

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
October 21, 2021- 7:30 PM**

DATE

October 21, 2021

PRESENT BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Gesario
Mr. Gorman
Mrs. Murano
Mrs. Savarese
Mrs. Scaraggi

MEETING

Regular Business Meeting

ABSENT

TIME

7:30 PM

ADJOURNED

10:25 PM

OTHERS PRESENT

Ms. Somers
Mr. Gibbs
Faculty Members (in person and virtually)
Community Members (in person and virtually)
The Progress

PLACE

Lester C. Noecker School

I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Board President

II. **STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE** - Open Public Meeting Act

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, notice of this regular meeting has been properly advertised in the newspapers of record, the agenda has been posted at the appropriate locations, directions for public comment have been posted on the district website, and a copy has been filed with the Borough Clerk of Roseland.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Gesario, Mr. Gorman, Mrs. Murano, Mrs. Savarese, and Mrs. Scaraggi -
All present.

III. **FLAG SALUTE**

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IV. BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT

Mr. Gorman reflected on the past and that the community should work together in order to help the community move forward. He further stated that Roseland was ranked 14 best in the county by the New York Times, in part due to our highly regarded school district.

Mr. Gorman further stated that negotiations with the Roseland Education Association are complete as there is a Memorandum of Agreement that is on the Board Agenda for approval this evening.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Finance -Facilities Committee

Mrs. Murano reported that the Playscape has been completed and is now operational.

She further stated that the school district will receive additional IDEA Funds in the amount of \$21,112.00 for Special Education tuition and Special Education professional services.

The district also received an increase in funding from The American Rescue Plan (ARP) ESSER Fund in the amount of \$97,999.00. The funds will be used to pay for assessment programs and a new computer server. The new computer server frees up funds as it was previously in our budget. We are identifying the best way to use these funds to support students.

The Board will be approving the Business Administrator to send out a Request for Proposals or RFP for the Before and Aftercare Programs for the 2022-2023 school year. After reviewing the various options that other care program providers have available it was decided to have the Board approve the option to go out for an RFP.

- HSA Liaison

Mrs. Murano stated that the last HSA meeting was dedicated to meeting the candidates for the school board.

VI. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY REPORT

- Audit Presentation - John Mooney

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Mr. Mooney presented the following:

- *The amount of Fund Balance will be \$339k which is up from last year.*
- *The total surplus will be \$374k with the increase in allowable upper limit.*
- *Encumbrances dropped at year end from the prior year as a matter of timing with respect to purchases.*
- *The Excess Surplus will remain the same as last year in order to help keep the tax rates down.*
- *The State is allowing school districts to keep 4% in surplus this year which is up from 2% for last year.*
- *The district is strong in it's fund balance and in it's reserves.*
- *The Food Service Fund is up by \$39k from last year which is good. The district will have to spend additional funds this year on upgrades to the Food Service Program.*
- *The Food Service surplus is \$7k over the State's requirement but if the district spends the funds this year it won't be an issue.*
- *Debt Service is on track with the payments with the final payments will be in 2026.*
- *The school district has borrowing power up to \$44m.*
- *The balance on debt service is \$3.8m and as time goes on the district will be in even a better financial position with the reduction of debt.*
- *The district has no Capital Leases and no Operating Leases.*
- *The SOC (Statement of Operating Compliance) Report for Ameriflex, the school's Flex Account provider doesn't go up to 2021. This was noted last year and is mentioned in the audit report.*
- *He felt that the administration has done an excellent job in budgeting funds needed in order to keep the district healthy which is due to having the right people in place.*
- *Finally he stated that Ms. Somers and Mr. Gibbs are doing an excellent job.*

Mrs. Savarese asked Mr. Mooney whether the State will require the district to reduce surplus or can we bring the funds into the budget to which Mr. Mooney stated that the future use may be for a large project.

Mr. Gibbs thanked Mr. Mooney and his team for doing an excellent job on the school's 2020-2021 audit. He also thanked Mrs. Barcia, the Assistant to the Business Administrator, for all of her efforts in helping to make the audit a success.

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Mr. Gibbs further stated that in the month of October we were informed by our insurance agent that due to the number of school computers that are being hacked into they are requiring that we have an off-site back-up system. On tonight's board agenda you will see the approval for New Era Technologies to perform this service for \$220.00 per month with a one time initial set-up fee of \$700.00 which will backup the staff's saved files off-site. The main programs that the school uses are already being stored off-site.

The district received seven OPRA requests in the month of October. One OPRA request came from SEIU, (Service Employees International Union) requesting custodial service information of which we don't utilize as the school has its own custodial staff. Six OPRA requests came from Mr. Dudas who requested financial information, legal information, curriculum, special education information, bus information, and employee termination information of which some of the information can not be provided due to confidentiality.

The M-1 Maintenance Plan for 2022-2023 is on the Board Agenda for Approval. The M-1 Maintenance Plan lists the items that will be done in coordination with the 2022-2023 budget. The total anticipated cost is \$84,500.00 which consists of asbestos maintenance, univent maintenance, sidewalks repairs, repairs and relevel pavers, general painting of classrooms and hallways as needed, repairs and inspection of the school's roof, possible recoating of gym Floors, inspections and repairs to the playscapes and swings, repair skylights seals where needed, repairs to brick face and fascia on building were cracked, maintenance and repairs to boiler the system, and routine maintenance and flushing of the grease traps and sewer lines.

In October, the sewer lines within the school needed to be jettted on an emergency basis. The staff was notified of the situation and we are taking extra steps to help ensure that the sewer lines remain clog free as we are going to have the scales removed from the lines.

