time(s)	Location	Fees
Rumson Rec Charlie Hoffman	7th & 8th Gr. Basketball Makeup	3/14/25 6:00 - 9:00 pm	FD Gym	NA
Rumson Rec Charlie Hoffman	Rec Basketball	6:00 - 7:00 pm 3/27/25; 4/03/25;	FD Gym	NA
Rumson PTO Mary Bruhn	Rumson's Got Talent	4/03/25 4:30 - 9:30 PM <hr/> 3/31/25; 4/02/25 (Rehearsal) 3:30 - 7:00 pm	MPR, Upper/Lower Ticket & Green Room	NA

f. Travel and Related Expenses / Professional Development

Approved the following Travel and related expenses/Professional Development: (*Retroactive approval)

Name	Date(s) / Time	Event / Location	Cost	R/T Mileage
<u>RESCINDED</u> Sandy Self	3/07/25	Cultivating Powerful Mathematical Communities: Dr. Niki Newton Foundation for Educational Admin 12 Centre Drive Monroe Township, NJ 08831	\$50/person	NA
<u>Retroactive replacement</u> Joanna Minnis	3/07/25	Cultivating Powerful Mathematical Communities: Dr. Niki Newton Foundation for Educational Admin 12 Centre Drive Monroe Township, NJ 08831	\$50/person	NA

g. Settlement Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rumson Board of Education ("Board") approves the settlement agreement for students Nos. 243167 and 243168 re: EDS 11554-2024S and EDS 11555-2024S in the amount of **\$2,344**.

h. Out of District Transportation

Approved the Out of District Transportation agreement for the following students:

- **Student ID # 243118** at The Rugby School at Woodfield,, for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year for 58 days commencing March 24, 2025 through June 25, 2025, at the rate of \$422.39 per diem, for a total of \$24,498.62. Student will share transportation route with existing student through MOESC at no additional cost.

i. Adoption of the Tentative Budget for FY 2025-2026

The Superintendent recommends approval to adopt the Tentative Budget for FY 2025-2026, as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the tentative budget be approved for the 2025-2026 School Year using the 2025-2026 state aid figures and the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary be authorized to submit the following tentative budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval in accordance with the statutory deadline:

	General Fund	Special Revenues	Debt Service	TOTAL
2025-2026 Total Expenditures	\$23,147,539	\$606,528	\$1,559,226	\$25,313,293
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$3,484,526	\$606,528	\$520,204	\$4,611,258
Taxes to be Raised	\$19,663,013	—	\$1,039,022	\$20,702,035

And to advertise said tentative budget in the **Asbury Park Press** in accordance with the form required by the State Department of Education and according to law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held in the Multi Purpose Room (MPR) of the Rumson School District, located on Black Point Road, Rumson, NJ 07760, on **April 30, 2025**, at 6:30 pm for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the budget for the 2025-2026 School Year.

Capital Reserve Withdrawal - Other Capital Projects

BE IT RESOLVED that included in the general fund appropriations, budget line 620 is a withdrawal from Capital Reserve - Other Capital Projects in the amount of **\$175,000** for other capital projects costs of **\$175,000**. The total cost of these projects is **\$175,000** which represents expenditures for construction elements or projects that are in addition to the facilities efficiency standards determined by the Commissioner as necessary to achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

Travel and Related Expenses Reimbursements

WHEREAS, the Rumson Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3 et seq. Requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Rumson Board of Education established **\$37,816** as the maximum travel amount for the current school year and has expended **\$13,475** as of this date; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3, to a maximum expenditure of **\$33,167** for the 2025-2026 school year.

Adjustment for Enrollment

BE IT RESOLVED that the Rumson Board of Education includes in the tentative budget the adjustment for enrollment in the amount of **\$ 503,838.** The district intends to utilize this adjustment for supplies and materials necessary for the additional students.

13. Planning Committee

- **Report of Meeting - No meeting held**

14. Policy Committee

- **Report of Meeting - No meeting held**
- **Approved the following consent agenda item (a) upon the recommendation of the Superintendent:**

Moved: Mrs. Swain **Seconded:** Mr. Brown

Roll Call Vote: AYES: 8 **Absent:** Mrs. Finney

a. Second Reading and adoption

Approved Second Reading and adoption on the following revised/new policies and regulations:

R 5600	Student Discipline / Code of Conduct
R 5600	Appendix B - Grades 4 & 5 / Code of Conduct
R 5600	Appendix C - Grades 6-8 / Code of Conduct
R 5600	Appendix D - Honor Code / Code of Conduct
P 5701	Academic Integrity

15. New Business - None

16. Communications

To permit the fair and orderly expression of comments we ask that the public:

- Wait to be recognized
- Preface comments with your name and address
- Direct all comments to the presiding officer
- Discuss only concerns that have been previously addressed through proper administrative channels
- Refrain from using any pupil or staff member's name
- Refrain from using any pupil or staff member's name

The Board is happy to listen to all comments, but this may not be the forum for any and all questions.

17. Executive Session

RECOMMENDATION

Approved the following resolution.

Moved that the Board of Education recess to an Executive Session for consideration of issues dealing with:

- **Negotiations**

Action may be taken on these items when the Board later returns to Public Session. Minutes of the Executive Session will be released to the public after the reasons for non-disclosure no longer exist.

Moved: Mrs. Swain **Seconded:** Mr. McManus

Roll Call Vote: AYES: 8 **Absent:** Mrs. Finney

18. Roll Call upon return to public session at 7:07 p.m.

Mr. Brown	Present	Mrs. Finney	Absent	Mrs. Sahadi	Present
Mrs. DeSena	Present	Mr. McManus	Present	Mrs. Scoble	Present
Mrs. Esposito	Present	Mr. Roberto	Present	Mrs. Swain	Present

19. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Moved: Mrs. Swain Seconded: Mr. Brown

Roll Call Vote: AYES: 8 Absent: Mrs. Finney

Respectively submitted by,

Denise McCarthy,
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Dated: _____