

**ROMULUS CENTRAL SCHOOL  
ROMULUS, NY 14541**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 13, 2011  
7:00 P.M. – BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM**

**PRESENT: Robert McCann – President; Laurie Asermily – Vice President; Susan Backlund; Seth Brandow; Rebecca Jessop; Timothy Kuryla; James O. Somerville**

**ABSENT: No one**

**OTHERS PRESENT: Michael J. Hoose – Superintendent; Leanne B. Keel – District Clerk; Robert J. Boulware – Business Manager; Lynn Rhone – PK-12 Principal; Christopher Puylara – RFA President; M/M Matthew McCusker; Linda Mastellar; Kara Mapstone; Steven Goldberg; M/M Dan Bowman; Scott Bulriss, Project Manager, Campus Management**

Mr. McCann called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m., welcomed guests and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

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Mrs. Mapstone stated her concerns: merger vs. dissolution, other shared services, student benefits from a merger and any advantages. Mrs. Mastellar briefly reviewed the letter/questions she had sent to the BOE regarding a merger, what sports opportunities would look like in a merger, “who will be a dance partner”. Mr. Goldberg requested an update on the merger feasibility study, specifically “where do we stand?”

Mr. McCann stated that the BOE will further address these issues under Agenda Item entitled “President’s Report.”

**STUDENT COUNCIL UPDATE:**

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Daniel Rivera and Alex Dickerson presented the update for the Student Council. They stated that the canned food drive to fill up the Ovid Food Pantry shelves provided over 1700 non-perishable items, and students decked the Main corridor halls with lights, and other decorations.

Mr. Rivera and Mr. Dickerson left the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

**CLERK’S REPORT:**

- 1.1M Approval of Minutes of November 22, 2011  
Motion made by Ms. Backlund, seconded by Mr. Kuryla, and carried unanimously.
- 1.2M Approval of Payroll for November, 2011  
Motion made by Mrs. Asermily, seconded by Mr. Kuryla, and carried unanimously.

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**CAPITAL PROJECT VOLUNTEERS**

1.3M Approval of Volunteers for the January 31, 2012 Capital Project Vote:

- . Mary Waters – Chairperson; Joseph St. Thomas; Alice Howard  
Barbara Hammond

Motion made by Ms. Backlund, seconded by Mrs. Asermily, and carried unanimously.

1.4 Board **information copies** of the following Warrants for November, 2011:

- . Fund A #81 (11/15/11), Fund A #10 (11/30/11)
- . Fund C #7 (11/15/11), Fund C #8 (11/30/11)
- . Fund F #7 (11/15/11), Fund F #8 (11/30/11)

1.5M Approval of Treasurer's Report for October, 2011

Motion made by Mr. Somerville, seconded by Mr. Kuryla, and carried unanimously.

**NYSSBA AREA 2 DIRECTOR**

1.6M A motion was made by Mr. McCann, and seconded by Mrs. Jessop, that the Board of Education of the Romulus Central School District cast one vote for Michael Ellis to the position of Area 2 Director of NYSSBA from January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2014.

Motion carried unanimously.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

2.1 Update

Mr. Hoose mentioned that the Rural Schools Assoc. Position Paper addresses Gap Elimination Adjustments and the legislation passage of the Local Property Tax Cap. He also stated that more discussion and information will be forthcoming.

2.2 Kidsafe Childcare Report for 9/6/11---11/30/11

Mr. Hoose reviewed the Childcare report, stating that a good job has been done by the Staff.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**FACILITIES COMMITTEE**

15.1 Facilities Committee Update

Mr. Kuryla, Chairperson, mentioned that the Committee has been busy prioritizing the upcoming \$6,750,000 Capital Project, which will have a zero tax impact, and will be voted upon by District residents on January 31, 2012. The Project was determined from a Building Condition Survey and some major issues include boiler replacements, roof replacement, auditorium and cafeteria equipment replacement and ADA compliant hardware, ramps, bathrooms and wheelchair lifts.

**POLICY COMMITTEE APPROVAL**

15.2 Policy Committee **second reading and final approval** of:

- . Animals in the School (Instructional Purposes) - #8370

Motion made by Mrs. Asermily, seconded by Mr. Kuryla, and carried unanimously.

**BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**EXTRACLASSROOM ACTIVITY FUND**

3.1 Update

Mr. Boulware reviewed the Extraclassroom Activity Fund Audit stating that the corrective action issues were minor. He will prepare a draft response providing it to the BOE for their review and changes, if any.