Finally, Mr. Gibbs thanked Ms. Somers for doing an amazing job as Superintendent. He further stated that he has worked with a number of Superintendents over the years and she is by far the best.

Mr. Gorman thanked Mr. Gibbs for doing an excellent job.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Principal Report

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Mr. Sandoval acknowledged the school's amazing staff for all they continue to do for our students each and every day.

It has been a very busy month at Noecker with our Week of Respect activities and Start Strong testing; to close out the month of October, and welcome November, we have a few key upcoming events:

Friday, October 29th we will hold our Halloween Parade and classroom parties starting at 1:45 pm. An email was sent out yesterday with guidelines and procedures. We are excited and looking forward to a festive day.

The following week we will hold our Virtual Parent-Teacher Conferences on November 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. You should have received an email from your child's teacher with information on how to sign up for virtual conferences. Teachers are looking forward to sharing your child's progress and re-connecting with you.

In mid-November we have our Veterans Day virtual presentation. Each grade is working on a video to thank our veterans for their service. The video will be played throughout the school on Veterans Day, November 11th. An email blast will also be sent out to families with the link to watch the video from home.

In addition to the Veterans Day video, we are also creating a slideshow. As we mentioned in the Weekly Notification, if you have someone in your family that has served and would like their name and photo to be included in our presentation, please make sure to complete the online form via the link that was included in yesterday's Notification. You can either check your email or go to our Weekly Notifications link on the left side of our home page.

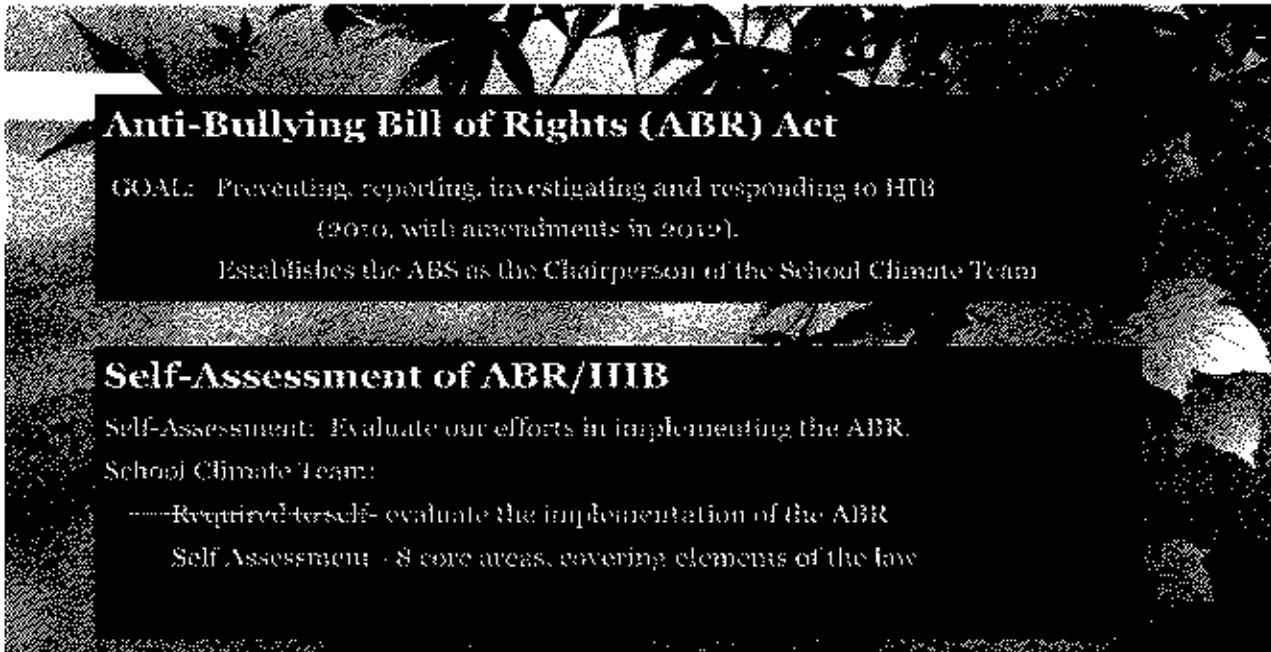
As always thank you for your continued support of Noecker.

- HIB Self-Assessment Presentation

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Ms. Cummings gave a presentation on on HIB Self-Assessment as follows:



Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights (ABR) Act

GOAL: Preventing, reporting, investigating and responding to HIB (2010, with amendments in 2012).

