

Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District
Board of Education – Regular Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2017 - Middle School

Present: Christopher Wolff, President; Anne Capeci, Vice President; and Trustees Carolee Brakewood, Thomas Corbia and James Dreves

Also Present: Dr. Edward A. Kliszus, Superintendent of Schools; Maura J. McAward, Assistant Superintendent for Business; Joseph Durney, Deputy Superintendent; Lisa Zareski, Treasurer and Cathy A. Maggi, District Clerk

Call to Order

Mr. Wolff called a public meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

President’s Opening Remarks

Mr. Wolff welcomed everyone and said there was a full agenda with a report from Ivan Tolentino, Principal of Edison School. The Superintendent will also give a detailed explanation of what has been going on at the Middle School and there will be an action item to take care of the emergency measures that have taken place so far. There will be a roundtable discussion at the end for the board members to speak about the middle school and keep the public up to date.

Thomas A. Edison School Report

Ivan Tolentino, Principal of Thomas A. Edison School delivered his state of the school address. Edison School has been recognized with the No Place for Hate award. Students were recognized for their outstanding achievement on the New York State Assessments. Mr. Tolentino thanked his staff for their dedication and thanked the parents for their continued support.

Board members and Dr. Kliszus congratulated Mr. Tolentino on the presentation and on the fine work going on at Edison School. Staff, parents and children were also congratulated.

At 7:31 p.m., a short recess was called so the children could go home and at 7:33 p.m., the meeting was called back to order.

Report From Superintendent

Request for Action

Upon motion by Mrs. Brakewood, seconded by Mr. Corbia and carried, the resolutions were approved (5-0):

The Superintendent recommends action on the following matters. Resolved that

1. The retirement of Coleen Kotzur, School Treasurer for the District, approved at the September 26, 2017 board meeting be amended to be accepted effective November 1, 2017 from January 1, 2018. Mrs. Kotzur will have served the District for 15 ½ years. We wish Coleen and her family the best of good luck and a happy and healthy retirement.
2. A Maternity Leave of Absence be granted to Katiria Doherty, Norwalk, Connecticut as Elementary Teacher at King Street School, beginning approximately November 27, 2017 through June 30, 2018. Mrs. Doherty will use accumulated sick leave during the time her doctor attests to her inability to perform her duties due to pregnancy, delivery and self-care. The remainder of her Leave of Absence will be a Family Medical Leave without pay; but benefits will continue to a maximum of 12 weeks.
3. The following individual(s) be appointed to position(s) for the 2017-2018 school year:

Jennifer Rodriguez	ELL, Newcomer, Immigrant Ed & Parental Engagement Programs – John F. Kennedy	\$42 per hour
Aletta Eliseo	Elementary Balanced Literacy Curriculum Writing Team	42 per hour
Nicolle Strang	ELL Middle School Curriculum Writing Team	42 per hour
Melissa Cruz	Parent Engagement Teacher – District	42 per hour
Leslie Rodriguez	Parent Engagement Teacher – John F. Kennedy School	42 per hour
Sharla Kaufman	Vocational Service Coordinator – Middle School	42 per hour
Brooke Magnotta	Vocational Service Coordinator – Middle School	42 per hour
Estrella Marziani	Regents Review Teacher – High School	42 per hour
Peggy Conway	Regents Review Teacher – High School	42 per hour
Maria Natalia Ledesma	Regents Review Teacher – High School	42 per hour
Carlos Gomez	Regents Review Teacher – High School	42 per hour
Mitchell Woodford	Regents Review Teacher – High School	42 per hour
Giselle Ferraro	Regents Review Teacher – High School	42 per hour
Aletta Eliseo	Title IA Extended Day Program Teacher – Edison School	42 per hour

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Lorraine Amaral	Title IA Extended Day Program Teacher – Edison School	42 per hour
Rita DePozsgay	Title IA Extended Day Program Teacher – Edison School	42 per hour
Jasmin Martinez	Title IA Extended Day Program Teacher – Edison School	42 per hour
Monika Vargova	Title IA Extended Day Program Teacher – Edison School	42 per hour
Colleen Cahill	Title IA Extended Day Program Teacher – Edison School	42 per hour
Gina Samaniego	Title IA Extended Day Program Teacher – John F. Kennedy School	42 per hour
Yvette Vera-Pignato	Title IA Extended Day Program Teacher – John F. Kennedy School	42 per hour
Victoria Reichberg	Title IA Extended Day Program Teacher – John F. Kennedy School	42 per hour
Melissa Coletti	Title IA Extended Day Program Teacher – John F. Kennedy School	42 per hour
Sandra Castillo	Title IA Extended Day Program Teacher – John F. Kennedy School	42 per hour
Paige Lund	Title IA Extended Day Program Teacher – John F. Kennedy School	42 per hour
Cheryle Washington	Title IA Extended Day Program Teacher – John F. Kennedy School	42 per hour
Luz Camacho	Title IA Extended Day Program Teacher – John F. Kennedy School	42 per hour
Samantha Calvert	Title IA Extended Day Program Teacher – John F. Kennedy School	42 per hour
Jessica Michaca	Title IA Extended Day Program Teacher – John F. Kennedy School	42 per hour
Diana Inga-Marino	Title IA Extended Day Program Teacher – John F. Kennedy School	42 per hour
Porfirio Gonzowitz	Senior Class Co-Advisor – High School	627
Jackie Bisignano	Senior Class Co-Advisor – High School	627
Zachery Carroll	Wrestling Program Volunteer	

4. The following individuals be approved to serve as Substitute Teachers/Teacher Assistants/Tutors/Interns/Student Teachers/Volunteers on an as-needed basis for the 2017-2018 school year. They are either Fingerprint Cleared, “Grandfathered” in or on a twenty day emergency basis:

Carol Abramowitz Nancy Cervantes Virginia Herndon Ian Dunning
5. Karen Stallings, Danbury, Connecticut, having performed her duties in a competent, efficient and satisfactory manner, be granted permanent status as Office Assistant (Automated Systems) Spanish Speaking, Port Chester Middle School, effective November 12, 2017.
6. Guy Dietz, Patterson, New York, having performed his duties in a competent, efficient and satisfactory manner, be granted permanent status as Custodial Worker, Port Chester High School, effective December 13, 2017.
7. Elizabeth Marti, Port Chester, New York, having performed her duties in a competent, efficient and satisfactory manner, be granted permanent status as Teacher Aide, Thomas A. Edison School, effective November 1, 2017.
8. Josina Correa, Port Chester, New York, having performed her duties in a competent, efficient and satisfactory manner, be granted permanent status as Teacher Aide, Thomas A. Edison School, effective November 1, 2017.
9. Frank Sapione, Port Chester, New York, having performed his duties in a competent, efficient and satisfactory manner, be granted permanent status as Part-time Hourly Cleaner, Thomas A. Edison School, effective November 2, 2017.
10. Luis Perea, Port Chester, New York, be approved for a probationary appointment as Hall Monitor, 7 hours/day, 10 months, Step 1, effective November 13, 2017. Mr. Perea is New York State Fingerprint Cleared. His assignment is the Port Chester Middle School.
11. Noely Vargas, Port Chester, New York, be approved for a probationary appointment as Lunch Monitor, 3 hours/day, 10 months, at a rate of \$12.00/hour, effective November 15, 2017. Ms. Vargas is New York State Fingerprint Cleared. Her assignment is John F. Kennedy Magnet School.
12. Delories Smith, Port Chester, New York, be approved for a probationary appointment as Teacher Aide, 6 hours/day, 10 months, Grade III, Step 1, effective November 15, 2017. Ms. Smith is New York State Fingerprint Cleared. Her assignment is John F. Kennedy Early Learning Center.

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13. Joseph Valdovinos, White Plains, New York, be approved for a probationary appointment as Sr. Office Assistant (Automated Systems) Spanish Speaking, 12 months, 7.5 hours/day, Step 1, effective November 15, 2017, pending New York State Fingerprint Clearance. His assignment is Port Chester High School Guidance.
14. A Leave of Absence without pay be granted to Catherine Furano-Sapia, Hall Monitor, (10 months/6 hours/day), Port Chester Middle School, at the conclusion of her Family Medical Leave of Absence, effective November 27, 2017 – January 31, 2018, without pay or benefits.
15. A Maternity Leave of Absence be granted to Claudia Magallon, Port Chester, New York as Teacher Aide, Special Education at Thomas A. Edison School, beginning approximately December 4, 2017 through March 28, 2018. Ms. Magallon will use accumulated sick/personal leave during the time her doctor attests to her inability to perform her duties due to pregnancy, delivery and self-care. The remainder of her Leave of Absence will be a Family Medical Leave without pay; but benefits will continue to a maximum of 12 weeks.
16. The following individuals be approved as Clerical, Teacher Aide, Lunch Monitor, Hall Monitor or Breakfast Monitor Substitutes at a rate of \$12/hour effective 11/15/17-6/30/18. Said appointees may also serve as long-term substitutes, if and when required, at Step 1, Grade III of the Teacher Aide or Typist CSEA pay scales. All have received NYS Fingerprint Clearance or are grandfathered.
 - Jenny Marchesani (Effective 11/3/17-6/30/18)
 - Sandra Villanova (Effective 12/2/17-4/30/18 at \$19.53/hour)
17. The following individuals be approved as Cleaner Substitutes at a rate of \$12.00/hour effective November 15, 2017 – June 30, 2017. All have received NYS Fingerprint Clearance or are grandfathered.
 - Ronald Holms
18. The Budget Transfer in the amount of \$92,739.14, Schedule #6, dated November 8, 2017, be approved for the 2017-2018 school year.
19. Warrants #14 and #15, including in-between checks, dated November 8, 2017, be approved:

General Fund	\$2,008,869.24
Federal Fund	44,585.04
Cafeteria Fund	5,388.56
Trust & Agency Fund	1,707,867.14
20. Warrant #16, including in-between checks, dated November 14, 2017, be approved:

General Fund	\$204,537.49
Federal Fund	229,150.81
Trust & Agency Fund	914,589.92
21. The following payrolls be approved:

General Fund – October 27, 2017	\$2,142,826.26
General Fund – November 9, 2017	2,140,216.48
Federal Fund – October 27, 2017	81,089.09
Federal Fund – November 9, 2017	80,652.09

Mrs. Capeci thanked Coleen Kotzur for all her hard work and wished her the best in her retirement.

Dr. Kliszus read a detailed statement regarding the Middle School and what has occurred, a description of emergency measures that were taken, and proposed options for a permanent solution funded either by repurposing the current bond or by putting up a new bond. Either one of these bond options would require a public election.

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Public Comment

Grace Herbert, Wesley Avenue, spoke about her friend who was born on November 14, 1998 and who was loved by all and left a mark on all he met. Unfortunately, he suffered from depression and he took his own life on August 1, 2017. She would like people to speak up about depression and work towards stopping this and other mental health illnesses. There was a moment of silence for Jacob Villa.

Thomas Ceruzzi, Hobart Avenue, spoke about the Middle School and what recently happened. He was very thankful that no one was hurt. He talked about the rental of the scaffolding and looking into the possibility of speaking to the company to reduce the cost or buying them. He asked that the repairs be done right and to do everything that needs to be done.

Robert Reis, Munson Street, congratulated the students and staff of Edison School and praised the student for coming up to speak about depression and suicide. He spoke about the options of repairing the Middle School and encouraged people and the board to consider a new bond rather than repurposing the current bond. He gave many reasons as to why he felt that this would be the best way.

Lou Russo, Hobart Avenue, congratulated everyone at Edison School; also, his prayers go out to people suffering from mental illness. He spoke about the Middle School and feels that there can only be one solution and that is for a new bond to be put up.

Peter Pasquale, May Place, echoed that a new bond needs to be put up and that the current bond should not be touched or repurposed to pay for the Middle School repairs.

Steve Simmons, North Regent Street, stated that there should be a new bond put up and to leave the current bond in place. He also mentioned that looking into buying the scaffolding should be an option.

Allison Brennan, Alden Terrace, said what a great football and cheerleading season just took place. She thanked everyone for all of their support. The winter cheerleading competition season is in full swing, but that there will be no home competition because of space. She would like to see the current bond stay in place with the concession stand so that there can be home competitions in the future.

Jennifer Boccarossa, West Glen Avenue, is in full support of the passed bond. Please put up a new bond for the repairs at the middle school and let the voters decide.

Jody Helmlle, Austin Place, congratulated Edison School on their progress and then thanked the board members for attending the Veteran Day's breakfast at King Street School. She stands fast in her support of the capital project bond as originally passed.

George Ford, Quintard Drive, was saddened to hear that Paul Adamo from School Consultants passed away suddenly and expressed his condolences. He felt that decisions should not be rushed, "get all the facts" and try to get everyone in agreement on the new bond. He is hoping that there could be compromises made that would help with the new bond and what needs to be done.

Amy Morabito, West Glen Avenue, said that there is a need for a new bond and to leave the current one in place.

Nancy Donahue, Hobart Avenue, congratulated Edison School. Her one question is that if there is a new bond and it fails, then where do we go from there?

Jennifer Sanders, Highview Avenue, said that the current bond should stay in place and there should be a new bond for the repairs at the middle school.

Ed Mateus, Maywood Avenue, said he wanted to echo what everyone else was saying and that a new bond is the way to go. He does not feel like the work can be put off. He does not believe in repurposing the current bond.

Dan Telep, Renshaw Place, said he is upset that changes were made to the bond that was voted on. He would support a new bond if there was a re-registration and if a new bond addressed overcrowding and maintenance on all of the schools. He feels that we do not need a concession stand.

Anthony Sanders, Highview Avenue, voted for the current bond for improving the schools. He does not want it touched, but would like a new bond to address the middle school repairs.

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Keith Morlino, Haines Boulevard, said the issues at the middle school have to be addressed and he does not know how the repairs could have been anticipated. He says that there are minor changes to the current bond, but that the integrity has been maintained. He is for the new bond as it is an emergency that has to be dealt with, and he supports maintaining the current bond.

Liz Rotfeld, Betsy Brown Road, stated that overcrowding is a concern in the village, but that it needs to be addressed with the Village Board of Trustees. We need a concession stand for fundraising and we need to keep the current bond that was passed. Please put up a new bond and let the voters have a chance to decide on whether or not to pass the new bond.

Kendra Varbero, Haines Blvd., wants to look at the new administration who were hired and the money that is going towards them to see if costs can be reduced going forward.

There being no one else wanting to address the board, Mr. Wolff closed public comment at 8:24 p.m.

Dr. Klizus commented that if the new bond was defeated the equipment outside would remain at the middle school. We will explore purchasing the scaffolding as a possibility. We also need to restore our emergency funds taken away from vital projects.

Mr. Wolff commented that Mrs. Brennan wanted to come back up and support the concession stand and the amount of money that it would generate over the years. He believes that the board understands that the value of the concession stand is not just a one-time event, but will be for over the years to come and for all of the different organizations.

Acceptance of Donation

Upon motion by Mr. Dreves and seconded by Mrs. Brakewood and carried (5-0), the donation of \$120,000 from the American Gift Fund for an after school program was accepted unanimously. Mrs. Capeci spoke about the family and said if they were here how happy they would be that their fund was helping our current students. They left a great legacy and this is the second time their fund is helping our children.

Action Items

Upon motion by Mrs. Brakewood, seconded by Mr. Corbia and carried, the resolution was unanimously approved (5-0):

A. **WHEREAS**, the Board of Education of the Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District desires to embark upon on an emergency temporary safety capital repair project at the Port Chester Middle School for Canopy Safety Stabilization and

WHEREAS, said capital emergency temporary safety capital repair for Canopy Safety Stabilization project at the Port Chester Middle School is subject to classification under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

WHEREAS, routine activities such as renovations to, or expansions of existing public school facilities by less than 10,000 square feet are classified as Type II Actions under the current Department of Environmental Conservation SEQRA Regulations (Section 6 NYCRR 617.5(8)); and

WHEREAS, the SEQRA Regulations declare Type II Actions to be actions that have no significant impact on the Environment and require no further review under SEQRA; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, as the only involved agency, has examined all information and has determined that the emergency temporary safety capital project for Canopy Safety Stabilization at the Port Chester Middle School is classified as a Type II Action pursuant to Section 617.5(8) of the SEQRA Regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby declares that the Canopy Safety Stabilization Project and related work at the Port Chester Middle School is a Type II Action, which requires no further review under SEQRA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby shall forward an official copy of this resolution to the New York State Education Department together with a copy of the correspondence from the New York Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in connection with its request for approval of the emergency temporary safety Canopy Safety Stabilization Project from the New York State Education Department.

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Upon motion by Mrs. Brakewood, seconded by Mr. Corbia and carried, the resolution was unanimously approved (5-0):

B. **WHEREAS**, on October 26, 2017, a portion of a window cantilever façade on the Port Chester Middle School collapsed and fell to the ground causing significant damage to the remaining parts of the Middle School building and,

WHEREAS, said damage has caused an emergency situation to the safety and welfare of the students and staff of the Middle School and,

WHEREAS, said condition presents a continuing danger to the students and staff and corrective measures must be immediately undertaken and,

WHEREAS, School Building Inspectors and School District insurance representatives have examined the remaining window cantilever façades and determined that they present a continuing danger and need to be immediately secured, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District formally and by resolution declared the damage to the Middle School an emergency situation on October 27, and

WHEREAS, the voters had approved the 2017-2018 School District Budget which authorized a transfer of \$550,000 be made to the Capital Fund for repairs to the pedestrian bridges at Port Chester Middle School (Project # 66190403013-023), and

WHEREAS, the voters had approved the 2017-2018 School District Budget which authorized a transfer of \$100,000 be made to the Capital Fund for repairs to the interior stairwell doors at Port Chester Middle School (Project # 66190403013-024), and

WHEREAS, the voters had approved the 2017-2018 School District Budget which authorized a transfer of \$75,000 be made to the Capital Fund for repairs to the handrails at Thomas A. Edison School (Project # 66190403014-014), and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined that these allocated funds are now necessary to alleviate the emergency situation that exists at the Middle School, as declared on October 27, 2017,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District reallocate said \$725,000 to fund the temporary emergency repairs necessary and to make safe the window cantilever façades at the Port Chester Middle School.

Upon motion by Mrs. Brakewood, seconded by Mr. Corbia and carried, the resolution was unanimously approved (5-0)

C. **WHEREAS**, the Board of Education of Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District, in the County of Westchester, New York (the "District") desires to finance costs of improvements at the Port Chester Middle School in connection with the remediation and reconstruction of building envelope structures and window replacements, including all original equipment, machinery, apparatus and ancillary or related site, remediation, demolition and other work required in connection therewith (the "Project") occasioned by the recent building damage sustained thereat;

WHEREAS, the District intends to finance the Project or portions of the Project with the proceeds of the sale of Bonds which may be authorized by the voters of the District, the interest upon which is to be excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes (the "Bonds");

WHEREAS, prior to the issuance of said Bonds, certain capital expenditures (the "Expenditures") with respect to the Project will be paid from available moneys of the District;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the District has determined that those moneys to be advanced on and after the date hereof to pay the Expenditures are available only for a temporary period and it is necessary to reimburse the District for the Expenditures from the proceeds of the Bonds;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE PORT CHESTER-RYE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT, IN THE COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER, NEW YORK, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

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Section 1. The Board of Education of the District hereby states its intention and reasonably expects to reimburse Project costs incurred prior to the issuance of the Bonds with proceeds of the Bonds.

Section 2. The reasonably expected maximum principal amount of the Bonds to be issued for the Project is estimated to be \$1,600,000.

Section 3. This resolution is being adopted no later than 60 days after the date on which the District will expend moneys for the portion of the Project costs to be reimbursed from proceeds of the Bonds. The District will make a reimbursement allocation, which is a written allocation that evidences the District’s use of proceeds of the Bonds to reimburse an Expenditure, within the timing limitations imposed by Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2.

Section 4. This resolution is adopted as official action of the District in order to comply with Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2 and any other regulations of the Internal Revenue Service relating to the qualification for reimbursement of expenditures incurred prior to the date of issue of the Bonds.

Section 5. All the recitals in this Resolution are true and correct and the District so finds, determines and represents.

Section 6. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Upon motion by Mrs. Brakewood, seconded by Mr. Dreves and carried, the resolution was unanimously approved (5-0):

D. **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District adopt the revised 2017-2018 school calendar.

Mr. Corbia noted that there were many people from the district involved in the decision on the revised calendar and that decision was unanimous, which he feels is important for the public to know. Mr. Wolff pointed out the changes only effect the middle school staff and students.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion by Mr. Dreves, seconded by Mrs. Brakewood and carried, the items A-D of the consent agenda were unanimously approved (5-0):

A. **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the following Transportation Contracts for the 2017-2018 school year as noted below.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education is authorized to execute said contracts. The number of children, buses, vans, monitors, or cost approved in each contract is subject to change in accordance with New York State Education Law and Commissioner’s Regulations.

All County Transportation Yonkers, NY	In an amount not to exceed \$28,000
Transportation of Port Chester - Rye Union Free School District students as follows: One student to Walter Panas High School, Cortlandt, New York, in an amount not to exceed \$28,000.	
TLC Transportation Corporation of Westchester Yonkers, NY	In an amount not to exceed \$24,344
Transportation of Port Chester - Rye Union Free School District students as follows: One student to Cottle School, Tuckahoe, New York, in an amount not to exceed \$24,344.	

B. **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District awards the following competitive bids as noted below:

Award To	Description	Amount	Basis for Award
1. All County Bus LLC.	Transportation of SPED and Private / Parochial Students	As per quoted prices	Lowest Bidder
2. TLC Transportation Corp.			

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C. **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District, at its discretion and in the best interest of the District, elects to forgo the written quote and bid requirements in keeping with Policy 6700R – Purchasing Regulation and approve the contracted services agreements / memorandums of agreement for the following 2017-2018 school year professional service procurements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the president of the Board / Superintendent of Schools / Purchasing Agent is authorized to execute related contracts.

	Vendor	Function	Rate	Not to Exceed	Fund
1	Sylvan Learning Center	Federal Title IA Intervention Services for eligible students at Corpus Christi/Holy Rosary School	As per contract	\$41,220	Title I
2	Dr. Lucia Buttaro	TESOL Professional Development and coaching	5 sessions @ \$1,400	\$7,000	Title III

D. **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District authorize the School District Treasurer to complete budgetary transfers and pay bill schedules and payrolls for all funds. Said transactions will be approved by the Board of Education at the first available board meeting.

Board of Education Roundtable / Discussion

Mr. Wolff talked about that we heard from the public not to make a decision hastily. Mr. Wolff said he is still weighing in on all of the options. Mrs. Capeci asked for clarification on the current bond and a new bond. Ms. McAward said that if we chose to repurpose the bond then it would have to be very specific of what comes out and what goes in. If the proposition goes down, then the current bond would stay in effect. If you took something from each project to fund the middle school and put it up for a vote, then nothing could go forward. There is a likelihood that if you take from the current bond, then everything would be placed on hold until it was approved. The simple solution would be to put forward a new bond.

Mrs. Brakewood feels that the original bond was voted on and passed by the people. She feels the middle school is a separate issue and feels that the people should be able to vote and make a decision. She feels that the majority needs to vote, which may or may not be the opinion of the people speaking at the meetings.

Mr. Dreves is still in a state of fluctuation regarding his decision. Mr. Corbia congratulated the King Street School staff and everyone involved in the Veteran’s celebration. Someone at the breakfast asked Mr. Corbia to request at the next meeting that every school do something for Veteran’s Day. It was mentioned that Park Avenue did hold a celebration. Mr. Corbia wanted the athletic director to come to the next meeting to celebrate the fall sports. Mr. Corbia does not feel that he can make a decision tonight as he does not feel he has enough information. He feels that the general public does not know what is happening. He hopes that we look into buying the scaffolding. He would like to see numbers in writing from the state. He talked about a phone call he received and she talked about how she is struggling and so many people cannot afford another bond.

Mrs. Brakewood asked about state aid numbers. Ms. McAward said that 75% or higher could be state aid as this is a reconstruction project. However, plans have to be brought up to Albany before we know the allowable costs and what will be aidable. Ms. McAward went into further explanations on the funding and how we would do it to have the least impact on the taxpayer.

Mr. Wolff talked about how that there are strong convictions on both sides for repurposing the bond and for new money to be issued. The Board tries to consider the people who do not come to the board meeting. He is concerned about whether a first vote would pass, but is more concerned what would happen with a second vote. Mrs. Capeci then talked about meeting with the architects and looking at the cantilevers and how they had to be shored up for the safety of the children.

Mr. Dreves has been listening to everyone, he has received calls from both sides and he said they had to get the job done as quickly as possible to get the children back in the building. He said we just passed a bond and now we have a situation that has to be taken care of. He really does not want to see the community burdened further, but he does not know what to take out of the current bond to

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take care of the middle school. He feels that we put into the bond what we need so asks how can we take anything out. He heard many constructive suggestions and he would like to see unity on fixing the middle school.

Mrs. Brakewood also mentioned that she and Mr. Corbia had a liaison meeting with Blind Brook Board of Education and their Superintendent. They talked about the possibility of field use during our construction and would have both athletic directors talk. They talked about other shared services that we already do and Blind Brook's bond.

Mrs. Brakewood gave Pat Rinello a shout out as she has been volunteering to help high school students revise their college essays. Mrs. Capeci mentioned that Mrs. Rinello has been doing it for a few years. Mrs. Brakewood also mentioned the band and how they came in second place in the nation and it was a great way to end the season. Mr. Wolff mentioned kudos to Mr. Miceli on a successful first year as band director.

There being no further business at 9:21 p.m., upon motion by Mrs. Capeci seconded by Mrs. Brakewood and carried (5-0), the Board adjourned the meeting.