

ROCKPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES OF June 3, 2020
Via Zoom

Chairperson Michael Kelley called the regular meeting of the Rockport School Committee to order at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Present were Nicole Altieri, Colleen Coogan, Richard Drost, Michael Kelley, and Cathy Reilly. Also, present were Superintendent Robert Liebow and Recording Secretary Ingrid Keating.

I. Opening of Regular Meeting

A. Approval of Minutes N/A

B. Personnel Actions N/A

II. Community Participation

A. Student Advisory Representative

Student Advisory Representative Nathaniel Kirby reported that the first round of AP tests is over. Nationally there were issues with technology but Rockport students experience many. High School staff delivered caps, gowns and gifts to the seniors along with the “secret” gifts that seniors gave each other. Patrick Morin thanked Nathaniel Kirby and Amanda Verga for all their hard work and organization this year.

Mr. Liebow reported that administrators and staff at the middle school have been delivering things to the 8th grade students who are moving on to the high school, the elementary school is having the “sneaker signing”, there will be a 5th grade motor parade, and along with the high school delivering to all the seniors the whole thing makes him very proud of such personal and sincere gestures culminating with graduation for the seniors this week.

B. Public Participation

III. Discussion and Recommended Action

A. Update on remote learning and communications with families

Mr. Liebow reported district wide shifts in personnel, for next year, due to maternity leaves, resignations and retirements. He is starting to see how next year is going to come together, with information coming from the commissioner on the directives, not guidelines, on how school will open in the fall.

Director of I.S. & Technologies Monty Hitschler reported that the website committee has met and is starting the process to choose a new provider, Aspen development continues to move forward with a lot of hard work and a number of Chromebooks are still going out.

Elementary Principal Todd Simendinger reported that remote learning continues to go smoothly and is working through the traditional end of the year activities. Transitions from 5th to 6th grade, student placements and staff is packing up student belongings for pick-up tomorrow are happening. There’s a 5th grade parade with bag pipe and shoe signing next week.

Middle School Principal Amanda LaMantia reported that they have seen a slight decrease in student participation outside of the class meeting times. Mrs. LaMantia has coordinated a virtual meeting with the counselor and dean with the 5th grade students, has sent out a virtual tour of the middle school and created a slide show presentation that will go out this week. Middle School has scheduled an 8th grade recognition video on 18th, a school wide awards videos, 8th grade gift drop-off on the 15th and will have closing activities on the 19th.

High School Principal Amy Rose reported that she along with senior class advisors, dean and counselors have delivered caps/gowns and gifts from the community to seniors. Seeing them and making the personal connections has been really nice. She is excited about graduation on Friday, it will have a professional

setting, staff will line the driveway to interact with graduates, and there will be live streaming for families and friend to view from home. They have produced a “day in the life” video of seniors and will send to them and their families along with information on graduation procedures. Senior awards and scholarships and sports awards will be happening virtually. The high school is preparing for 8th grade transition.

Mr. Liebow presented for Director of Student Services Martha. It is very difficult for her department to be working remotely when a lot of services and meetings need to be face to face. Ms. Wright is working to put together Extended Year Services (EYS) for this summer and is waiting for guidelines from the state. IEP meetings continue to be held remotely with positive feedback from families. Team chairs are doing a great job managing evaluations. The IT department has been very helpful purchasing, programing and deploying devices. These devices support some students where this may be their only way to communicate and she could not get them in place without the knowledge and support from the IT department. They continue to partner with IT moving forward in supporting the technology needs for the EYS and IEP process.

RTA president Whitney Swanberg said that they look forward to participating on the reopening committee to help make that transition as smooth as possible. Jodi Goodhue stated that working on the Covid issues has been a really cooperative effort between Administration and the RTA.

B. Policy revise/review

Second reading for the following policies:

File JC: Attendance Areas (do not need this policy, do not have multiple schools/campuses)

File JFBB: School Choice (Revised)

File JFBB-1 School Choice (Remove)

File JICFA Prohibition of Hazing (adoption)

File JICFA-E: Hazing (revision)

File JIH: Interrogation and Searches (revision)

File JII: Student Complaints and Grievances (revision)

Motion: Colleen Coogan motioned to approve the revisions to File JFBB: School Choice, File JICFA-E Hazing, File JIH: Interrogation and Searches and File JII: Student Complaints and Grievances, the removal of File JC: Attendance Areas and File JFBB-1 School Choice and the adoption of JICFA Prohibition of Hazing as presented.

Seconded: Cathy Reilly seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

First reading for the following policies:

File IHBHE: Remote Learning

File IHBHE-E: Remote Learning Addendum

File JJA: Student Organizations

File JJH-R: Student Travel Regulations

File JLCB: Immunization of Students

File JLCC: Communicable Diseases

File JRA: Student Records (was overwritten needs to be reinstated)

File JRD: Student Photographs

C. Warrants and Payroll

IV. Information and proposals

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| A. School Council Update | N/A |
| B. Donations | N/A |
| C. Updates | N/A |
| D. Other Business | N/A |

V. Correspondence

Letter from Claire Harper regarding athletic clubs vs. team offerings and requesting a track and field and cross country team be offered. The committee discussed with Ms. Harper the history behind supporting one or both of these teams/clubs and decided to have Athletic Director John Parisi attend the next school committee meeting to clarify the difference between clubs and teams, interest, surveys, and other offerings, such as co-ops with other schools.

VI. Future Agenda Items

- A. School Improvement Plans (6/17)
- B. School Handbooks (6/17)
- D. School Start Times Recommendation (TBD)
- E. Superintendent's Report/FundFlow

VII. Calendar

- A. June 17, 2020, Regular Meeting
- B. August 26, 2020, Regular Meeting
- C. TBD, Town Meet

. Executive Session

Motion: At 9:20 pm Colleen Coogan motioned to go into executive session for the purpose of personnel planning and will reconvene in Open Session.

Seconded: Nicole Altieri seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

Roll call:	Nicole Altieri	yes
	Colleen Coogan	yes
	Richard Drost	yes
	Michael Kelley	yes
	Cathy Reilly	yes

Return to Open Session at 10:13 pm.

Motion: Colleen Coogan motioned to waive the required posting of the Middle School Principal Job to allow filling the position from within for one year.

Seconded: Richard Drost seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

The committee took a roll call vote to approve the Superintendent's FY21-FY22 contract:

Roll call:	Nicole Altieri	yes
	Colleen Coogan	yes
	Richard Drost	yes
	Michael Kelley	yes
	Cathy Reilly	yes

Motion: At 10:24 pm Nicole Altieri motioned to adjourn the regular meeting.

Seconded: Cathy Reilly seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Liebow
Superintendent of Schools