

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

WORK SESSION/ PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
November 8, 2021
Indian Hills High School, Auditorium
Public Meeting

Roll Call-Executive Session

Upon roll call at 7:05 P.M., the Board members responded as follows: Mmes. King, Koulikourdis, Laforgia, and Sullivan. Messrs. Butto, Carolan, Fortunato, Kinney, and Setteducato. Dr. Riscica, Interim Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Thomas Lambe, Business Administrator/Board Secretary; were also present.

The meeting was called to order by the Board President at 7:05 P.M. Ms Laforgia announced that adequate notice of the meeting has been posted and published as required by law.

A motion was made by Mr. Carolan and seconded by Mr. Kinney and unanimously carried into the Closed Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel. 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 7:24 P.M.

Roll Call- Regular Public Meeting

Upon roll call at 7:05 P.M., the Board members responded as follows: Mmes. King, Koulikourdis, Laforgia, and Sullivan. Messrs. Butto, Carolan, Fortunato, Kinney, and Setteducato. Student representatives, Renee Callari and Elizabeth Ferro, were also present. Dr. Riscica, Interim Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Thomas Lambe, Business Administrator/Board Secretary; were also present.

The meeting was called to order by the Board President at 8:00 P.M. Mrs. Laforgia 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. She 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. She 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. Mrs. Laforgia 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.

Ms. Laforgia led the Pledge of Allegiance.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Laforgia invited Ms. Callari, IHHS, Student Board Representative, and Ms. Ferro, RHS, Student Board Representative, to present their reports as follows: Ms. Callari stated: 1) Ridgecrest Harvest Festival- Both Indian Hills and Ramapo Interact Clubs collaborated on a Harvest Festival celebration at Ridgecrest Senior Housing facility. Residents were treated to a variety of arts and crafts activities assisted by our student volunteers. 2) Food Bag and Toiletry Collections- Interact will continue its Food Bag and Toiletry collections. Students interested in participating can sign up on the clipboards in room 704. 3) Annual Thanksgiving Dinner Collection has begun- Interact and Student Council will be hosting our annual Thanksgiving Meal Collection Contest. The homeroom that collects the most complete meals will win a bagel breakfast (to be served in the courtyard off the cafeteria). Details have been shared with all the homeroom teachers and posted on Schoology. The donations will be collected by the local DPW on behalf of the Mom's Club of Oakland. 4) Upcoming for November Interact has many events coming up this month, including Veterans Day Bucket Collection and bake sale for the mission of Honor. Our Veteran's team is working on a video to honor our FLOW friends and family who served or are currently serving in the military. Interact also made cards for the Veterans at the Veteran's home in Paramus. 5) Holiday Planning- Interact is working closely with the Indian Hills Holiday Festival team to bring Jingle Boxes to our friends at the Paterson Boys and Girls Club. We are also working on holiday caroling events for both Oakland Care Center and Ridgecrest Senior Housing. Students will also be making ornaments and cards for distribution. 6) Sports-Football: Boys football celebrated their final football game last Thursday, with a fantastic 17-16 win against Cliffside Park. Cross Country: Allison Lounsbury has been named the Bergen County Cross Country Champion, being the 1st girl in school history to win the meet. The entire girls cross country team finished second and will be advancing to states! Indian Hills Student Council hosted it's 2021 Powderpuff last Monday. The spirit was high as all 8 teams competed for the title of Powderpuff champion. Congratulations to team Fireballs! 7) Student Life/Extracurricular Clubs- The Ski Club is up and running for all those interested in hitting the slopes! There are 4 Trips to Mountain Creek throughout the winter after School. More details can be found on the Ski 'n Board Club Schoology Page or by emailing Mrs. Shemon, the club advisor. Last day to purchase your discounted Season Pass or Lift Tickets is November 24th.

Indian Hills is looking for yearbook editors for 2021! The Interest Meeting is Thursday November 11th after school at 2:45PM in Room 816. Please email Mr. Ross or Mr. Mayer with any questions. 8) Guidance- Campgaw will be hosting a hiring table on Thursday November 11th during All Lunch Periods. Anyone 9th -12th grade is invited to attend. November 3rd was National Stress Awareness day. Remember the first step to eliminating stress is identifying it. 9) Student Govt- Seniors will be taking their senior photo tomorrow after 2nd period on Hank Boggio. Ramapo student council and Indian Hills student council met over lunch to discuss our school happenings and discuss some future events. Stay tuned for more school collaboration projects. 10) Drama- Indian Hills theater company Presents: *Just Another High School Play*. The dates for this show are November 18, 19, 20, all at 7:00pm. Tickets will be for sale during all lunch periods for \$5.00. Ms. Ferro stated: 1) Sports- Football: 9-1. Their next game is the SemiFinals for States on Friday against Ridge. Boy's Soccer: 17-0-2. Last week they won the Bergen County Championship. They have a SemiFinal State game tonight against PV. Girl's Soccer: The girls season just ended last week and they finished with a record of 16-3. Cheerleading: They are getting ready for their first competition which is on November 20. Cross Country: This weekend was the state sectional championships. Brianna Braver won the North 1 Group 3 state sectional race making her the first athlete for Cross Country in school history to repeat as a state sectional champion. Because of that she was named The Records female athlete of the week. The girls team placed 5th at the meet qualifying them for the State Group 3 Meet this weekend in Holmdel. Alex Horgan took second in the boys North 1 Group 3 state sectional race qualifying him for next week as well. Band: Is going on a field trip to perform at Lincoln School, Eisenhower and FAMS tomorrow. 2) Student Life/Extracurricular Clubs-Film Club is watching Jungle Cruise this week. Games Club is having a Clash Royale tournament on Friday. If you are an epic gamer you should come out. Rampage business and stock market club are meeting. DECA paperwork is due. Ski club starting so if you want to catch the slopes you should see Mr. Kanefke. Boys and girls ski team is also looking for racers. Gold Masques Fall Play is BOB RAUSCHENBERG AMERICA which is a road trip through the American landscape, highlighting one of America's greatest living artists. Check it out on Thursday, Friday, or Saturday. Senior Quotes are due on Schoology on November 24. Cultural Diversity Awareness Club celebrated Diwali last week and the main entrance was decorated for it. 3) Guidance- Guidance hosted Wellness Wednesday last week and during our lunch periods students were able to do sand art which was so fun. Guidance has partnered with local businesses to help students get jobs, all of the information is on Schoology. 4) Student Govt- For the cafeteria we finally got our sandwich line back and we are all really excited that it is back. Halloween was a great success in school. World Language won the teacher contest with their birthday slumber party. The bonfire is this Friday and we are all really excited. We are planning a school spirit contest this winter season with Indian Hills. We are partnering with Guidance to do a families for families fundraiser called warming the homeless. Student government last week met with Mr. Riscica and other administrators and the Indian Hills Council. We had a great discussion about a lot of things that are happening in our schools. Student government wants to thank Mr.

Riscica for his time here in our school district. We really appreciate that he was willing to spend time with students and we wish him well.

Ms. Laforgia thanked the student representatives and noted that this board meeting was Dr. Riscica's last night.

INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Riscica thanked Ms. Laforgia and the student representatives for their report. Dr. Riscica thanked the parents for their support and discussions. He also thanked the Board for their support and wished them all the best.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Lambe thanked Dr. Riscica and wished him health and happiness. Mr. Lambe reported on the following:

- ESIP- The RFP will go out on Thursday
- Electricity Auction
- The Busing issue is being resolved.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Moved by KINNEY Seconded by CAROLAN to open the meeting to public discussion.

Members of the public thanked Dr. Riscica.

Members of the public addressed the Board regarding facebook and board comments.

Members of the public addressed the Board regarding the Athletic Director Position.

Members of the public addressed the Board regarding ESSR Funds.

Members of the public addressed the Board regarding prior action items and voting.

Members of the public addressed the Board regarding Schoology and surveys.

Members of the public addressed the Board regarding curriculum concerns.

Dr. Riscica and Mr. Lambe responded to questions.

Board discussion followed.

- B. Moved by CAROLAN Seconded by KINNEY to close the public discussion and re-enter the Public Meeting.

ACTION ITEMS- *=Yes

PERSONNEL

- P1. Move that, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the following persons be approved as athletic coaches, subject to all federal, state, county and local regulations, governing said employment; effective for the 2021-22 School Year; and move to approve applicants' attestation that he has not been

convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et seq., and N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1 et seq. as follows:

Ramapo High School

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Certification</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Stephen Gaffney	Asst. Wrestling Coach	Substitute	2	\$4,784
Gabrielle Carpenter	Asst. Basketball Cheerleading	Substitute	2	\$1,481

Indian Hills High School

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Certification</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Peter Tuohy	Asst. Indoor Track	Certificated	4	\$4,867
Ronald Panissidi	Asst. Indoor Track	Certificated	4	\$4,867

- P2. Move to rescind, that, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the following persons be approved as athletic coaches, subject to all federal, state, county and local regulations, governing said employment; effective for the 2021-22 School Year; and move to approve applicants' attestation that he/she has not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et seq., and N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1 et seq. as follows:

Indian Hills High School

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Certification</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
v1.) Stefanie Yeung	Asst. Basketball Cheerleading	Substitute	4	1,830

- P3. Move that, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the following persons be approved as Special School Advisors, subject to all federal, state, county, and local regulations, governing said employment, effective for the 2021-22 School Year; and move to approve applicant's attestation that she has not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A.

