

The Regular Meeting of the Roxbury Central School District Board of Education was held on March 10, 2021 at 7:00 PM via Zoom.

Present: Ed Fersch, Denise Johnston, Ed Dalski, Kelli Winnie and Jenny Rosenzweig
Superintendent: Jeff Bennett
Principal: Jill Ten Eyck
Treasurer: Wendy Sprague
Secretary: Marianne Schor

Mr. Fersch called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Jo Hinkley and Karen Bramley gave an update on the Roxbury Collaborative Model. They stated that some parents are using OTIS since it was made available in December. They added that with all the remote days we've had since the December break, the RCMT committee has decided to cancel the remaining two RCMT half-days. Mrs. Hinkley stated that they are focusing on self-care for the staff for the rest of this year, and she and Mrs. Bramley have updated the Professional Development Plan.

RCMT Presentation

Mr. Bennett discussed the preliminary budget for 2021-2022. The next Public Presentation will be on March 24th.

**1st Public
Budget
Presentation**

Additions to agenda: None

Denise Johnston moved, seconded by Ed Dalski to approve the treasurer's report for February, 2021. Motion approved unanimously.

Treas. Report

Wendy Sprague shared the results for the BOCES fuel bid for 2021-2022. Bottini will be supplying our diesel and fuel oil; Main Care will provide unleaded gas.

21-22 Fuel Bid

There were no budget transfers this month.

Budget Transfers

The bills and the Claims Auditor's Report for February were reviewed.

Bills & Claims

Kelli Winnie moved, seconded by Denise Johnston to approve the extra-classroom activity fund report for February, 2021. Motion approved unanimously.

**Extra-Classroom
Activity Fund**

Kelli Winnie moved, seconded by Denise Johnston to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on February 10, 2021 as corrected. Motion approved unanimously.

Minutes

President's Report:

1. Mr. Fersch had attended the Catskill School Study Council School Board Institute presentation last month. Robert Lowry of the New York State Council of School Superintendents (NYSCOSS) discussed the financial picture that our schools will be facing. Mr. Fersch stated that we should be hearing soon from the state what money will actually be available. He discussed the impact of this on the budget. The second session was done by Alan Pole regarding shared services, which had many of the same ideas as had been discussed at the collaborative meetings with Margaretville and Andes and the other area school boards back before the pandemic.
2. Next Tuesday, March 16th, is the BOCES Budget Presentation via Zoom. The BOCES annual meeting will be held on April 1st, also via Zoom.
3. Mr. Fersch discussed the changes to Superintendent Bennett's contract for the upcoming year.
4. Denise Johnston moved, seconded by Kelli Winnie to approve the following resolution:

CASSC SBI

BOCES Annual Budget Presentation & Annual Mtg.

Superintendent's Contract Discussion

21-22 Bennett Contract

WHEREAS, pursuant to the terms of the Employment Agreement with Jeffrey J. Bennett as Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education and the Superintendent having met and conferred, are desirous of modifying the Agreement; and,

WHEREAS, the Board has prepared an Amendment to the original Employment Agreement between the Superintendent and the Board of Education, with such Amendment stating that the Superintendent's health insurance will be CASEBP Plan U; modifying the rate of compensation for the 2021-22 school year so that it will increase by 1.5% plus an additional \$400 to a total of \$130,320; and increasing the number of unused vacation days for which the Superintendent can be reimbursed to six; and,

WHEREAS, the Board and the Superintendent agree to such proposed Amendment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby accepts and agrees to the Amendment to the Agreement, dated March 10, 2021 (as attached herewith), and hereby authorizes the President of the Board, or the Vice President in his absence, to execute said Agreement on behalf of the District and to file same with the District Clerk.

Motion approved unanimously.

5. Jenny Rosenzweig moved, seconded by Kelli Winnie to approve the following:
Establish a Communications Committee to make recommendations to the Board about ways to strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of communication between the Roxbury Central School Board and the community and appoint Jenny Rosenzweig, Laurie Owen and Lillie Dudley to this committee.

**Communications
Committee**

Motion approved unanimously.

Superintendent's Report:

1. Mr. Bennett gave an update on state testing.
As of now, there will be only one day of 3-8 grade testing in both ELA and math instead of two, and only four Regents will be given in June.
2. Mr. Bennett stated that the Smartbond has been approved and Brenda Hill is getting quotes and ordering equipment. Teacher laptops have already been delivered, but Chromebooks are on backorder due to a shortage of supply.
3. As of March 23rd, all of the single-stall bathrooms will be marked as gender neutral with new signs.

State Testing Update

Smartbond Approval

Gender Bathrooms

Principal's Report:

1. Ms. Ten Eyck discussed the effects of remote learning on our student population. Students who started remote and have stayed remote are doing well; students who have been back and forth between remote and in-school learning seem to have a harder time when on remote. There is a concern that high school students may not be obtaining the credits they will need to graduate. Prior to the last remote session, Homework Help was up and running, and was well attended. Elementary STAR data is being processed through RIST, and we are developing a summer school programs with different options for students who are struggling.
2. Ms. Ten Eyck stated that there is a high number of student period absences that are not generating attendance reports because they are not full day absences. Students are picking and choosing which classes to attend during the day. Letters have gone home to parents of students who have missed 5 or more classes for a specific period.

**Curriculum – Effects
of Remote**

Attendance

Board Committee Reports: None

Board Comments and Questions: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

A. SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS:

Kelli Winnie moved, seconded by Denise Johnston to approve the following items:

1. Approve Annual Notice for Budget Vote and Election.
2. Approve 2021-2022 school calendar.
3. Approve the removal of RCMT half-days from the 2020-2021 school calendar for March and May.

Annual Notice

2021-2022 Calendar

**2020-2021 Calendar
Revision**

Motion approved unanimously.

B. PERSONNEL:

Jenny Rosenzweig moved, seconded by Kelli Winnie to approve the following personnel items:

1. Approve request for one day of unpaid leave retroactive to February 12, 2021 for Stacey Vasta.
2. Approve Brenda Hill as a volunteer varsity assistant softball coach with no stipend.

Personnel

Vasta Unpaid Leave

Hill Vol. Ass’t Coach

Motion approved unanimously.

C. OTHER:

1. Jennie Rosenzweig moved, seconded by Kelli Winnie to approve the following CSE Recommendations:
#’s 4082, 4180, 3081, 4018, 4126, 4328, 4399
Motion approved unanimously.

CSE Recs.

Public Comments: A member of the public questioned why Margaretville has been able to be in session and we have not, and if Roxbury could talk to Margaretville to see what they’re doing that we’re not. Mr. Fersch stated that Mr. Bennett would contact Margaretville.

Jenny Rosenzweig moved, seconded by Kelli Winnie to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 pm. Motion approved unanimously.

Adjourn

Jeffrey J. Bennett, Superintendent

Ed Fersch, BOE President

Marianne Schor, Secretary