

RAMAPO INDIAN HILLS REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Oakland, New Jersey 07436

SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING
August 30, 2021
Ramapo High School, Auditorium

Roll Call –

Upon roll call at 7:03 P.M., the Board members responded as follows: Mmes. King, Koulikourdis, Laforgia, and Sullivan. Messrs. Butto, Fortunato, Kinney, and Setteducato. Mr. Stephen Fogarty, of Fogarty and Hara, Esq., Mr. Thomas Lambe, Business Administrator/Board Secretary; were also present.

The meeting was called to order by the Board President at 7:03 P.M. Ms Laforgia announced that adequate notice of the meeting has been posted and published as required by law.

A motion was made by Mr. Butto and seconded by Mr. Kinney and unanimously carried into the Closed Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel. Information from the Closed Executive Session will be made public at the discretion of the Board, as per Board Bylaw 0166, Executive Sessions, or as otherwise authorized by law. The closed Executive Session was adjourned at 8:04 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by the Board President at 8:12 P.M. Mrs. Laforgia announced that the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the rights of the public to have advance notice of and to attend meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. She also announced that in accordance with the provisions of this act, the business administrator/ board secretary has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-8(b), and guidance from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services. She read a public statement advising the public to be aware that employees of the Ramapo Indian Hills Regional High School District retain the right of privacy and shall retain all rights regarding defamation and slander according to the laws of New Jersey. Mrs. Laforgia further stated that the Board shall not be held liable for comments made by members of the public and, in order to protect the privacy rights of employees in the District, the Board shall not respond to statements made by the public of or about District employees.

Roll Call – Regular Public Meeting

Upon roll call at 8:12 P.M. Board members responded as follows: Mmes. King, Koulikourdis, Laforgia, and Sullivan. Messrs. Butto, Fortunato, Kinney, and Setteducato. Mr. Stephen Fogarty, of Fogarty and Hara, Esq., Mr. Thomas Lambe,

Business Administrator/Board Secretary; and Mr. Daniel Sutherland, Director of Curriculum and Articulation; were also present.

Ms. Laforgia led the Pledge of Allegiance.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Laforgia thanked everyone for coming to the Special meeting.

Ms. Laforgia noted that Mr. Fogarty has released the CST Report and she will work with Ms. Koulikoudis's committee to make that live on the website.

Ms. Laforgia announced an AD Hoc committee to review RFQ's Chair- Ms. Sullivan, Mr. Butto and Mr. Kinney.

Ms. Laforgia requested to strike the board member comments section.

Moved by Mr. Kinney and seconded by Mr. Fortunato and unanimously carried to strike board member comments.

SUPERINTENDENT/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Lambe personnel items on the agenda items are there so that the schools can be properly staffed to start the school year.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Moved by KINNEY Seconded by KING to open the meeting to public discussion.

Members of the public commented on behavior of board members toward the Board President.

Members of the public submitted a petition of 357 in support of Ms. Laforgia (submitted)

Members of the public commented on masks and vaccines.

Members of the public commented on the curriculum.

Members of the public commented on CRT.

A member of the public commented on a survey provided by a teacher (statement and survey submitted).

A member of the public commented on the reading of Brighton Beach Memoirs being read in a class (statement and section of a play submitted).

Members of the public commented on the District's Special Education program.

A member of the public spoke in support of the curriculum.

Moved by KING and seconded by KINNEY, to use the 30 minutes from the second section of public comment that happens after action items. = Yes

RC): Carolan , Fortunato , King , Kinney , Koulikourdis ,
Setteducato , Sullivan NO, Butto , Laforgia

A member of the public commented on the unwarranted outrage toward the

curriculum.

A member of the public cited the law in regard to a mask policy and board ethics.

A member of the public commented on the behavior of the public and board as well as enforcing the law regarding masks.

A member of the public spoke about PRIDE and support for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

A member of the public commented on CRT.

A member of the public addressed the Board reading curriculum and policy on keeping teachers neutral.

A member of the public commented on the lack of communication between the Board and Administration.

Moved by KINNEY Seconded by BUTTO to close the public discussion of agenda items and to re-enter the Special Public Meeting.

