

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Rome Board of Education
December 22, 2021**

Zoom Meeting Link will be available for viewing purposes only at:
<https://moric-org.zoom.us/j/96331203383>

Members Present: Ms. Davis, Mr. Ferretti, Dr. Fontana, Mr. Hagerty, Mrs. Herbowy, Mr. Mellace,
Ms. Megerell, Mr. Nash, Ms. Reddick, Miss Iacovissi

Members Absent: none

Note:

Other School District Personnel in Attendance:

Mr. Blake, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Mezza, Assistant Superintendent for Operations and Management
Mr. Brewer, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Mr. Morton, Director of People Operations

Motion by Ms. Davis, seconded by Mr. Hagerty, to adjourn to executive session at 5:30 P.M. to discuss the sale of Ft. Stanwix.

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

Motion by Ms. Davis, seconded by Mr. Hagerty, at 6:00 P.M. to adjourn executive session.

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

6:00 P.M. Regular meeting called to order.

PRESIDENT CALLS MEETING TO ORDER

Pledge of Allegiance

On the motion of Ms. Megerell, seconded by Mr. Hagerty, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 9, 2021 were ordered approved as distributed.

Voice vote.

By acclamation. (One abstain-Herbowy)

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

1. Capital Project presentation to the work study session.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

1. Updated Attendance
2. Test to Stay Update
3. NYSED Canceled January Regents
4. School Accountability Relief
5. Student Recognition
6. Thank you to Staff and families.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

1. Spirit Week
2. Musical Announcement
3. Open Mic Night
4. Holiday window displays-Seniors won.
5. Holiday cards

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Dr. Steve Hampe-Many things
2. Mrs. Jackie Nelson-AGG
3. Mr. Rob Wood-BOE Procedural Question
4. Ms. Sarita Ruiz-(left blank)
5. Ms. Natalie Williams-tutoring, computer coding, teacher training

WORK STUDY SESSION

1. 2022 Proposed Capital Project Presentation

COMMENDATIONS

1. Resolution for commendation:

Resolution by Mr. Nash, seconded by Ms. Davis:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Rome City School District encourages community partnership and supports for student success whenever possible; AND

WHEREAS, Frank DiBerardino has been instrumental in the development and operations of the New York State mentoring program for Rome City School District students and community members; AND

WHEREAS, Frank DiBerardino has brought recognition and credit to himself, our community, and in turn, the Rome City School District, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT,

RESOLVED: That the members of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools, do hereby commend and thank Frank DiBerardino, who has demonstrated unconditional support for our students and community, AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED: that the clerk of the Board of Education be, and hereby is, directed to spread this resolution on the minutes of tonight's meeting.

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

Mr. Blake offered congratulations on behalf of the District for everything Mr. DiBerardino has done. He is instrumental in bringing this program and connections with our students.

Ms. Debbie Grogan offered congratulations and a commendation on behalf of the Rome Chamber of Commerce.

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution to accept Consent Agenda:

Resolution by Mr. Nash, seconded by Mr. Ferretti:

That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Consent Agenda be accepted by the Board of Education.

PEOPLE OPERATIONS

Consent Agenda Action Items

1. Resolution to approve personnel changes as listed below:

RESOLVED: That the permanent appointments, transfers, resignations, salary adjustments, leaves of absence, et al, contained below, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools be, and are, hereby approved.

The Superintendent certifies that the requirements of the New York State Education Department, the Civil Service of the City of Rome, and the Board of Education have been met in all cases.

A. Leave of absences:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Brittany McCartney (Gans./Bellamy/Teacher)	unpaid LOA (childcare)	01/23/2022-01/22/2023
Stephanie Kingsley (Food Service Worker/Strough)	FMLA	11/22/2021 (up to 12 weeks)

B. Resignations:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Kimberly Squadrito (Teacher Asst./Clough)	Resignation	01/02/2022
Ralph Pezzula (Monitor/Stokes)	Resignation	12/22/2022
Betty Brazie (Food Service Helper/DWF)	Resignation	12/22/2022
Nicole DeLaCruz (Monitor/Joy)	Termination	11/15/2021

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Consent Agenda Action Items

1. Resolution of initial placements, annual reviews, reevaluations, manifestation determinations, amendments, program reviews and/or transfers of students with disabilities:

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the placement of children based upon the CSE/CPSE meeting recommendations be approved.