**OMNI PREFERRED PROVIDER PROGRAM**

He also mentioned that a meeting with the RFA and the CSEA unions will be held in January, 2012 to discuss the OMNI Preferred Provider Program (P3), which oversees the 403(b) employee agreements and service providers, since the IRS regulations have changed and their requirements must be met. More information will be given to the BOE in the near future.

Ms. Backlund left the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

**SEQRA RESOLUTION**

3.2RS WHEREAS the Romulus Central School District (the "District") has considered the impacts to the environment of the following Scope of Work to be completed: **Reconstruction, renovations and improvements to existing school buildings and grounds, including, but not limited to, the acquisition and installation of a new hot water boiler system, including deconstruction of the existing steam boiler system, electrical, HVAC, and site improvements, health and safety improvements, and related renovations; and**

WHEREAS the District has reviewed the scope of the project and has further received and considered the advice of its architects with respect to the potential for environmental impacts resulting from the proposed action; and

WHEREAS the District has reviewed the proposed action with respect to the Type II criteria set forth in 6 NYCRR Part 617.5(c) and concluded that the project involves routine activities of an educational institution, now therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED by the District as follows:

1. The Proposed Action, does not exceed thresholds established under 6 NYCRR Part 617, State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA).
2. The Board hereby determines the Proposed Action is a Type II action in accordance with the SEQRA regulations.
3. No further review of the Proposed Action is required under SEQRA.
4. This resolution shall be effective immediately.

Motion made by Mr. McCann, seconded by Mrs. Asermily, and carried unanimously.

**CAPITAL PROJECT RESOLUTION**

3.3RS A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Romulus Central School District held at the Romulus Central School building, 5705 Route 96, Romulus, New York on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2011, at 7:00 o'clock P.M. (Prevailing Time).

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There were present: Robert McCann, President; Laurie Asermily, Vice President; Seth Brandow, Rebecca Jessop, Timothy Kuryla, James O. Somerville

There were absent: Susan Backlund

Others Also Present: Michael J. Hoose, Superintendent; Leanne B. Keel, District Clerk; Robert Boulware, Business Manager

It was moved by Mr. McCann, and seconded by Mr. Kuryla, that the following resolutions be adopted

BE IT RESOLVED by this Board of Education as follows:

**Section 1.** A Special Meeting of the qualified voters of the Romulus Central School District, County of Seneca, State of New York, will be held in the north entrance lobby of the Romulus Central School building, 5705 Route 96, Romulus, New York, on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2012 from 12:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M., prevailing time, for the purpose of voting on the propositions described in the Notice of Special District Meeting hereinafter set forth.

**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 FINGERLAKES TIMES and the SYRACUSE POST STANDARD newspapers having a general circulation within the District, such publications to be made four (4) times each in such newspapers 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 Special District Meeting shall be called by giving the following notice thereof:

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING  
OF THE VOTERS OF THE  
ROMULUS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE ROMULUS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT HEREBY GIVES NOTICE** that pursuant to a Resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the District on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2011, a special meeting of the qualified voters of said School District, County of Seneca, State of New York, will be held in the north entrance lobby of the Romulus Central School building, 5705 Route 96, Romulus, New York, in said District, on January 31, 2012, between the hours of 12:00 P.M. and 9:00 P.M. prevailing time, for the purpose of voting upon the following propositions:

**PROPOSITION I**

Shall the Board of Education of the Romulus Central School District be authorized to undertake a project consisting of the repair, renovation and improvement of the Romulus Central School building including, but not limited to, boiler replacement and conversion from steam to hot water, deconstruction of the existing steam boiler system, site improvements and health and safety improvements, all of the foregoing to include original furnishings, fixtures and equipment, architectural fees, and all other necessary costs incidental to such work (together, the "Project") and to expend therefore a total sum not to exceed \$6,750,000, which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof, and to pay for the Project by using \$1,365,000 from the District's reserve fund approved by the District voters on May 16, 2006, any available state aid and the levy of a tax which is hereby voted for the Project in the amount of \$5,385,000, subject to the applicable amount of State Excel Aid money available, which shall be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education and in anticipation of the collection of such tax, bonds and notes of the District are hereby authorized to be issued at one time, or from time to time, in the principal amount not to exceed \$5,385,000, and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on said obligations when due.