BOARD COMMENTS

Ms. Sullivan- comment and question regarding curriculum that she reviewed. Ms. Sullivan noted that she is a professor and sent questions to Mr. Riscica and Mr. Sutherland. Ms. Sullivan commented on Mr. Riscica's absence and is uncomfortable with not having answers. Ms. Sullivan stated that she is worried because she was able to punch holes in this curriculum. Ms. Sullivan stated that she asked for curriculum and google forms in which she was denied. Ms. Sullivan stated that the bylaws require the Board to take a part in approving the curriculum. Ms. Sullivan stated that she doesn't feel comfortable approving this curriculum.

Mr. Butto commented on the importance of community buy-in and questioned if the Board had the proper buy-in to pass this curriculum. Mr. Butto stated that he wanted a curriculum that teaches character and achievement.. Mr. Butto stated that the Board should delay passing the curriculum until maybe January.

Ms. Laforgia requested that the board receive the google forms. Ms. Laforgia also questioned why a Trevor Noah book was removed from the curriculum. Ms. Laforgia questioned why Of Mice and Men was still in the curriculum. Ms. Laforgia questioned why if this curriculum was so great, why the strong arm to pass it. Ms. Laforgia suggested that they wait for Dr. Dionisio to pass the curriculum.

Ms. King quoted anti-semetic tweets by Trevor Noah. Ms. King stated that the district can find better authors than Trevor Noah.

Ms. Laforgia question as to whether or not Ms. King instructed Mr. Sutherland to remove the book from the curriculum.

P8. Move that, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the following person be appointed to fill the position for the length of time and with the compensation noted, subject to all federal, state, county, and local regulations, governing said employment; and further that the president and secretary, as proper officers of the Board of Education, be authorized and directed to issue the proper contract for the 2021-22 School Year; and move to approve applicant's attestation that he has not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq.*, *N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et seq.*, *N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et seq.*, and *N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1 et seq.*, as applicable. Further move to approve the assignment of the appropriate Unique Position Code as required by State Statute, as follows:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Degree</u> | <u>Basis of Employment</u> | <u>Employment Date</u> | <u>Annual Salary</u> |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Christina Dorso | IHHS/ Supplemental | .542 BA +15/ Step 5 | 10 months | 9/01/21 - 6/30/22 | \$31,323 |
| Stephen Gaffney | IHHS/ 1:1 Instructional Aide | Step 1 | 10 months | 9/01/21- 6/30/22 | \$28,571 |
| Jaelyn Fearon | RHS/ Instructional Aide | Step 4 | 10 months | 9/01/21 - 6/30/22 | \$31,121 |
| Dr. Mandar Dave | IHHS/ Resource Rm. Biology | MA +30/ Step 8 | 10 Months | 9/01/21- 6/30/22 | \$66,403 |

Moved By: KINNEY

Seconded: BUTTO

RC): Fortunato , King , Kinney , Koulikourdis ,
Setteducato , Sullivan , Butto , Laforgia NO, Except J.Fearon

P9. Move to approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of Ian Costello, District, Art, Temporary Leave Replacement Teacher for Kimberly Batti, not accruing tenure in the position, BA, Step 1, \$292.06/diem, effective September 1 - November 30, 2021, as per the terms and conditions of the *Two Year Agreement between the Ramapo Indian Hills Regional High School District Board of Education and the Ramapo Indian Hills Education Association, effective July 1,*

P14. Move that, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the following person be appointed to fill the position for the length of time and with the compensation noted, subject to all federal, state, county, and local regulations, governing said employment; and further that the president and secretary, as proper officers of the Board of Education, be authorized and directed to issue the proper contract for the 2021-22 School Year; and move to approve applicant's attestation that he has not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq.*, *N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et seq.*, *N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et seq.*, and *N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1 et seq.*, as applicable. Further move to approve the assignment of the appropriate Unique Position Code as required by State Statute, as follows:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Degree</u> | <u>Basis of Employment</u> | <u>Employment Date</u> | <u>Annual Salary</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Ralph Kesenheimer | Custodial/ RHS | Step 9 | 12 months | 9/01/21 - 6/30/22 | \$65,832 ^{1/2} |

¹ Replacing Vincent Bulzomi

² 90 Day Probationary Period

Moved By: KINNEY

Seconded: BUTTO

RC): Fortunato , King , Kinney , Koulikourdis ,
Setteducato , Sullivan , Butto , Laforgia

P15. Move to amend, that, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the following person be appointed to fill the positions for the length of time and with the compensation noted, subject to all federal, state, county, and local regulations, governing said employment; and further that the president and secretary, as proper officers of the Board of Education, be authorized and directed to issue the proper contracts for the 2021-22 School Year; and move to approve applicants' attestation that he/she has not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq.*, *N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et seq.*, or *N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et seq.*, as applicable. Further move to approve the assignment of the appropriate Unique Position Code as required by State Statute.