ROME CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT CSE/CPSE

December 22, 2021

PART 200 REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Part 200.2, Section (d)

...The board of education or board of trustees of each school district shall, upon completion of its review of the IEP in accordance with section 200.4(d)(2) of the Part, arrange for the appropriate special education programs and services to be provided to a student with a disability as recommended by the committee on special education.

Part 200.2, Section (d) (2)

...arrange for appropriate special education programs and services for a preschool student...

DISABILITY	CSE	CPSE
Autistic	15	
Deaf		
Deaf-Blindness		
Emotionally Disturbed		
Hearing Impaired		
Intellectual Disability	15	
Learning Disabled	31	
Multiply Disabled	3	
Orthopedically Impaired		
Other Health Impaired	14	
Speech Impaired	27	
Transfer Review		
Traumatic Brain Injury		
Visually Impaired		
Pre-School with disability		7
Non-Disabled	1	
Declassified		1
Section 504	3	
Tabled		

FINANCE

Consent Agenda Action Items

1. Resolution to declare equipment obsolete or for sale per District policy #4520:

RESOLVED: That the following equipment be declared obsolete/surplus and be disposed of in accordance with policy #4520:

Location	Item	Number			Quantity	Reason	
		Serial	RCSD ID	RIC		Damaged/Disposal	Sale
		List In Business Office				✓	
IT Dept.		List In Business Office				✓	
Stokes	Piano		C030108		1	✓	
Denti	Baldwin Piano		01174		1	✓	
Staley	Library Books	List in Business Office				✓	

2. Resolution to accept donation:

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the donation of a little library from Girl Scout Troop 20516 for the Pre-K Program.

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

FINANCE

Action Items

No agenda items

Committee Reports – Budget development meetings will be January 12th, 19th, and 26th at 5:30 PM.

Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday, January 11th at 10:00 A.M.

FACILITIES

Action Items

No agenda items

Committee Reports – The next meeting will be a committee of the whole, January 10th at 4:30 PM.

Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday, January 18th at 4:30 P.M.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Action Items

No agenda items

Committee Reports

Next Committee Meeting: Monday, January 10th at 4:30 P.M.

PEOPLE OPERATIONS

Action Items

1. Resolution to appoint instructional personnel (probationary):

Resolution by Mr. Mellace, seconded by Ms. Reddick:

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following instructional personnel (probationary):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Sarah Rowe (ECP)	Teacher Assistant	\$17,604 (pro-rated)	12/14/2021-12/13/2025

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

2. Resolution to appoint non-instructional personnel (probationary):

Resolution by Mr. Mellace, seconded by Mrs. Herbowy:

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following non-instructional personnel (probationary):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Janell Rizzo (Denti)	Teacher Aide 1:1	\$15,695 (pro-rated)	01/03/2022-07/02/2022
Brandon Hensley (Ridge)	Monitor	\$14.06/hr. (3.75hrs. day)	01/03/2022-09/02/2022

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

PEOPLE OPERATIONS (Continued)

Action Items

3. Resolution to appoint extracurricular personnel:

Resolution by Ms. Megerell, seconded by Mrs. Herbowy:

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following extracurricular personnel:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Reanna Zappavigna	RFA	Advisor	Ski	\$700	11/30/21-06/30/22
Dellouise Pray	RFA	Advisor	Production Crew Asst.	\$1,000	09/01/21-06/30/22
Stephen Russell	RFA	Advisor	Jazz Band	\$1,200	09/01/21-06/30/22
Maria Richie	RFA	Co-Advisor	National Honor Society	\$900	09/01/21-06/30/22
Judith Sigg	RFA	Co-Advisor	National Honor Society	\$900	09/01/21-06/30/22

Voice vote.

By acclamation. (One abstain-Davis)

Ms. Davis discussed the policies pertaining to this and that it will be followed in a timely manner next year. Dr. Fontana, Mr. Nash, and Mr. Ferretti had reservations concerning this resolution but will vote yes.