18A:6-7.1 et seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et seq., and N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1 et seq., as follows:

Indian Hills High School

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Gale Fanale	Movie Club	2	\$1,473
Graziella Lazarra	Co-Advisor Italian Club	4	\$803

Ramapo High School

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Christopher DeSalvo	Science Club	1	\$1,409

- P4. Move to amend that, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the following persons be approved as Special School Advisors, subject to all federal, state, county, and local regulations, governing said employment, effective for the 2021-22 School Year; and move to approve applicant's attestation that she has not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et seq., and N.J.S.A. 18A:12-1 et seq., as follows:

Indian Hills High School

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Elisa Britnell	From Advisor Italian Club to Co-Advisor Italian Club	4	\$803

- P5. Move to approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of the following individuals listed below as substitute teachers for the 2021-22 School Year, beginning November 9, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022; and move to approve applicants' attestation that he/she has not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et seq., or N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et seq., as applicable:

Donielle Singer/District

Nicolette DiMaria/District

Sarah Grider/District

Ryan Tighe/District

- P6. Move to approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the sixth period teaching assignment for Keri Myones, RHS, English III, Period 5, at the contractual stipend of \$9,530, prorated, effective from October 26, 2021- until a permanent candidate is hired.
- P7. Move to approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the following persons be approved one additional day of a sixth period assignment, effective December 1, 2021:

Traci Maturo, RHS, Drawing 1, Period 2A and 2B

Lauren Gibson, RHS, Drawing, Period 3A and 3B

Sean Quirk, RHS, Drawing, Period 4A and 4B

John Mungiello, IHHS, Drawing, Period 7B, and Painting

- P8. Move to approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the following persons be approved one additional day of a half of a sixth period assignment, effective December 1, 2021:

Colleen Murphy, IHHS, Painting I, Period 8A

- P9. Move to approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the change in assignment for Livio Mancino, RHS, Assistant Principal, \$121,817 to RHS, Athletic & Student Activities Director, \$145,000, effective for the period January 1, 2022 - June 30, 2022, subject to all federal, state, county, and local regulations, governing said employment; and further that the president and secretary, as proper officers of the Board of Education, be authorized and directed to issue the proper contract for the 2021-22 school year.
- P10. Move to accept retirement, with regret, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, effective January 1, 2022, as follows:

WHEREAS, Sandra Sedlak has dedicated herself to the Ramapo Indian Hills Regional High School District for 20 years and 4 months as an Administrative Assistant displaying an unselfish commitment to our children; exemplifying the ideals of professionalism and the standard of excellence, and

WHEREAS, the Ramapo Indian Hills Regional High School District Board of Education, together with its citizens, wishes to acknowledge exemplary service that Sandra Sedlak has provided our children,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ramapo Indian Hills Regional High School District Board of Education does hereby extend its appreciation and gratitude to Sandra Sedlak in recognition of her exemplary service to our school district.

- P11. Move to accept retirement, with regret, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, effective January 1, 2022, as follows:

WHEREAS, Cathryn Foschino has dedicated herself to the Ramapo Indian Hills Regional High School District for 19 years and 2 months as an Indian Hills High School Administrative Assistant, a District Administrative Assistant, and the District Coordinator of Staffing, displaying an unselfish commitment to our children; exemplifying the ideals of professionalism and the standard of excellence, and

WHEREAS, the Ramapo Indian Hills Regional High School District Board of Education, together with its citizens, wishes to acknowledge exemplary service that Cathryn Foschino has provided our children,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ramapo Indian Hills Regional High School District Board of Education does hereby extend its appreciation and gratitude to Cathryn Foschino in recognition of her exemplary service to our school district.

EDUCATION

- E1. Move that, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, home instruction for District students, at the approved hourly rate, be approved as follows, effective for the 2021-22 School Year.

<u>Student No.</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Grade</u>
423639	IHHS	11
424221	RHS	10
425629	RHS	9

- E2. Move to approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the Harassment, Intimidation, & Bullying student consequences imposed during the 2021-22 School Year as a result of HIB Investigation for RHS- HIB 001 & RHS HIB-002.