**PROPOSITION II**

Shall the Board of Education purchase one (1) 66-passenger school bus (the "School Bus") at an estimated cost not to exceed \$108,695, including necessary furnishings, fixtures and equipment and all other costs incidental thereto and to expend a total sum not to exceed \$108,695, which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof, and pay for such School Bus by using funds from the District's reserve fund known as "Capital Reserve Fund – Purchase of Buses" approved by the District voters on May 17, 2005.

**NOTICE IS GIVEN** that voting upon the foregoing Propositions will be by voting machine and will take place on January 31, 2012 in the north entrance lobby of the Romulus Central School building, 5705 Route 96, Romulus, New York, between the hours of 12:00 P.M. and 9:00 P.M. prevailing time.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that qualified voters may obtain applications for absentee ballots from the Office of the Clerk of the School District. Completed applications for absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk of the School District no later than 5:00 P.M. prevailing time, on January 30, 2012, and must be received no later than 5:00 P.M., prevailing time, on January 24, 2012, if the absentee ballot is to be mailed to the voter. Completed applications received after 5:00 P.M. on January 24, 2012, will require the voter to personally appear at the Office of the Clerk of the School District to receive an absentee ballot. A listing of all persons to whom an

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absentee ballot is issued will be available for inspection by any qualified voter in the Office of the Clerk of the School District between the hours of 7:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. through January 30, 2012, except Saturday, Sunday or holiday.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that the propositions set forth on the voting machine labels shall appear as follows:

**PROPOSITION I**

Shall the Board of Education of the Romulus Central School District repair, renovate and improve the Romulus Central School building including, but not limited to, boiler replacement and conversion from steam to hot water, deconstruction of the existing steam boiler system, site improvements and health and safety improvements, all of the foregoing to include original furnishings, fixtures and equipment, architectural fees, and all other necessary costs incidental to such work (together, the "Project") and to expend therefore a total sum not to exceed \$6,750,000, which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof, and to pay for the Project by using \$1,365,000 from the District's reserve fund, Excel Aid received from the State and the levy of a tax which is hereby voted for the Project in the amount of \$5,385,000, subject to the applicable amount of State Excel Aid money available, which shall be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education and in anticipation of the collection of such tax, bonds and notes of the District are hereby authorized to be issued at one time, or from time to time, in the principal amount not to exceed \$5,385,000, and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on said obligations when due.

**PROPOSITION II**

Shall the Board of Education purchase one (1) 66-passenger school bus (the "School Bus") at an estimated cost not to exceed \$108,695, including necessary furnishings, fixtures and equipment and all other costs incidental thereto and to expend a total sum not to exceed \$108,695, which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof, and pay for such School Bus by using funds from the District's reserve fund known as "Capital Reserve Fund – Purchase of Buses" approved by the District Voters on May 17, 2005.

**DATED:** December 13, 2011

**BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Section 4.** The vote upon the propositions 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 in form corresponding as nearly as

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May be with the requirements of the Education Law.

**Section 5.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion made by Mr. McCann, seconded by Mr. Kuryla, and carried unanimously.

**ARCHITECT SERVICE PROPOSAL**

3.4M Authorization to accept the proposal for Architectural Services from King & King Architects for the 2012-13 Capital Project.

Motion made by Mr. Kuryla, seconded by Mrs. Asermily. Mr. Somerville abstained.

Motion carried with five affirmative votes. (Ms. Backlund was absent)

**CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICE PROPOSAL**

3.5M Authorization to accept the proposal for Construction Management Services from Campus Construction Management Group Inc. for the 2012-13 Capital Project.

Motion made by Mr. Kuryla, seconded by Mr. Brandow, and carried unanimously.

**EXTRACLASSROOM ACTIVITY FUND REPORT APPROVED**

3.6M Authorization to accept the Extraclassroom Activity Funds Financial Report for the school year ended June 30, 2011 as prepared by Raymond F. Wager, CPA. P.C.

Motion made by Mr. Somerville, seconded by Mrs. Asermily, and carried unanimously.

**PK-12 PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:**

4.1 Update

Mrs. Rhone stated that 41 Middle School students participated in the "It's a Wonderful Run" 5K run in Seneca Falls held recently, 15 families were the recipients of the annual RCS "angel gifting" program, Holiday Concerts will be held on December 14<sup>th</sup> and the Holiday Extravaganza will occur on December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

**TINA TURK LOA**

7.1L Tina Turk – An unpaid personal leave of absence, effective April 3 – 6, 2012

Motion made by Mrs. Asermily, seconded by Mr. Brandow, and carried unanimously.