Establishes the ABS as the Chairperson of the School Climate Team

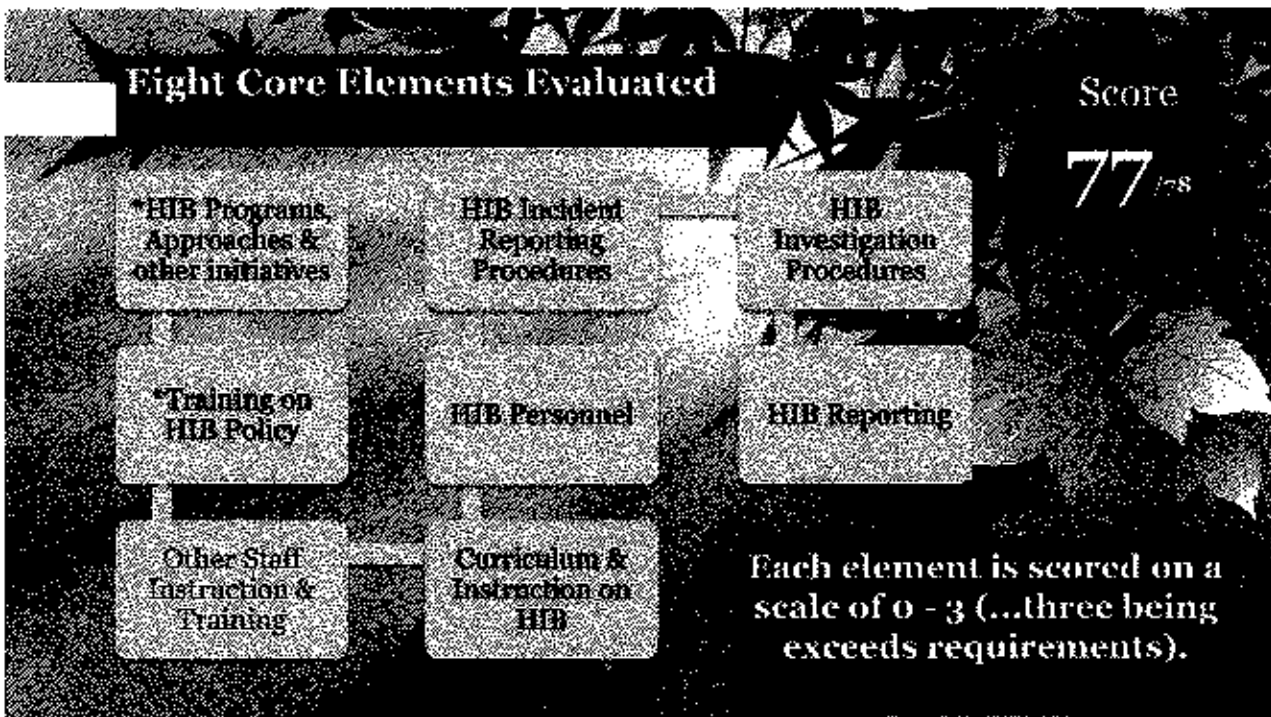
Self-Assessment of ABR/HIB

Self-Assessment: Evaluate our efforts in implementing the ABR.

School Climate Team:

- Required to self-evaluate the implementation of the ABR

Self-Assessment - 8 core areas, covering elements of the law



Eight Core Elements Evaluated

		Score
*HIB Programs, Approaches & other initiatives	HIB Incident Reporting Procedures	77 / 78
	HIB Investigation Procedures	
*Training on HIB Policy	HIB Personnel	
	HIB Reporting	
Other Staff Instruction & Training	Curriculum & Instruction on HIB	

Each element is scored on a scale of 0 - 3 (...three being exceeds requirements).

The full presentation can be viewed on the school's website.

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- Superintendent Comments

Good evening. Welcome to the October Board of Education meeting.

Thank you, Mrs. Cummings, the School Climate Team, and Mr. Sandoval.

Congratulations to Mr. Gibbs and Mrs. Barcia on another outstanding audit report.

We have been very busy since our last board of education meeting. On Monday, we shared the comprehensive teaching slides for our Trimester 1 Noecker Reads initiative which focuses on Identity. This was truly a collaborative effort among our teachers and committee and we benefited from the dialogue and reflection that went into the development of our first unit. I ask that everyone explore the whole of the initiative and to take the opportunity to learn more about the goals and the process, paying particular attention to the slides teachers will utilize. Please see Monday's e-blast, the main page of the website, or the Wednesday notification for the most recent update and links to all of the parent packets for Trimester 1.

Noecker Reads and our goal of Inclusivity can be summarized in a quote by Lisa Friedman, "Inclusion is opening our minds to new possibilities, making room for different perspectives and enriching the experience for everyone along the way." It is our collective responsibility to ensure that we do all we can so every child feels he or she belongs at Noecker School. Every child can see his or herself in the stories we read while also exploring the experiences and perspectives of classmates. As I said last month, by providing mirrors, windows, and sliding glass doors, we open the world to our students.

The heart of Noecker Reads is a collaboration between home and school and our inclusivity goal and program is continuing to be developed, reflected upon, and will be implemented with a great deal of care and planning. As we move forward and develop Trimesters 2 and 3, we will continue to be thoughtful about choices and reflect upon how to best meet the needs of the goal and our community.

Edward Kennedy once said, "What divides us pales in comparison to what unites us." What unites us is that we care for ALL children in Noecker School and strive to prepare them for their best lives outside of our community.

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Next, I am excited to share a new partnership forming in the district for our Special Education Community. Dr. Celebre will be working with Parent and Teacher Leaders to continue to develop programming and resources to educate and support our parents of special education students. This parent administration collaboration does not replace SEPAC, but is to be a partner with the group. SEPAC, as indicated in its name, is a parent advisory group who is a valuable partner to the district.

The goal of the district and parent group is to expand the ability for all to work towards productive dialogue, parental support, open communication, and continued growth and learning in order to strengthen special education services in our district. The additional partnership provides the Special Services Department another opportunity to work closely and positively with our families. Thank you to our five Parent Leaders, Dr. Celebre, Mrs. Scaraggi, and our four Teacher Leaders for your anticipated great work!

Finally, I would like to take a moment to thank the members of the Board of Education for their support and for their perspectives on ALL of the MANY issues we have to deal with. I imagine that there are those who think that board members just show up to the monthly meeting and vote "yes", but that is far from the reality.

Each member regularly provides feedback, asks questions, and evaluates decisions through the eyes of the community. It is only with their support that initiatives such as professional development for our teachers, resources for our students, capital improvements for our building, and fiscal responsibility for the taxpayers occur. These are big lifts for volunteer positions and I thank them for taking the time to give so much of themselves to the school community.