4. Resolution to appoint winter sports personnel:

Resolution by Mr. Mellace, seconded by Mrs. Herbowy:

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following extracurricular personnel:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Cheryl Kegley	Ticket Taker/Ticket Seller	\$15.00/hr.	12/10/2021-03/01/2022

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

PEOPLE OPERATIONS (Continued)

Action Items

5. Resolution to appoint winter coaching personnel:

Resolution by Mr. Mellace, seconded by Ms. Davis:

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following winter coaching personnel:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Kevin Campbell	Modified Boys Basketball Asst.	\$3,919	12/10/2021-03/01/2022
Timothy Hoffman	Girls Indoor Varsity Track & Field	\$5,713 (pro-rated)	12/17/2021-03/01/2022

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

6. Resolution to approve updated job description:

Resolution by Mr. Mellace, seconded by Ms. Davis:

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the updated job description for Student Support Specialist:

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

7. Resolution to appoint Student Support Specialists:

Resolution by Mr. Mellace, seconded by Mrs. Herbowy:

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following individuals as Student Support Specialists:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Start Date</u>
Sara Fox	RFA	\$42,000	01/03/2022
Grady Faulkner	Strough	\$42,000	01/18/2022

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

Dr. Fontana stated that they should be invited to join the DEI Team. Mr. Nash was looking forward to what comes.

PEOPLE OPERATIONS (Continued)

Action Items

8. Resolution to grant tenure:

Resolution by Mr. Mellace, seconded by Mrs. Herbowy:

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby grants the following individual tenure:

Nikiya Pomponi ENL Teacher Effectice Date 01/07/2022

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

9. Resolution to accept retirements:

Resolution by Mr. Mellace, seconded by Mrs. Herbowy:

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby accepts, with regret, the retirement of the following individuals:

Patricia Wheeler	Teacher Assistant	Clough	Effective Date 06/30/2022
Linda Froio	Senior Typist	Strough	Effective Date 08/01/2022

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

The Board offered congratulations and gratitude for their service to the District.

PEOPLE OPERATIONS (Continued)

Action Items

10. Resolution for creation of skiing team of one (RCSD):

Resolution by Mr. Mellace, seconded by Mr. Ferretti:

WHEREAS, a ninth grade, female student is interested in participating in interscholastic athletics as an alpine skiing “team of one”; and

WHEREAS, Dennis O’Brian, the Alpine Committee Chair for the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (“NYSPHSAA”) has advised the District that it may create a skiing “team of one” for this student athlete; and

WHEREAS, Melissa O’Rourke is appropriately certified and qualified, and willing to serve as coach of the alpine skiing “team of one”; and

WHEREAS, the Board and administration wishes to allow the student to participate in skiing as a “team of one” consistent with NYSPHSSA rules and requirements. NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS

RESOLVED:

1. Isabella O’Rourke is designated as a “team of one” for alpine skiing under the rules of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association for the winter 2021-2022 season.
2. The Rome City School District shall pay the entry fee for the student’s participation as a “team of one.”
3. Melissa O’Rourke is appointed as coach for the student as a skiing “team of one.” Transportation to and from practices and contests shall be in accordance with Board Policy. Mrs. O’Rourke expressly waives any claim to compensation for service as a coach of the alpine skiing “team of one.”
4. In the event the winter alpine skiing schedule includes competition during the school day, the student shall be excused from attendance to compete. Ms. O’Rourke shall be excused from her employment with the District for purposes of coaching the student at the competition.
5. The Superintendent and Athletic Director, or their designees, are authorized to take any action necessary to implement this resolution.

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

Mr. Mellace inquired on the transportation portion (Same as ice hockey), other people were contacted and no one else wanted to participate.

PEOPLE OPERATIONS (Continued)

Action Items

11. Resolution for creation of skiing “Team of One”

Motion by Mr. Mellace, seconded by Mrs. Herbowy to remove resolution from agenda:

WHEREAS, a ninth grade, female student is interested in participating in interscholastic athletics as an alpine skiing “team of one”; and

WHEREAS, Dennis O’Brian, the Alpine Committee Chair for the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (“NYSPHSAA”) has advised the District that it may create a skiing “team of one” for this student athlete; and

WHEREAS, Melissa O’Rourke is appropriately certified and qualified, and willing to serve as coach of the alpine skiing “team of one”; and

WHEREAS, the Board and administration wishes to allow the student to participate in skiing as a “team of one” consistent with NYSPHSSA rules and requirements. NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS

RESOLVED:

1. Isabella O’Rourke is designated as a “team of one” for alpine skiing under the rules of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association for the winter 2021-2022 season. She shall train with the Camden Central School District team, and follow the Camden Central School District ski team’s schedule. The Rome City School District shall pay the entry fee for the student’s participation as a “team of one.”
2. Melissa O’Rourke is appointed as coach for the student as a skiing “team of one.” Transportation to and from practices and contests shall be in accordance with Board Policy. Mrs. O’Rourke expressly waives any claim to compensation for service as a coach of the alpine skiing “team of one.”
3. In the event the winter alpine skiing schedule includes competition during the school day, the student shall be excused from attendance to compete. Ms. O’Rourke shall be excused from her employment with the District for purposes of coaching the student at the competition.
4. The Superintendent and Athletic Director, or their designees, are authorized to take any action necessary to implement this resolution.

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

This resolution was not needed and therefore removed from the agenda.

PEOPLE OPERATIONS (Continued)

Action Items

12. Resolution to appoint instructional personnel:

Resolution by Mr. Mellace, seconded by Mrs. Herbowy:

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following instructional personnel:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Tenure Area</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Sarah Sorge-Elacqua (Strough)	Science	Science	BS60Step12+ MS	\$61,910 (pro-rated)	01/24/2022- 01/24/2025
Kristine Moskal (Gansevoort)	Reading	Reading	BS30Step7+ MS	\$56,910 (pro-rated)	01/24/2022-01/23/2025

* The expiration date of the above probationary appointment for classroom teaching position is tentative and conditional only. Except to the extent required by the applicable provisions of Section 2509 of the Education Law, in order to be granted tenure a classroom teacher or principal must receive composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Section 3012-c and/or 3012-d of the Education Law of either “effective” or “highly effective” in at least three (3) of the four (4) preceding years, and if the classroom teacher or principal receives an “ineffective” composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period the teacher shall not be eligible for tenure at that time.”

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

The Board offered congratulations and welcome to the District.

13. Resolution to appoint interim principal:

Resolution by Mr. Mellace, seconded by Ms. Megerell:

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints the following individual as an interim principal:

Jodi Marchione	Clough Elementary	\$88,000 (pro-rated)	01/03/2022-07/31/2022
----------------	-------------------	-------------------------	-----------------------

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

Committee Reports - Ms. Davis requested that the Board Clerk position with job description be on the next agenda.

Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday, January 11th at 4:30 P.M.

POLICY

Action Items

1. Resolution to accept the **first reading** of policy # 1400 – Public Complaints:

Resolution by Ms. Davis, seconded by Mr. Mellace:

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the **first reading** of policy # 1400 – Public Complaints, be accepted by the Board of Education.

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

2. Resolution to accept the **first reading** of exhibit # 1400 -E– Public Complaints:

Resolution by Ms. Davis, seconded by Mrs. Herbowy:

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the **first reading** of exhibit # 1400-E – Public Complaints, be accepted by the Board of Education.

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

3. Resolution to accept the **first reading** of policy # 1741 – Home Schooled Students:

Resolution by Ms. Davis, seconded by Ms. Megerell:

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the **first reading** of policy # 1741 – Home Schooled Students, be accepted by the Board of Education.

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

Committee Reports – *Waiting for email for Board Docs. The next meeting will be held January 20th at 4:30 PM.*

Next Committee Meeting: TBD

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

1. Resolution to create Ad Hoc Committee:

Resolution by Mr. Nash, seconded by Mr. Ferretti:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education hereby approves the creation of an Ad Hoc Committee for the purpose of redistricting.

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

Ms. Davis will chair this committee. Mr. Nash, Mr. Ferretti, Ms. Reddick, Ms. Megerell, and Dr. Fontana will be on the committee. The first meeting will take place on January 5th at 5:00 PM.

OLD BUSINESS

None

Motion by Mr. Mellace, seconded by Mr. Ferretti, to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:45 P.M. for the purpose of discussing the employment of a particular individual(s).

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

Motion by Dr. Fontana seconded by Mr. Mellace, to adjourn Executive Session at 9:54 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mrs. Herbowy, seconded by Mr. Mellace, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 P.M. to the call of the President.