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Degree</u> | <u>Basis of Employment</u> | <u>Employment Date</u> | <u>Annual Salary</u> |
|--------------|------------------|---------------|----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Susan Weiner | School Counselor | MA +30/ | 10 months | 9/01/21 - 6/30/22 | \$81,518 |

Step 15

To
09/09/21-
06/30/22

Moved By: KINNEY

Seconded: BUTTO

RC): Fortunato , King , Kinney , Koulikourdis ,
Setteducato , Sullivan , Butto , Laforgia

P16. Move to approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the change in assignment for Jenna Calderon from a .8 FTE, Special Education, BA +15, Step 5, \$46,233, to a .6 FTE, Special Education, and .4 FTE Science, BA + 15, Step 5, \$57,792.

Moved By: KINNEY

Seconded: BUTTO

RC): Fortunato , King , Kinney , Koulikourdis ,
Setteducato , Sullivan , Butto , Laforgia NO

P17. Move to approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the sixth period teaching assignment for Natalie Deming, IHHS, French 1 CPE, Period 1, at the contractual stipend of \$9,530, prorated, effective for the period September 1, 2021 - December 10, 2021

Moved By: KINNEY

Seconded: BUTTO

RC): Fortunato , King , Kinney , Koulikourdis ,
Setteducato , Sullivan , Butto , Laforgia

P18. Move to approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of District, On-call/Temporary Administrative Assistant, at an hourly rate of \$21.50, no benefit coverage, with a schedule limited to less than 30 hours per week as assigned by the District administration effective for the 2021-22 School Year as follows:

Gina Iannacone

Moved By: KINNEY

Seconded: BUTTO

RC): Fortunato , King , Kinney , Koulikourdis ,

Setteducato , Sullivan , Butto , Laforgia

P19. Move that, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the following person be appointed to fill the position for the length of time and with the compensation noted, subject to all federal, state, county, and local regulations, governing said employment; and further that the president and secretary, as proper officers of the Board of Education, be authorized and directed to issue the proper contract for the 2021-22 School Year; and move to approve applicant’s attestation that he has not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et seq., and N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1 et seq., as applicable. Further move to approve the assignment of the appropriate Unique Position Code as required by State Statute, as follows:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Degree</u> | <u>Basis of Employment</u> | <u>Employment Date</u> | <u>Annual Salary</u> |
|----------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Gina Iannacone | RHS/ Administrative Asst. | Grade IV, Step 7 | 12 months | 10 /01/21 - 6/30/22 | \$66,318 ¹ |

¹Replacing Maureen Lambrix

Moved By: KINNEY

Seconded: BUTTO

RC): Fortunato , King , Kinney , Koulikourdis ,
Setteducato , Sullivan , Butto , Laforgia

P20. Move to approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, 2 transition days for Gina Iannacone, RHS, Administrative Assistant.

Moved By: KINNEY

Seconded: BUTTO

RC): Fortunato , King , Kinney , Koulikourdis ,
Setteducato , Sullivan , Butto , Laforgia

EDUCATION

E1. Move to approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the District’s Revised/New Curriculum for the 2021-22 School Year as follows:

| <u>Department</u> | <u>Course</u> |
|--------------------|--|
| Applied Technology | Architecture & Design 1 CP Architecture & Design 2 CP At Home With Technology CP Wood Processing Technology 1 CP Wood Processing Technology 2 CP |
| Art | Advanced Studio Art H Digital Illustration & Animation 1 CP Digital Illustration & Animation 2 CP Digital Design 1 CP Digital Photography 1 CP Digital Photography 2 CP Drawing 1 CP Drawing 2 CP Painting 1 CP Painting 2 CP Sculpture and Ceramics 1 CP Sculpture and Ceramics 2 CP |
| Business | Accounting 1 CPE Accounting 2 CPE Business Continuity and Management CP Business Principles & Management CPE Computer Anatomy CP Contemporary Business Technology CP Digital Media CP Entrepreneurship CPE Financial Literacy CP i-Apps 1 CP Marketing CPE Social Media Marketing H Sports and Entertainment Marketing CPE Web Design CPE |
| English | English 1 CP, CPE, H English 2 CP, CPE, H English 3 CP, CPE, H |

