

RAMAPO INDIAN HILLS REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Oakland, New Jersey 07436

**REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**  
January 24, 2022  
Indian Hills High School, Auditorium, 7:00 P.M.

Roll Call

Upon roll call at 7:00 P.M., the Board members responded as follows: Mmes. Emmolo, Underfer, King, Koulikourdis, and Sullivan. Messrs. Carolan, Fortunato, Setteducato, and Lorenz. Dr. Rui Dionisio, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Thomas Lambe, Business Administrator/Board Secretary; and Mr. Rodney Hara Board Counsel, were also present.

The meeting was called to order by the Board President at 7:59 P.M. Mr. Carolan announced that adequate notice of the meeting has been posted and published as required by law.

A motion was made by Ms. King and seconded by Mr. Setteducato and unanimously carried into the Closed Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Personnel and HIB investigations. Information from the Closed Executive Session will be made public at the discretion of the Board, as per Board Bylaw 0166, Executive Sessions, or as otherwise authorized by law. The closed Executive Session was adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by the Board President at 7:59 P.M. Mr. Lambe announced that the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the rights of the public to have advance notice of and to attend meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. He also announced that in accordance with the provisions of this act, the business administrator/ board secretary has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-8(b), and guidance from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services. He read a public statement advising the public to be aware that employees of the Ramapo Indian Hills Regional High School District retain the right of privacy and shall retain all rights regarding defamation and slander according to the laws of New Jersey. Mr. Lambe further stated that the Board shall not be held liable for comments made by members of the public and, in order to protect the privacy rights of employees in the District, the Board shall not respond to statements made by the public of or about District employees. Mr. Lambe also made a statement encouraging all attendees to practice preventive measures by wearing a face covering as

per the Governor's executive order. He also noted that if individuals had a medical exemption, that they take advantage of the space in the auditorium.

Mr. Carolan asked the audience to put their masks on. Mr. Carolan noted the state mandate and paused the meeting to see if the audience not wearing masks would comply with the request to wear their masks.

A moting made by Ms. KING, and seconded by Mr. Setteducato to take a ten minute recess.

\*=Yes

RC): Carolan *	Emmolo *	Fortunato *	King *	Koulikourdis *
Lorenz *	Setteducato *	Sullivan- ABSTAIN		Underfer *

### Roll Call- Regular Public Meeting

Upon roll call at 8:08 P.M., the Board members responded as follows: Mmes. Emmolo, Underfer, King, Koulikourdis, and Sullivan. Messrs. Carolan, Fortunato, Setteducato, and Lorenz. Student representatives, Renee Callari and Elizabeth Ferro, were also present. Dr. Rui Dionisio, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Thomas Lambe, Business Administrator/Board Secretary; and Mr. Rodney Hara Board Counsel, were also present.

Mr. Carolan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### Student Board Representatives

Renee Callari, Student Board Representative for Indian Hills High School reported on the following: 1.)Sports- Congratulations to Kathleen Difalco who won basketball Bergen county player of the week. The girls swim team has been dominating their meets, going strong with an 8 to 1 streak this season. 2.) DECA, the school's business club, had 62 students with most in the top three advancing to states. States will take place in Atlanta, Georgia in the spring. 3.)Indian Hills Interact - January Happenings- Indian Hills Interact service meetings are held every Thursday from 3:15 - 4:15 pm. Grab and Go Card Kits- this month Interact kicked off Grab-and-Go Card kits for members to work on at home. Volunteers have been making Valentines Cards for senior citizens and veterans. Boys and Girls Club Valentines Party in a Box- Interact has been working on a virtual Valentines Party in a Box for the kids at the Paterson and Passaic Boys and Girls Clubs. Interact members have been making cards, bracelets and craft kits that will be distributed to both Clubhouses. Food Bag collection- Interact's monthly collections of food bags is ongoing. Members help sort the items for distribution during the service meetings. Superbowl Soup and Cereal Food Drive Collection-Interact is currently running its annual superbowl Soup and Cereal collection. The class that donates the most Soup and Cereal to the drive will receive a