**MAE BETH MAC PHERSON LOA**

7.2L Mae Beth MacPherson – A leave of absence, effective January 1, 2012 through March 31, 2012, utilizing five (5) sick leave days with the remainder of time as unpaid.

Motion made by Mrs. Jessop, seconded by Mrs. Asermily, and carried unanimously.

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**PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS: As Recommended by Mr. Hoose**

**TANYA WESSIG APPOINTED CLEANER**

6.1A Tanya Wessig - Cleaner, a 12 month 2,080 hour per year probationary appointment effective for six (6) months from start date, pending NYSED Fingerprinting Clearance, effective December 12, 2011, at a salary of \$10.19 per hour with benefits as stipulated in the current CSEA Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Motion made by Mrs. Asermily, seconded by Mr. Kuryla, and carried unanimously.

**EDWARD OLDFIELD APPOINTED BUILDING  
MAINTENANCE MECHANIC/BUS DRIVER**

6.2A Edward Oldfield - Building Maintenance Mechanic/School Bus Driver, pending NYSED Fingerprinting Clearance, effective December 19, 2011, a probationary appointment effective for six (6) months from start date, at a salary of \$14.50 per hour, a 12-month 2,080 hour position, with benefits as stipulated in the current CSEA Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Motion made by Mrs. Jessop, seconded by Mr. Kuryla, and carried unanimously.

**RICHARD JENSEN APPOINTED BUILDING  
MAINTENANCE MECHANIC/BUS DRIVER**

6.3A Richard Jensen, Jr. - Building Maintenance Mechanic/School Bus Driver, pending NYSED Fingerprinting Clearance, effective January 3, 2012, a probationary appointment effective for six (6) months from start date, at a salary of \$15.50 per hour, a 12-month 2,080 hour position, with benefits as stipulated in the current CSEA Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Motion made by Mr. Brandow, seconded by Mrs. Asermily, and carried unanimously.

**COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION REPORT:**

9.1A Approval of the recommendations as listed in the Minutes of October 18, 2011, October 26, 2011, October 27, 2011, November 1, 2011, November 9, 2011, November 16, 2011, November 22, 2011

Motion made by Mr. McCann, seconded by Mr. Kuryla, and carried unanimously.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT: (7:48 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.) BOE PRESIDENT'S REPORT  
AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS ON FUTURE OF RCS**

. Mr. McCann stated that he and the Waterloo CSD BOE President, James Spina, have met informally to gauge merger interests and will do so again on December 15, 2011 to be joined by Superintendents Hoose and MacNabb (Waterloo).

. Also mentioned - on December 5<sup>th</sup>, the Presidents, Vice-Presidents, and Superintendents from both South Seneca CSD and RCS met to discuss "all and everything" concerning any merger interest. It was stated that 'RCS must remain in the community and stay open' and that there are many variables; i.e., PK-6 or PK-8. SSCS agreed with that. Mr. McCann indicated that if a Merger Study is done, it is not binding. As of today (12/13/11), no further meetings with SSCS have been planned, but will be.

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. At the 12/5/11 meeting, SSCS indicated that they would like to join the Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES (they currently belong to the TST BOCES in Ithaca). Mr. Hoose said that the Commissioner of Education is the only person who will decide which BOCES.

Mr. McCann reiterated to the BOE's that they must read their e-mails sent to them from RCS Staff, community, and each other. At this point in discussion, Mr. Hoose was charged to answer e-mails (which will be time consuming).

Speaking for the BOE, Mr. McCann indicated that NYSSBA's contact by phone option is no longer available; however, he will attend upcoming Town Board meetings to make community members readily aware of the District's merger options, et al. He encouraged BOE members to also speak with families, parents, and community members. Although the focus is on merging, we should not close our minds and eyes to other things (think outside the box), and welcome other's ideas and options.

There were many questions, concerns, and lengthy discussion generated by tonight's guests (which were stated during the Agenda's "Public Comments" segment) as well as concerns and comments mentioned in letters that the BOE has received. These were answered by Mr. McCann and the BOE with information they currently possess.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. made by Mr. Kuryla, seconded by Mrs. Asermily, and carried unanimously.

LEANNE B. KEEL  
DISTRICT CLERK