And one last thing, Congratulations to the Board and REA's Negotiation Committees, as well as, to all of our Noecker Teachers as Board approval for the 2021-2024 Memorandum of Agreement is on tonight's agenda. I thank you all, too, for all you do for our school. You're number one in my book! Thank you!

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VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT – On agenda items only

Members of the public may speak for a maximum of three (3) minutes by the clock during this portion of the meeting. The **public may speak on agenda items only** during this three (3) minute period. All comments should be directed to the Board President and depending on the nature and complexity of the question, it may or may not be answered during the meeting by the Administration. If so, the response would occur after this public portion of the meeting has concluded. Everyone has the freedom to speak, but please be advised that anything said in public may have legal ramifications and there is no protection regarding statements made by the public. Please state your name and sign in before you begin.

James Ventola, 68 Roosevelt Street, provided his history as a resident in Roseland and his history as a law enforcement officer. He explained that he is not in agreement with the use of the book, "Something Happened in My Town", as the book promotes hate and discrimination against law enforcement.

Mr. Gorman thanked Mr. Ventola for his service and reminded the participants in the meeting that the first public comment is for the public to comment on items listed on the Board Agenda and the second public comment is for any other comments relating to the school. He further reminded the audience that their comments should be limited to three minutes and that the curriculum for the school was discussed last month.

Yervant Dermenjian, 58 Roosevelt Street, questioned the type of files that are being backed up. Mr. Gibbs responded that the information that is being backed up is the teacher's personal files that are stored on the school's server. If the school did not have an off-site back-up system the school's insurance carrier would cancel the school's policy effective July 1, 2022.

IX. APPROVAL OF ACTION ITEMS

BOARD MINUTES/REPORTS

RPT-007-22 Approve Regular Minutes for September 23, 2021
RPT-008-22 Approve the September 2021 Enrollment Report
RPT-009-22 Approve the September 2021 Code of Conduct Report
RPT-010-22 Approve the September 2021 HIB Report

MOTION by Mrs. Savarese, SECOND by Mrs. Scaraggi

No Discussion

ROLL CALL: Mr. Gesario, Mr. Gorman, Mrs. Murano, Mrs. Savarese, and Mrs. Scaraggi - *All Ayes.*

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RPT-007-22 Approve Regular Meeting Minutes for September 23, 2021

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the Regular Minutes for September 23, 2021.

RPT-008-22 Approve the September 2021 Enrollment Report

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the September 2021 Enrollment Report.

RPT-009-22 Approve the September 2021 Code of Conduct Report

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the September 2021 Code of Conduct Report.

RPT-010-22 Approve the September 2021 HIB Report

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the September 2021 HIB Report.

FINANCE/FACILITIES

FIN-040-22 Acceptance of the Report of the Treasurer of School Monies -September 2021

FIN-041-22 Acceptance of the Report of the Board Secretary - September 2021

FIN-042-22 Acceptance of the Board of Education's Monthly Certification of Major Budgetary Account/Fund Status - September 2021

FIN-043-22 Approve Line Item Transfers - September 2021

FIN-044-22 Approve Payment of Bills and Claims - October 21, 2021

FIN-045-22 Acceptance of the Cafeteria Report - September 2021

FIN-046-22 Approve Bergen County Special Services School District as a Vendor for the 2021-2022 School Year

FIN-047-22 Approval of a 2021-2022 Special Services Contract

FIN-048-22 Approve Additional Compensation for Employees

FIN-049-22 Approve an Occupational and Physical Evaluation

FIN-050-22 Approval of Facilities Use Requests

FIN-051-22 Approval of Brain Health Neuropsychology, LLC for Evaluation Services for the 2021-2022 School Year

FIN-052-22 Approve the Ratified 2021-2024 Roseland Education Association Memorandum of Agreement

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- FIN-053-22 Approve Submission of the Fiscal Year 2021 ESEA Title I, Part A Performance Report
- FIN-054-22 Approve Submission of the Fiscal Year 2021 ESEA Title I Comparability Report
- FIN-055-22 Approve Submission of the 2021- 2022 Debt Service Data Collection (DSDC) Report
- FIN-056-22 Approve the Application for the ARP-IDEA Grant
- FIN-057-22 Approve Submission of the Fiscal Year 2021 IDEA Financial Report
- FIN-058-22 Approve the Application for the ARP-ESSER Fund Increase
- FIN-059-22 Approve the Business Administrator to send out an RFP (Request for Proposal) for the Before/Aftercare Program for the 2022-2023 School Year
- FIN-060-22 Approve New Era Technologies to Provide Off-site Computer Back-up Services
- FIN-061-22 Approval of Travel and Work Related Expenses
- FIN-062-22 Approve the Submission of the M-1 and Comprehensive Maintenance Plan
- FIN-063-22 Approval Public Sewer Service to Jet Out the Sewer Lines
- FIN-064-22 Approve Public Sewer Service to Descale the Sewer Lines
- FIN-065-22 Approve LLC Landscapes to Complete the Landscaping Around the Playscape

MOTION by Mrs. Savarese, SECOND by Mrs. Murano

Discussion

Mrs. Savarese was glad to see that we are ratifying the REA contract.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Gesario, Mr. Gorman, Mrs. Murano, Mrs. Savarese, and Mrs. Scaraggi - *All Ayes.*

FIN-040-22 Acceptance of the Report of the Treasurer of School Monies - September 2021

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, receives the Report of the Treasurer of School Monies for the period ending September 30, 2021.

FIN-041-22 Acceptance of the Report of the Board Secretary - September 2021

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, receives the Report of the Board Secretary for the period ending September 30, 2021.

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FIN-042-22 Approve the Board of Education's Monthly **Certification of Major Budgetary Account/Fund Status - September 30, 2021**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.12(c)4, certifies that as of September 30, 2021, after review of the Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.12(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

FIN-043-22 Approve **Line Item Transfers - September 2021**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the attached Line Item Budget Transfers for the month of September 2021, as per N.J.S.A. 18A:8.1.

FIN-044-22 Approve the Payment of Bills and Claims - October 21, 2021

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the payment of the Bills and Claims for the period ending October 21, 2021:

General Fund Bills & Claims	\$ 324,866.41
General Fund Payroll	\$ 804,957.61 through October 15, 2021
Special Revenue Bills & Claims	\$ 37,796.51
<u>Cafeteria Fund</u>	<u>\$ 19,711.84</u>
Total Payments	\$1,187,332.37

FIN-045-22 Acceptance of the Cafeteria Report - September 2021

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, receives the Cafeteria Report for the period ending September 30, 2021.

FIN-046-22 Approve Bergen County Special Services School District as a Vendor for the **2021-2022 School Year**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, retroactively approves Bergen County Special Services School District to provide services for 2021-2022 school year.

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FIN-047-22 Approval of a 2021-2022 Special Services Contract

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, retroactively approves a contract with Bergen County Special Services School District to provide services for Student No. 8011281265, at a total cost not to exceed \$6,270.00 for the 2021-2022 school year. (PO2200221)

FIN-048-22 Approve Additional Compensation for Employees

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves additional compensation for employees presenting professional development and/or attending evening events.

FIN-049-22 Approve an Occupational and Physical Evaluation

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves an occupational and physical evaluation for Student No. 5020918729, services being provided by Pediatric Potentials, Inc., at a cost of \$375.00 each, totaling \$750.00. (PO2200231)

FIN-050-22 Approval of Facilities Use Requests

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following Facilities Use Requests:

Roseland H.S.A	10/13/2021 (retroactive approval)	7:30 PM - 9:00 PM	Wednesday	H.S.A. Meeting	Sierchio Gym
Roseland Recreation Dept.	11/29/21-3/19/22 Exception dates: 12/8/21, 12/23/21 - 1/2/22, 1/11/22, 1/12/22 1/17/22 2/18/22 - 2/21/22 11/10/21, 1/12/22, 2/9/22, 3/9/22, 4/13/22, 5/11/22, and 6/8/22	Weeknights 6:15 PM - 9:30 PM Weekends 8:00 AM - 6:30 PM*	Monday- Friday Saturdays	Recreation Basketball Practices & Games	Sierchio Gym
*Please note that teams and coaches must be out of building by 6:30 PM or overtime fee will be charged					
Roseland HSA	2/18/22 - 2/21/22	7:00PM - 9:00PM	Wednesdays	H.S.A. Monthly	Sierchio Gym

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	11/10/21, 1/12/22, 2/9/22, 3/9/22, 4/13/22, 5/11/22, and 6/8/22		Meetings
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FIN-051-22 Approval of Brain Health Neuropsychology, LLC for Evaluation Services for the 2021-2022 School Year

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves Brain Health Neuropsychology, LLC to provide neuropsychological evaluation services when needed, at a cost of \$4,500.00 per evaluation for the 2021-2022 school year.

FIN-052-22 Approve the Ratified 2021-2024 Roseland Education Association Memorandum of Agreement

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the 2021-2024 Roseland Education Association Memorandum of Agreement (July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2024).

FIN-053-22 Approve Submission of the Fiscal Year 2021 ESEA Title I, Part A Performance Report

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the submission of the 2020-2021 Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Title I, Part A Performance Report to the Department of Education.

FIN-054-22 Approve Submission of the Fiscal Year 2021 ESEA Title I Comparability Report

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the submission of the 2020-2021 Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Title I Comparability Report to the Department of Education.

FIN-055-22 Approve Submission of the 2021-2022 Debt Service Data Collection (DSDC) Report

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the submission of the 2021-2022 Debt Service Data Collection (DSDC) Report to the Department of Education.

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FIN-056-22 Approve the Application for the ARP-IDEA Grant

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the application for the ARP-IDEA Grant in the amount of \$21,112.00. The grant is a supplement to the IDEA Grant for Special Education purposes.

FIN-057-22 Approve Submission of the Fiscal Year 2021 IDEA Financial Report

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the retroactive application for submission of the Fiscal Year 2021 IDEA Financial Report.

FIN-058-22 Approve the Application for the ARP-ESSER Fund Increase

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the application for the ARP-ESSER Grant in the amount of \$97,999.00. The grant is a supplement to the ARP-ESSER Grant as part of the American Rescue Plan.

FIN-059-22 Approve the Business Administrator to send out an RFP (Request for Proposal) for the Before/Aftercare Program for the 2022-2023 School Year

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the request for the Business Administrator to send out an RFP (Request for Proposal) for the Before/Aftercare Program for the 2022-2023 school year.

FIN-060-22 Approve New Era Technologies to Provide Off-site Computer Back-up Services

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves New Era Technologies, 11 Melanie Lane, East Hanover, NJ to provide off-site daily back-up to the school's server at a cost of \$220.00 per month plus a one time set-up fee of \$700.00.

FIN-061-22 Approval of Travel and Work Related Expenses

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and in accordance with the travel policy, hereby approves the October 21, 2021 list of travel related expenses.

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FIN-062-22 Approve the Submission of the M-1 and Comprehensive Maintenance Plan

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the submission of the 2022-2023 M-1 and Comprehensive Maintenance Plan to the Department of Education.

FIN-063-22 Approval Public Sewer Service to Jet Out the Sewer Lines

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, retroactively approves Public Sewer Service, 12 Fairfield Crescent, West Caldwell, N.J. 07006, State Contract number 386436-B to provide emergency Jet cleaning of the sewer lines within the school at a cost of \$8,820.00 plus disposal.

FIN-064-22 Approve Public Sewer Service to Descale the Sewer Lines

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves Public Sewer Service, 12 Fairfield Crescent, West Caldwell, N.J. 07006, State Contract number 386436-B to provide descale the sewer lines within the school at a cost of \$10,250.00 plus disposal of debris.

FIN-065-22 Approve LLC Landscapes to Complete the Landscaping around the Playscape

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, retroactively approves the landscaping work to be performed around the Playscape by LLC Landscapes, 1260 Bloomfield Ave., Fairfield, N.J. 07004, in the amount of \$2,250.00.

PERSONNEL/MANAGEMENT

PER-026-22 Approve to Accept the Retirement of Employee No. 100019

PER-027-22 Approval of Amendments to Staff Stipend Duties in 2021-2022

PER-028-22 Approve a Leave of Absence for Employee No. 100066

PER-029-22 Approval of the Additional Roseland School District Substitutes for the 2021-2022 School Year

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PER-030-22 Approve to Accept the Resignation of Employee No. 100542
PER-031-22 Approve to Accept the Retirement of Employee No. 100409 (Hand Carry)

MOTION by Mr. Gesario, SECOND by Mrs. Scaraggi

ROLL CALL: Mr. Gesario Yes Mr. Gorman Yes Mrs. Murano Yes

Mrs. Savarese Yes Mrs. Scaraggi Recuse 029-22 Yes to All Others

PER-026-22 Approve to Accept the Retirement of Employee No. 100019

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves, with best wishes, to accept the retirement of Employee No. 100019, Position Control No. 038, effective June 30, 2022.

PER-027-22 Approval of Amendments to Staff Stipend Duties in 2021-2022

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves amendments of stipend duties for the staff members to perform extra duties beyond their contractual obligations for the 2021-2022 school year.

PER-028-22 Approve a Leave of Absence for Employee No. 100066

WHEREAS, a request was made by Employee No. 100066 to take the pre-birth maternity leave beginning on November 9, 2021;

WHEREAS, a request was made by Employee No. 100066 for a leave request, pursuant to the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Board and the Association, for a child care leave until September of 2023;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby approves the pre-birth maternity disability Leave Request of Employee No. 100066 commencing on November 9, 2021 and extending through December 8, 2021. Employee No. 100066 will use twenty (20) of her accumulated sick leave days during this pre-birth disability period to continue to receive a salary during this leave period. Employee No. 100066 shall continue to receive health benefits from November 9, 2021 through December 8, 2021.

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2. The Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby approves the post-birth maternity disability Leave Request of Employee No. 100066 commencing on December 9, 2021 and extending through January 13, 2022. Employee No. 100066 will use twenty (20) of her accumulated sick leave days during this post-birth disability period to continue to receive a salary during this leave period. Employee No. 100066 shall continue to receive health benefits from December 9, 2022 through January 13, 2022.

The employee's pre-birth and post birth disability leave shall run concurrent to her leave under the Family Medical Leave Act;

3. The Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby approves the child care family leave of absence under the Family Medical Leave Act and the New Jersey Family Leave Act at the request of Employee No. 100066 beginning January 14, 2022 and continuing for twelve weeks until April 8, 2022. The remainder of the employee's leave under the Family Medical Leave Act shall run concurrent to the employee's leave under the New Jersey Family Leave Act. The employee shall not receive salary during this period of time, but shall be eligible to receive health benefits at employee's cost; and

4. The Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby approves the child care leave request of Employee No. 100066 beginning at the termination of her New Jersey Family Leave Act on April 8, 2022 and continuing until the first day of school in September 2023. Any proposed changes to the child care leave shall be made in accordance with the language in the Collective Bargaining Agreement. The employee shall not receive salary during this period of time, but will be able to receive health benefits via cobra.

PER-029-22 Approval of the Additional Roseland School District Substitutes for the 2021-2022 School Year

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the additional list of Roseland School District Substitutes for the 2021-2022 school year.

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PER-030-22 Approve to Accept the Resignation of Employee No. 100542

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves to accept the resignation of Employee No. 100542, Position Control No. 011, effective December 10, 2021 or sooner pending the filling of the position.

PER-031-22 Approve to Accept the Retirement of Employee No. 100409 (Hand Carry)

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves to accept the retirement of Employee No. 100409, Position Control No. 095, effective January 31, 2022.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

C&I-011-22 Approve the Submission of the 2020-2021 HIB School Self-Assessment Report

C&I-012-22 Approve the Job Description for the World Language Teacher

MOTION by Mr. Gesario, SECOND by Mrs. Murano

No Discussion

ROLL CALL: Mr. Gesario, Mr. Gorman, Mrs. Murano, Mrs. Savarese, and Mrs. Scaraggi - *All Ayes.*

C&I-011-22 Approve the Submission of the 2020-2021 HIB School Self-Assessment Report

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the submission of the 2020-2021 HIB School Self-Assessment Report and Statement of Assurance under the Anti-Bullying Rights (ABR) to the New Jersey Department of Education having completed a public presentation and discussion at the October 21, 2021, Board of Education meeting.

C&I-012-22 Approve the Job Description for the World Language Teacher

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the World Language Teacher job description for the 2021-2022 school year.

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POLICIES, REGULATIONS AND BYLAWS

PRB-004-22 Approve First and Second Reading of Policies/Regulations/Bylaws

PRB-005-22 Approve First Reading of Policies/Regulations/ Bylaws

PRB-006-22 Approve Second Reading of Policies/Regulations/Bylaws

MOTION by Mrs. Savarese, SECOND by Mrs. Murano

Discussion:

Mr. Gorman stated that he was glad to see the revision to the use of the facilities. He further thanked Councilman Trillo for his support in seeing the vision to the use of the school facilities.

Mrs. Scaraggi was looking forward to the basketball season being held at the school.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Gesario, Mr. Gorman, Mrs. Murano, Mrs. Savarese, and Mrs. Scaraggi - *All Ayes.*

PRB-004-22 Approve First and Second Reading of Policies/Regulations/Bylaws

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve on first and second reading of the following policies and regulations:

- P 1648.14 Safety Plan for Healthcare Settings in School Buildings- COVID-19 (M) (New)
- P 2425 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program (M) (New)
- P 8601 Student Supervision After School Dismissal (M) (Revised)

PRB-005-22 Approve First Reading of Policies/Regulations/ Bylaws

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve on second reading of the following policies and regulations:

- P & R 5751 Sexual Harassment of Students (M) (Revised)

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PRB-006-22 Approval on Second Reading of Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve on second reading of the following policies and regulations:

- A. General Policy and Regulation Guides
 - P 2422 Comprehensive Health and Physical Education (M) (Revised)
 - P 2467 Surrogate Parents and Resource Family Parents (M) (Revised)
 - P 5111 Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students (M) (Revised)
 - P 5114 Children Displaced by Domestic Violence (Abolished)

 - P 5116 Education of Homeless Children (Revised)
 - P & R 7432 Eye Protection (M) (Revised)
 - P 8420 Emergency and Crisis Situations (M) (Revised)
 - R 8420.1 Fire and Fire Drills (M) (Revised)
 - P 8540 School Nutrition Programs (M) (Revised)
 - P 8550 Meal Charges/Outstanding Food Service Bill (M) (Revised)
 - P 8600 Student Transportation (M) (Revised)
 - P 8810 Religious Holidays (Abolished)

- B. New Jersey Department of Education Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance Audit-New and Revised Policy Guides
 - P 6115.01 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Allowability of Costs (M) (New)
 - P 6115.02 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Mandatory Disclosures (M) (New)
 - P 6115.03 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Conflict of Interest (M) (New)
 - P 6311 Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by Federal Grants (M) (Revised)

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X. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the public may speak for a maximum of three (3) minutes by the clock during this portion of the meeting. The **public may speak on agenda items only** during this three (3) minute period. All comments should be directed to the Board President and depending on the nature and complexity of the question, it may or may not be answered during the meeting by the Administration. If so, the response would occur after this public portion of the meeting has concluded. Everyone has the freedom to speak, but please be advised that anything said in public may have legal ramifications and there is no protection regarding statements made by the public. Please state your name and sign in before you begin.

Elyse Rivas, 34 Freeman Street, stated that she is not happy with the curriculum that includes the books, Something Happened In My Town and Love Makes a Family. She felt that the books deal with issues that are not suitable for children.

Raymond Mignone, 14 Beechtree Street, expressed his feeling that the school is going in the wrong direction with respect to curriculum. He further referenced his disliking the book, Something Happened In My Town in it's dealing with racism.

Laura Savori, 16 Pitcairn Drive, praised the staff in their dealing with COVID safety issues. She also did not like the book, Something Happened In My Town, in the way it deals with racism and putting a lot of pressure on teachers in teaching this material. She would also like to see a list of those books that will be approved for the third trimester.

Bonnie (Benemina) Pascrell, 8 Baldwin Court, stated that she served in the military and felt that the book is not about racism but opens up different conversations with our children.

Annakaren Millan, 21 Cedar Lane, thanked everyone for their conversations with respect to inclusion and diversity since the town doesn't have that many minorities. She further stated that the school should have had programs that deal with inclusion a long time ago.

Councilman Marcelino Trillo, 5 Glenn Ave, stated that he is good with the conversation with respect to inclusion but has an issue with the content of the book. He further stated that he is pleased with the use of the gym.

Peter Brindley, 45 Schweinberg Drive, expressed his dislike of the book and would like to see the book removed from the curriculum as he felt that it has a negative impact on minorities and the police.

Robin Cassidy, 2 Cooper Avenue, felt that the book is offensive and that inclusion in the classroom is good. She further stated that the school does an amazing job with respect to inclusivity.

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Yervant Dermenjian, 58 Roosevelt Street, stated that he was glad to see an open conversation regarding racism but is not sure about the book. He did not like the way the book put police in a negative light. He felt that the book should be part of a larger conversation.

Christopher DeMarco, 14 Evergreen Place, agreed with Councilman Trillo and felt that the book needs more discussion.

Jessica Melando, 5 Eagle Rock Avenue, stated that she loved the community and felt that the community should be more unified. She also stated that parents should be part of the committee to approve the books students read. She requested that there be more books on inclusivity. She also wanted to know what time of the day students would be reviewing this material.

Yervant Dermenjian, 58 Roosevelt Street, felt that it is more than just the books but that parents should be more involved in the school's curriculum.

Robyn Cassidy, 2 Cooper Avenue, referenced an email regarding the travel restriction that West Essex is following and six months ago the school was following the East Hanover Board of Health and the CDC Guidelines which references children being vaccinated. If a student has to be quarantined, how will they be instructed? Will they be able to have remote learning for ten days or four days while being quarantined? Are the teachers following the same guidelines and if they are quarantined will they be able to teach from home?

Peter Brindley, 45 Schweinberg Drive, questioned the travel restrictions and asked what makes one state safer than another?

Dawn Brindley, 45 Schweinberg Drive, did a follow-up question on how students will get instruction if quarantined?