donation towards prom costs. Clothing Drive for the Homeless- Interact is currently running a collection of mens winter clothing (coats, socks, gloves and blankets). Items can be dropped off in the front of the school in the Interact bin, located across from Security. Women's Toiletry Collection- Interact has partnered with the RIH Young Democrats Club and RIH National Honors Society to collect Women's hygiene products, toiletries and bras. Items can be dropped off in the front of the school in the Interact bin. Reminder: Please encourage your son or daughter to join the Interact Club at their respective school. 4.) Student Life/Extracurricular- Clubs- The gay straight alliance club met with the freshman health classes to discuss self acceptance and other important topics. Thank you to all who helped organize this massive project! The school store is hosting shirt sales, \$10 a shirt. They'll be open all lunch periods. Last year, Indian Hills finished 1st at regionals and 2nd in online nationals. Academic decathlon will be competing in regionals this weekend, so best of luck to them! 5.) Guidance- The guidance office has begun to meet with students to input course requests for the 2022-2023 school year. They continue to be committed to all students and their post-graduate planning process. Next month the Guidance Department will host a Gap Year Webinar on February 2nd, information/registration can be found on the District website. Additionally the Guidance Department will highlight opportunities in the areas of Career and Technical Education all through the month of February during CTE Month. Wellness Wednesdays have continued to be a fun way for students to unwind during lunch periods. Be sure to follow the Wellness Wednesday fun and more on the Guidance Department Instagram Page! Their Instagram handle is @ih\_bravesnation. The first semester Senior Wellness Class will conclude tomorrow in which 24 Seniors will successfully complete the course. Mrs. Robinson will welcome 75 new Seniors for her Second Semester Wellness Class next Tuesday February 1st. The class continues to generate great feedback from the Seniors who are enrolled in the course. 6.) Student Government- They hosted movie night with the movie choice of shang-chi. Tickets were \$5 and included snacks and popcorn. Thank you to all who attended! The senior class council is hosting the annual Mr. Indian Hills pageant. Students in all grades are eligible to enter the competition that judges the best dressed, most talented, and other categories. The class of 2024 is hosting a blue moon giveback night tomorrow. Please mention Indian Hills if you happen to visit. Senior superlatives are in! Voting ended at 2:39 on Friday and winners will be announced in the near future during an assembly. Seniors hosted a class of 2022 empanada sale. Pickup will be after school on Thursday. During the class council meeting, a student suggested that a form be created where blocked websites could be submitted to be reviewed by ITC. Student government has created a form where students and teachers can submit these websites to and explain why they'd like them to be unblocked. Drama- auditions for the upcoming spring play, Chicago, will be hosted tomorrow in the little theater. Anyone interested in auditioning is welcomed to sign up.

Elizabeth Ferro, Student Board Representative for Ramapo High School reported on the following: 1.) Sports- Boys' Basketball: 9-3. Their next game is tomorrow at home against Wayne Valley, Girls' Basketball: 10-0. Their next game is also tomorrow at Wayne Valley. They are also getting ready for the Bergen County Tournament which will start this Thursday.

Fencing: Both Ramapo Boys and Girls Fencing placed 1st at the district tournament and advanced to team states. Five people from the boys team and Two people from the girls team all were able to advance to individual states. Winter Track: Ran in the Millrose Games Trials. All of the relays ran a season best. Girls 4x400 (3rd consecutive time) and 4x800 (1st in Ramapo history!) qualify for the 114th running of the prestigious Millrose Games! Izzie Anzalo was also named North Jersey Female Track Athlete of the Week. Ice Hockey: 12-6. Their next game is this Friday against Mahwah. Spring Sports Forms are due February 14, 2022. 2.) Student Life/Extracurricular- Clubs: Serendipity is still accepting student submissions of short stories, poetry, creative nonfiction, memoir, lyrics, drama, etc.!!! Don't miss your chance to be published this school year!!! Send you submissions to Mr. Manzo. Both the Democrats club and Republicans club are having meetings this week. Gay Straight Alliance promoted No Name Calling Week last week. DECA is selling Krispy Kreme donuts. Film Club is watching Pulp Fiction. Ramapo Relax and Interact made inspirational cards for the Alumni in Recovery Pizza Positivity Project to help those in treatment facilities. The WISE club had a speaker in the medical field from John Hopkins come and speak last week. Drama is getting ready for their spring performance of Godspell. 3.) Guidance: Scheduling began last week. Students are encouraged to review the RIH Program of Studies with the great new course offerings! February is *Career and Technical Education* month so students should tune in for some guest speakers from Universal Technical Institute, Lincoln Tech and more! There will be a Gap Year Presentation on February 2nd beginning at 7pm via Zoom. Registration is online / posted on the RIH website. The presentation will discuss what a gap year is, various opportunities to explore and transition after the gap year. There will be a Guest Speaker for the Wellness class tomorrow discussing nutrition and gut health for Seniors ready to manage their stress and diet moving forward. Student Government: The winter pep rally is on February 4, 2022. They are promoting a white-out for boys basketball on February 3, 2022 and girls basketball on February 8, 2022. Every fan will get a free white-out t-shirt. Ms. Ferro offered congratulations to Mrs. Basilicato for being named 2022 SHAPE NJ Health Education Teacher of the Year. She stated that without her, she would have never been able to pass her driver's test and would never have been able to drive here and give this amazing report.

Mr. Carolan thanked the student representatives for their reports.

Ms. King called for a point of order, in regard to the executive order and how it must be followed. Mr. Hara noted that the members of the public must follow the executive order.

A motion was made by Ms. King and seconded by Dr. Lorenz to adjourn the meeting, unless there was compliance with the mask mandate.

Board discussion followed.

\*=Yes

RC): Carolan *	Emmolo- ABSTAIN	Fortunato *	King*	Koulikourdis *
Lorenz *	Setteducato *	Sullivan- ABSTAIN	Underfer *	

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 P.M

## **ANTICIPATED FUTURE MEETING DATES**

Tuesday, February 15, 2022 Work Session/Public Meeting, Indian Hills High School Auditorium.

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John Carolan  
Board President

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Thomas Lambe  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary