

Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2015 - Port Chester High School

Present: Robert H. Johnson, President; James Dreves, Vice President; and Trustees Anne Capeci, Carolee C. Brakewood, and Christopher Wolff

Also Present: Dr. Edward A. Kliszus, Superintendent of Schools, Maura J. McAward, Assistant Superintendent for Business, Joseph Durney, Assistant Superintendent for Grants and Personnel, and Cathy A. Maggi, District Clerk

Call to Order

Mr. Johnson called the public meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

President's Opening Remarks

Mr. Johnson commented on the pending building project and stated that it addressed basic educational needs and meeting state mandates. Mr. Johnson explained parameters on the New York State STAR program.

Public Comment

Mr. Johnson opening the floor for public comments:

Richard Hyman, 55 Lafayette Drive, spoke about concerns of the pending building project, including the SEQRA and Negative Declarations.

Liam Hebert, 17 Wesley Avenue, high school senior, spoke in support of the pending building project.

Monica Brown, 180 Grace Church Street, spoke in support of the pending building project.

Thomas Ceruzzi, 84 Hobart Avenue, expressed reservations regarding the pending building project.

Peter Cole, 40 Quintard Drive, spoke in support of the pending building project.

Robert Reis, 70 Munson Street, spoke in support of the pending building project.

Arnold Lori, 60 Upland Street, expressed reservations regarding the pending building project and concerned about the effect this will have on the senior citizens.

Steve Simmons, 255 North Regent Street, spoke in support of the pending building project.

There being no further comments, Mr. Johnson closed the floor.

Upon motion by Mrs. Brakewood and seconded by Mr. Dreves, this resolution was passed by a 4-1 vote. Mrs. Capeci dissented. Board members shared comments during discussion on the resolution.

A. RESOLUTION OF THE PORT CHESTER-RYE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT, NEW YORK, ADOPTED OCTOBER 6, 2015, CALLING A SPECIAL DISTRICT MEETING TO AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF MONEYS FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES AND THE LEVY OF A TAX THEREFOR.

RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE PORT CHESTER-RYE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT, IN THE COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER, NEW YORK, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. A Special District Meeting of the qualified voters of the Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District, in the County of Westchester, New York (the "District"), shall be held within the District, on Tuesday, December 1, 2015, at 7:00 o'clock A.M. (Prevailing Time) at the Main Gymnasium of the Port Chester Middle School as provided in the Notice calling said Special District Meeting hereinafter substantially prescribed. The

voting at such Special District Meeting shall be by voting machine, as provided by the Education Law, and the polls shall remain open from 7:00 o'clock A.M. to 9:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) on said day and as much longer as may be necessary to enable the voters, then present, to cast their votes.

Section 2. The business to be acted upon at said Special District Meeting shall be as stated in the Notice thereof, and the District Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause the Notice of said Special District Meeting to be published in "*The Journal News*," and "*The Westmore News*," two newspapers each having a general circulation within the District, such publications to be at least made four (4) times within the seven (7) weeks next preceding such Special District Meeting, the first publication to be at least forty-five (45) days prior to the date of said Special District Meeting.

Section 3. Said Notice of Special District Meeting shall be in substantially the following form:

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL DISTRICT MEETING
PORT CHESTER-RYE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT,
IN THE COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER, NEW YORK**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a resolution of the Board of Education of the Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District, in the County of Westchester, New York, adopted on October 6, 2015, a Special District Meeting of the qualified voters of said School District will be held on

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

from 7:00 o'clock A.M. to 9:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) at the Main Gymnasium of the Port Chester Middle School for the purpose of voting upon the following Bond Proposition:

BOND PROPOSITION

RESOLVED:

(a) That the Board of Education of the Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District, in the County of Westchester, New York (the "District"), is hereby authorized to undertake a building and site improvement project (the "Project") as described in a plan prepared by the District with the assistance of Fuller and D'Angelo, P.C., Architects and Planners (the "Plan"), which report is on file and available for public inspection at the office of the District Clerk, consisting of the construction of improvements and alterations to all District school buildings and/or sites, including (as and where required): the construction of building additions to provide for new classroom, gymnasium, library/media, music, science, art, music, locker room and cafeteria space; interior reconstruction and space reconfiguration including support areas; site improvements, including parking, curb and sidewalk enhancements; and athletic and recreation improvements, including the construction and/or installation of new playing fields; bleachers, concession stand and press box; all of the foregoing to include all original equipment, furnishings, machinery, apparatus and ancillary or related site, demolition and other work required in connection therewith; and to expend therefor, including preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto and to the financing thereof, an amount not to exceed the estimated total cost of \$63,000,000; provided that the estimated costs of the components of the Project as set forth in detail in the Plan may be reallocated among such components if the Board of Education shall determine that such reallocation is in the best interests of the District;

(b) that a tax is hereby voted therefor in the amount of not to exceed \$63,000,000 to finance such cost, such tax to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts as shall be determined by said Board of Education; and

(c) that in anticipation of said tax, bonds of the District are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of not to exceed \$63,000,000 and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on said bonds as the same shall become due and payable.

Such Bond Proposition shall appear on the ballot labels to be inserted in the voting machines used for voting at said Special District Meeting in substantially the following condensed form:

BOND PROPOSITION

YES

NO

RESOLVED:

(a) That the Board of Education of the Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District, in the County of Westchester, New York (the "District"), is hereby authorized to construct improvements and alterations to all District school buildings and/or sites and to expend therefor an amount not to exceed \$63,000,000; (b) that a tax is hereby voted in the amount of not to exceed \$63,000,000 to finance such cost, such tax to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts the Board of Education shall determine; and (c) that in anticipation of said tax, bonds of the District are hereby authorized to be issued in the amount of not to exceed \$63,000,000 and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on said bonds as the same shall become due and payable.

The voting will be conducted by ballot on voting machines as provided in the Education Law and the polls will remain open from 7:00 o'clock A.M. to 9:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) and as much longer as may be necessary to enable the voters then present to cast their ballots.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that pursuant to Education Law §2014, personal registration of voters is required, and no person shall be entitled to vote at the Special District Meeting whose name does not appear on the register of the District. The Board of Registration will meet at the Port Chester Middle School, 113 Bowman Avenue, Port Chester, New York, on Monday, November 23, 2015, from 3:00 o'clock P.M. to 7:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) for the purpose of preparing a register of the qualified voters of the District for said Special District Meeting, at which time any person shall be entitled to have his/her name placed upon such register, provided that at such meeting of the Board of Registration he/she is known or proven to the satisfaction of such Board of Registration to be then or thereafter entitled to vote at said Special District Meeting.

The register of the qualified voters of said District prepared for the Annual Election held on May 19, 2015, shall be used by said Board of Registration as the basis for the preparation of the register for said Special District Meeting to be held on December 1, 2015. Any person whose name appears on such register or who shall have been previously registered for any annual or special District meeting or election and who shall have voted at any annual or special District meeting or election held or conducted at any time since January 1, 2011, will not be required to register personally for this Special District Meeting. In addition, any person otherwise qualified to vote who is registered with the Board of Elections of Westchester County under the provisions of the Election Law shall be entitled to vote at said Special District Meeting without further registration.

Immediately upon its completion, said register will be filed in the Office of the District Clerk and will thereafter be open for inspection by any qualified voter of the District between the hours of 8:30 o'clock A.M. and 1:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) on each of the days prior to the day set for the Special District Meeting, except Thursday, November 26, 2015 and Sunday, November 29, 2015 and on Friday, November 27, 2015 and Saturday, November 28, 2015, by appointment only.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that applications for absentee ballots may be applied for at the office of the District Clerk, 113 Bowman Avenue, Port Chester, New York, during school business hours, Monday through Friday, except holidays. If the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, the completed application must be received by the District Clerk no later than November 24, 2015. If the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter at the office of the District Clerk, the completed application must be received by the District Clerk no later November 30, 2015.

A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued will be available for inspection in the office of the District Clerk during regular office hours until the date of said Special District Meeting. Absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk no later than 5:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time) on December 1, 2015.

Only qualified voters who are registered to vote will be permitted to vote.

Section 4. The vote upon the Bond Proposition to be submitted to the qualified voters shall be by ballot on voting machines, and the District Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to have the necessary ballot labels printed for the said voting machines, in form corresponding as nearly as may be with the requirements of the Education Law.

Section 5. The proceeds of the bonds authorized pursuant to the Bond Proposition set forth in Section 3 hereof, and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of said bonds, may be applied to reimburse the District for expenditures made for the purpose or purposes for which said bonds are authorized. The foregoing statement of intent with respect to reimbursement is made in conformity with Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2 of the United States Treasury Department.

Section 6. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Upon motion by Mrs. Capeci, seconded by Mrs. Brakewood and carried, the resolution was approved:

B. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education President is hereby authorized to sign, along with the Superintendent of Schools, the Signature Page for SED Hardship Waiver Application No. 1, covering the period from November 15, 2015 through March 15, 2016, to allow for the continuation of the negotiations process for filing an APPR Plan complaint with the requirements of §3012-d of the Education Law. A copy of said application shall be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.

Upon motion by Mrs. Capeci, seconded by Mrs. Brakewood and carried, the resolution was approved:

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 for the following professional service procurements in keeping with Policy 6700R – Purchasing Regulation.

	Name	Program	Rate	Term	Funded
1	All Access Music Program (Dream Jam Band)	Pre-K Expansion Music Program	\$30,000	2015-2016 School Year	Pre-K Expansion Grant
2	Port Chester Council for the Arts	After School Program	\$120,000	2015-2016 School Year	Council for the Arts Grant Funds
3	Manhattanville College	Community Schools Professional Development	\$10,000	2015-2016 School Year	Title I
4	Education Consortium	Professional Development	\$30,000	2015-2016 School Year	Title III
5	Youth Voices Center Michael Arterbury	Character Education	\$10,000	2015-2016 School Year	Title I

There being no further business at 8:20 p.m., upon motion by Mrs. Capeci, seconded by Mr. Brakewood and carried the Board adjourned the meeting.