

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Rome Board of Education
March 24, 2022

Zoom Meeting Link will be available for viewing purposes only at:
<https://moric-org.zoom.us/j/93088325591>

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

Members Absent: None

Note: Ms. Iacovissi arrived at 6:04 P.M.

Other School District Personnel in Attendance:

Mr. Brewer, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Mr. Mezza, Assistant Superintendent for Operations and Management

Staff Excused: Mr. Blake, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Morton, Director of People Operations

Note:

Motion by Mr. Nash, seconded by Mrs. Davis, to adjourn to executive session at 5:07 P.M. for the purpose of hearing a student discipline appeal.

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

Motion by Mr. Nash, seconded by Ms. Davis, at 5:37 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 Mr. Nash, seconded by Mr. Mellace, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 10, 2022 and the Special Meeting of March 22, 2022.were ordered approved as distributed.

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

1. Addition of miscellaneous business-discipline appeal

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

1. Thank you to the voters for passing the referendum vote.
2. Ad Hoc Committee-March 30th 6:00 at RFA Library

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

1. Heat of Fusion-Junior's won
2. Youth Art Month
3. Staff member for the week-Mr. Pohl
4. Mr. LeBaron-lunch time incentive

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Jacqueline Nelson-NAACP
2. Dennis Perfetti-Multiple
3. Keri Campbell-Overcrowding

WORK STUDY SESSION

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution to accept Consent Agenda:

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

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. Resignations:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Matthew Costello (Custodial Worker/DWF)	Termination	03/09/2022
Elizabeth Street (Food Service Helper/Joy)	Resignation	03/28/2022
Sarah Roth-Trnchik (Teacher/Stokes)	Resignation	04/29/2022
Joseph Gentile (Teacher Asst./Strough)	Termination	03/07/2022
Allison Young (Musical Staff)	Resignation (Stage Manager)	03/18/2022

PEOPLE OPERATIONS (Continued)

Consent Agenda Action Items

B. Leave of absences:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Nicholas Natishak (Teacher/RFA)	FMLA (unpaid)	03/21/2022 (up to 12 weeks)
Melissa O'Rourke (Teacher/RFA)	FMLA (intermittent)	03/07/2022
Renee O'Connell (Sr. Office Spec./Joy)	unpaid LOA (other employment in District)	04/17/2022-06/30/2022 (or sooner)
Susan Mirabelli-Amoroso (School Counselor/DWF)	FMLA	02/16/2022 (up to 12 weeks)

2. Appoint instructional/non-instructional substitutes:

A. <u>Instructional/Non-Instructional</u>	<u>Fingerprint Clearance Date</u>
Troy Squadrito	03/18/2022
Gregory Davis	03/18/2022

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

March 24, 2022

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	11	
Deaf		
Deaf-Blindness		
Emotionally Disturbed	2	
Hearing Impaired	1	
Intellectual Disability	8	
Learning Disabled	61	
Multiply Disabled	5	
Orthopedically Impaired		
Other Health Impaired	26	
Speech Impaired	21	
Transfer Review		
Traumatic Brain Injury		
Visually Impaired		
Pre-School with disability		8
Non-Disabled		1
Declassified	1	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				✓	
Staley	Classroom Tables				2	✓	
	Art Room Cart		002222		1	✓	

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

FINANCE

Action Items

Committee Reports

Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 10:00 A.M.

FACILITIES

Action Items

No agenda items

Committee Reports – *Meeting held at RFA, tour of facilities and work completed. Updates on all areas of work.*

Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 4:30 P.M.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Action Items

No agenda items

Committee Reports – *Administration is working hard at District Office to track our data. Students are moving in a positive direction.*

Next Committee Meeting: Monday, April 4, 2022 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>Tenure Area</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Kayla Duffy (Stokes/Denti)	Teacher	ENL	BA30Step11+ MS	\$57,660 (pro-rated)	04/01/2022-03/31/2025

* 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.

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

Resolution by Mr. Mellace, seconded by Dr. Fontana:

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>
Heather Perry (Business Office)	Sr. Account Clerk	\$38,473.39 (pro-rated/degree)	04/18/2022-10/17/2022
Hillary Young (Stokes)	Food Service Helper (3.75 hrs./day)	\$14.06/hr.	03/15/2022-11/14/2022
Shaleen Spaeth (Bellamy)	Food Service Helper (3.75 hrs./day)	\$14.06/hr.	03/25/2022-11/24/2022

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

PEOPLE OPERATIONS (Continued)

Action Items

3. Resolution to appoint non-instructional personnel (provisional):

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

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Emily Till (Business Office)	Principal Account Clerk	\$43,000 (pro-rated/degree)	03/28/2022

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

4. Resolution to appoint non-instructional temporary personnel:

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 non-instructional temporary personnel:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Renee O'Connell (Business Office)	Sr. Account Clerk	\$35,743.39 (pro-rated)	04/18/2022-06/30/2022 (or sooner)

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

5. Resolution to appoint administrative personnel:

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 administrative personnel:

Cristin Checchia	Director	\$124,000 (Effective 03/25/2022)	Effective Date 11/05/2021-11/04/2025
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Voice vote.

By acclamation.

PEOPLE OPERATIONS (Continued)

Action Items

6. Resolution to create positions:

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

RESOLVED: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby creates the following positions:

Motor Vehicle Operator
Principal (Early Childhood Program)

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

7. Resolution to abolish position:

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

RESOLVED: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby abolishes the following position:

Assistant Director/Principal
(Supported Learning/Early Childhood Program)

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

8. Resolution to increase hours:

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

RESOLVED: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby increases the hours of the following position:

District Clerk From 60% To 100%

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

9. Resolution to approve Memorandum of Agreement:

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

RESOLVED: The Board of Education approves the terms of the memorandum of agreement between the Rome Administrators Association and the District dated March 24, 2022.

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

PEOPLE OPERATIONS (Continued)

Committee Reports

Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 4:30 P.M.

POLICY

Action Items

No agenda items

Committee Reports – *No Updates, waiting for updated section and logins from Board Docs. Dr. Fontana stated that she felt a meeting should be scheduled to work on policies that are available. Mr. Mellace stated that some sections are not done and the contract could be voided. Ms. Davis stated that she was not aware, and scheduled the next meeting for March 30th at 4:30, RFA Library.*

Next Committee Meeting: TBD

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

1. Resolution determining the appeal of a student disciplinary matter:

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

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Rome City School District (the “Board”) received a written appeal from a student disciplinary matter arising under the District’s Code of Conduct Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered the matter in executive session, to protect the privacy of a student’s education records and personally identifiable information under federal and State law, pursuant to a motion made and approved under Public Officers Law § 108(3) during the regular business meeting of the Board on February 10, 2022; and NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that having heard the appeal presented by a parent/guardian/person in parental relationship of a student, and the response of the administration and due deliberation having been had, the appeal is denied, and the decisions of the building administration and the Superintendent of Schools are affirmed; AND IT IS FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education, or the District Clerk as designee of the President, is hereby authorized to prepare a letter consistent with the Resolution and with the deliberations in Executive Session to be prepared, signed and mailed to the appellant; and to include in that letter language appropriate to inform the appellant of the time and manner in which an aggrieved party may file an appeal of this decision with the New York State Commissioner of Education; AND IT IS FURTHER

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS (Continued)

2. Resolution to approve Teach Upbeat, LLC agreement:

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

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves the agreement between the Rome City School District and Teach Upbeat LLC through June 30, 2024.

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS (Continued)

3. Resolution to authorize Proposition to be submitted for the approval of the qualified voters at the annual school district election to be held in said District on May 17, 2022.

Resolution by Mr. Nash, seconded by Dr. Fontana:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Rome City School District (the “District) wishes to establish and fund a Capital Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 3651 of the New York Education Law; and

BE IT RESOLVED by this Board of Education as follows:

Section 1. The proposition hereinafter set forth is hereby authorized to be submitted for the approval of the qualified voters at the annual school district election to be held in said District on May 17, 2022.

Section 2. The District Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to include as a part of the notice of the annual district meeting and election notice the proposition in substantially the following form:

**Proposition
(Capital Reserve Fund)**

Shall the Board of Education of the Rome City School District, be authorized to establish a Capital Reserve Fund for a ten-year term pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law to be titled “2022 Capital Reserve Fund” and fund such reserve in an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000, inclusive of accrued interest and other investment earnings, to be used for renovations and additions to all District facilities, including purchase of equipment, technology upgrades, classroom equipment and/or school infrastructure equipment, site development, athletic fields, storm and sanitary sewer, driveways, and parking lots, such reserve fund to be funded from (i) year-end budget surplus funds known as unassigned fund balance, as available, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022 and each fiscal year thereafter for the term of the reserve fund, (ii) transfers of excess monies from Board of Education designated reserves, (iii) amounts from budgetary appropriations from time to time, and (iv) New York State Aid received and made available by the Board of Education from time to time, all as permitted by law.

Section 3. The Clerk of the School District is hereby authorized and directed in the name and on behalf of the District to do all acts and things necessary, following the advice and counsel of the District’s Attorney and the District’s Bond Counsel, to comply with all applicable laws, regulations and executive orders relating to the Annual Meeting to be held on May 17, 2022, and to do all other acts as may be necessary, or in the opinion of the District’s Attorney and the District’s Bond Counsel, desirable or proper to effectuate the purposes of the foregoing Resolution and to cause compliance by the District with all applicable laws, regulations and executive orders relating to the notice of, and procedural steps to be taken in connection with such Annual Meeting.

Section 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS (Continued)

Motion to add additional business:

Motion by Mr. Nash, seconded by Ms. Davis to add additional business to agenda:

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

4. Resolution regarding appeal of a Superintendent's Hearing:

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

Having heard an appeal from a Superintendent's Hearing in executive session, be it resolved that the Board of Education hereby upholds the decision of the Superintendent with regard to the length of suspension, and provides for an abeyance and return to school pending compliance with the Code of Conduct.

Voice vote.

By acclamation.

OLD BUSINESS

None

On the motion of Mr. Mellace, seconded by Ms. Davis, the meeting was adjourned at 6:59 P.M. to the call of the President.

ADJOURNMENT