Rachel Marte, 90 Schweinberg Drive, invited everyone to the first SEPAC meeting on October 26th at 7:30pm.

Mr. Gorman thanked everyone for coming out this evening and expressed his thanks for the respect that is being given during the dialog.

Ms. Somers stated that all of the travel restrictions information is on the school's website and is updated on a regular basis including COVID numbers. The Board was advised of the change in travel restrictions from seven days to four days as per the health department. The students that had a negative test were dropped from seven to four days. If a student does not test then the quarantine will be ten days. She further stated that we are still in a pandemic and we are following the guidelines as per the CDC. Last year students of the school were offered home instruction for short-term quarantine and coordinated with their teachers for remote classes. This year there isn't full remote instruction but if they are ill or exposed to someone they will do asynchronous work. They will have a period of Math and a period of ELA with

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support from teachers. We will not be providing teacher support for students being pulled out for traveling. All the work is on-line and is asynchronous so students can stay up to date with what is happening. We only have so many staff members, we are not running a full remote program, and our basic skills staff is working with those students that are quarantining due to illness and this is aligned with other districts.

Ninety Eight percent of our staff are vaccinated so the only time they will be home is if they are ill. Those that are not vaccinated or have been exposed will be quarantined. Those that are vaccinated have no restrictions at this time. The reason why the three states mentioned with respect to being quarantined is not known at this time. It could be based on the number of cases versus the location. She stated that a lot of the decisions regarding the states don't make sense.

Mr. Gorman stated that he feels that it could be a combination of factors that make-up the reason why one state is okay with respect to traveling and another state is not. He further stated that it is more of a state of practicality.

Mrs. Scaraggi thanked everyone for their comments. She further stated that the Board approves the curriculum and not the books. The Board will look into this particular book for the third trimester.

Mrs. Murano stated that the third trimester books will be reviewed before approval.

Ms. Somers stated that we just finished the first trimester and have shared it with the community. She further stated that we looked at a bunch of books in this process and not all suggested books fit. She stated that there are topics that our students are hearing and seeing which is why these are proposed books. There are families that feel that they are not represented in this town and in this school. They feel that they have been targeted and feel uncomfortable. Students have been bullied for the color of their skin or their learning disability. Two of our books are about diversity with respect to learning disabilities. It is important to understand that this is a process and as we develop the first trimester we went page by page in order to develop a process that would bring a lot of different things including being proud of who you are and being excited about learning about other people which is what diversity is. It's making a change as a leader in the world. Are we going to make a decision on the book tonight? No, we are still working on trimester one which begins next week. Will we have trimester two and three done much quicker? Yes. Will we be putting those out? Yes.

Mr. Gorman stated that this is a process which is why we gave a presentation last month. We talked about goals for the curriculum and what texts have been selected. How we arrive at a particular curriculum or a particular text is through the administration and teachers who put their heads together and derived a curriculum. He further stated that there are things that the book left out and that some people

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would feel a certain way. He further stated that he is not strongly agreeable to this particular text but it is a very difficult topic that will be looked into further. He further stated that the curriculum is mandated.

Mr. Gesario stated that there were a couple of things that made him feel uncomfortable when reading the book. If the book is properly taught and is not generalized it could be a potential resource. He further referenced sections of the book and how we should discuss it further. The book should not be generalized or stereotyped. He thanked those who came up and talked about their concerns.

Mrs. Murano stated that things are different and it takes a village. The program of inclusivity is in the school. We need your feedback and opinions so we can talk about making changes.

Ms. Savarese stated that she was uncomfortable with the book. She cited several examples in the book that she didn't like. She further stated that the book needs to be looked into further. She liked the end of the book as it ties everything together. There are other books that can be used. If the book is used she will not pull her children out of the program as she trusts our teachers in explaining the book.

Ms. Somers stated that all of the information is on the school's website. There is an inclusivity folder with teaching slides. She also stated that there is an opt out form for parents to complete if they don't want their student to participate in a particular section. They can opt out one trimester at a time.

XI. OLD BUSINESS - No old business

NEW BUSINESS - No new business

XII. CONSIDERATION FOR CLOSED SESSION

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following Resolution for Closed Session:

RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Borough of Roseland, that it shall meet in Closed Session this evening following the Regular Business Meeting to discuss matters relating to personnel and legal.

The Board will publicly disclose information pertaining to topics discussed as soon thereafter as possible and once the reasons for non-disclosure no longer exist.

The topics to be discussed are within the exemptions which are permitted to be discussed in private session pursuant to P.L. 1975, Chapter 231.

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The Board will reconvene in public at 10:15 p.m. and may take action following the closed session.

MOTION by Mrs. Murano, SECOND by Mrs. Scaraggi

ROLL CALL: Mr. Gesario, Mr. Gorman, Mrs. Murano, Mrs. Savarese, and Mrs. Scaraggi - *All Ayes.*

XIII. REOPEN TO PUBLIC SESSION

MOTION by Mrs. Savarese, SECOND by Mrs. Scaraggi

ROLL CALL: Mr. Gesario, Mr. Gorman, Mrs. Murano, Mrs. Savarese, and Mrs. Scaraggi - *All Ayes.*

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mrs. Murano, SECOND by Mrs. Savarese

ROLL CALL: Mr. Gesario, Mr. Gorman, Mrs. Murano, Mrs. Savarese, and Mrs. Scaraggi - *All Ayes.*

The next regular board meeting will be held Thursday, November 18, 2021, at 7:30 PM in the Multi-Purpose Room. There is a chance this meeting may be switched over to a virtual meeting. If this is the case, proper notification will be sent out and details will be on our website at www.roseland.nj.boe.org.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gordon Gibbs
Board Secretary/Business Administrator