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|-------------------------|---|
| | <p>English 4 CP, CPE</p> <p>English for Speakers of Other Languages</p> <p>Audio and Film Editing CPE</p> <p>Communications CP</p> <p>Journalism CP</p> <p>Public Speaking CP</p> <p>TV Studio Production CPE</p> <p>Writer's Workshop CP</p> <p>Drama CP</p> <p>Musical Theater CP</p> <p>Script Writing CP</p> <p>Stage Movement/Dance CP</p> <p>Dystopian Literature CPE</p> <p>English Seminar CPE</p> <p>Film as Literature CPE</p> <p>Myth and Culture CPE</p> <p>Sports and Literature CPE</p> |
| Family Consumer Science | <p>Child Development CP</p> <p>Fashion Technology 1/2/3/4 CP</p> <p>Baking & Cooking CP</p> <p>Intro to Culinary Arts CP</p> <p>Advanced Culinary Arts CP</p> <p>Cooking for Everyday Living CP</p> |
| Mathematics | <p>Advanced Math Applications CP</p> <p>Algebra 1 CP, CPE</p> <p>Algebra 2 CP, CPE, H</p> <p>AP Computer Science A</p> <p>AP Computer Science Principles</p> <p>Calculus CPE</p> <p>College Algebra & Statistics CPE</p> <p>Computer Science H</p> <p>Geometry CP, CPE, H</p> <p>Precalculus CPE, H</p> |
| Music | <p>Wind Ensemble/Symphonic Band CP, H</p> <p>Concert/Chamber Choir CP, H</p> |

| | |
|----------------|---|
| | <p>Music Theory CPE Pop and Rock: An Intro to Music CPE String Orchestra CP, H</p> |
| Science | <p>Aviation and Aerospace CPE Physics of Flight CPE (new course) Biology CP, CPE, H Chemistry CP, CPE, H Conceptual Physics CP Physics CPE Forensic Science CPE Horticulture CP Science Seminar H Sports Science CP STEM Challenge Lab CPE UPED Computer Science for Engineers H UPED Digital Electronics H UPED Engineering Math & Comp Apps H UPED Engineering Research Seminar H UPED Biology H UPED Principles of Engineering H UPSMR SAT Biology H UPSMR SAT Chemistry H UPSMR Medical Issues H UPSMR Biomechanics H UPSMR Science Research H</p> |
| Social Studies | <p>UPISB Global Ecn Trade, Poverty, Wealth H Current Events: Investigating Modern Media (new course)</p> |
| World Language | <p>Chinese 1 H Chinese 2 H Chinese 3H French 1 CPE French 2 CPE French 3 CPE, H French 4 CPE, H</p> |

Ms. Sullivan addressed her concerns with Mr. Fortunato's statement.

John Butto- Finance/Technology

Mr. Butto stated that Finance is meeting next week.

Mr. Butto responded to Mr. Fortunato's statement.

Ms. Laforgia addressed Mr. Fortunato.

Ms. Laforgia gave a statement about the curriculum.

Ms. Laforgia also thanked the public for all of the love and support for her and her son.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

A motion was made by Mr. Butto and seconded by Ms. Sullivan to open Public Discussion for thirty minutes.

RC): Fortunato NO, King NO, Kinney NO, Koulikourdis abstain,
Setteducato NO, Sullivan , Butto , Laforgia

ANTICIPATED FUTURE MEETING DATES

Monday, September 13, 2021, Action/Work Session, Ramapo High School Auditorium

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Laforgia seconded by Mr. Kinney, carried unanimously to return to executive session at 10:25 P.M.

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Laforgia seconded by Mr. Kinney, carried unanimously to close the public session at 11:12 P.M.