OPERATIONS

- OP1. Move to approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the use of the Ramapo Indian Hills Regional High School District facilities for the date(s) indicated in accordance with the rules and regulations governing said use as follows:

Indian Hills High School

Dogwood Elementary School PTO	Turkey Trot Fundraiser and Fun Run; Athletic Fields/Bleachers; November 20, 2021; 9 - 11 A.M.
Oakland Recreation	Wrestling Quad Dual Meets; Gymnasium; January 8 & 15, 2022; 8 A.M. - 12 P.M.
Oakland Recreation	Wrestling Tournaments; Gymnasium; January 23, 2022; 7 A.M. - 6P.M.
Bergen County Coaches Association (BCCA)	Basketball Jamboree; Gymnasium; January 29, 2022; 8 A.M. - 6 P.M.

Ramapo High School

Wyckoff Recreation	Football Games; Athletic Field, Equipment and Press Box; November 13, 2021; 3 - 10 P.M
Coolidge School PTO	Fundraiser/Harlem Wizards Game; Gymnasium; March 27, 2021; 2 - 7 P.M.

FINANCE

- F1. Move to approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the resolution as follows:

WHEREAS, a District employee has submitted a request for reimbursement for work-related travel that is directly related to and within the scope of the employees' current work responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the Board has previously authorized such work-related travel, and the District's School Business Administrator or designee has reviewed the documentation submitted by the employee and found same to be in compliance with the Board's policy provisions and approval requirements; and

WHEREAS, the travel request listed below specifies for each item of reimbursement the specific promotion of delivery of instruction or furtherance of the efficient operation of the school district, and the amount of each listed reimbursement does not exceed State travel reimbursement guidelines;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in accordance with the provisions of Board Policy and *N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq.*, that the Board of Education hereby approves work-related travel reimbursement to its employee as set forth below:

<u>Req. No.</u>	<u>Employee</u>	<u>Conference</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
IH21-22	Karen Davidson	Conference on English Leadership	11/21-11/22	\$100

POLICY

PO1. Move to approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the first reading of District Policies as follows:

<u>Policy Title</u>	<u>Policy No.</u>
Evaluation of Teachers (M)	3221
Surrogate Parents and Resource Family Parents (M)	2467
Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls- Allowability of Costs (M)	6115.01
Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls- Mandatory Disclosures (M)	6115.02
Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls- Conflict of Interest (M)	6115.03
Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by Federal Grants (M)	6311

Non-renewal of Nontenured teaching Staff Member	3142
Evaluation of Teaching Staff Members, Excluding Teachers and Administrators (M)	3221
Education of Homeless Children	5116

PO2. Move to approve, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent of Schools, the second and final reading of District Policies as follows:

<u>Policy Title</u>	<u>Policy No.</u>
Student Surveys Analysis and/or Evaluations	2415.05
Student Transportation	8600
Emergency and Crisis Situations	8420
Bridge Year Pilot Program	5460.02

P1-P11, E1-E2, OP1, F1, PO1-PO2

Moved By KINNEY, Seconded by CAROLAN

RC): Carolan * Fortunato* Kinney * King *
 Koulikourdis* Setteducato * Sullivan * Laforgia *, ABSTAIN P9

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Ms. Koulikourdis reported that the Communications/Public Engagement/Student Experience Committee will meet next month and also read a statement to Dr. Riscica.

John Carolan- reported that the Education/Special Educ./Vocational/Extra-Curricular committee will meet on 11/18. Mr. Carolan also thanked Dr. Riscica. He also thanked Mr. Lambe for handling the busing issue.

James Setteducato- reported that the Personnel/Evaluation/Goals committee will be meeting next week to discuss goals. He also thanked Dr. Riscica for calm and methodical demeanor.

Robert Fortunato- reported that the Negotiations Committee has nothing to report at this time. He congratulated Mr. Mancino in his new role as Athletic Director and

thanked Dr. Riscica for his time in our district. Mr. Fortunato also noted that the comments he made at a prior meeting were made out of frustration.

John Kinney- reported that the Strategic Planning/Data Collection (survey)/Future Schools committee is on track and will meet again after the Thanksgiving holiday. Mr. Kinney also thanked Dr. Riscica. He also commented on social media

Vivian King- reported that the Facilities/Safety Management committee will meet on Thursday. Ms. King also noted that the IHHS PTSO met at the end of October and is a great way to be involved. Ms. King thanked Dr. Riscica for his guidance, knowledge, and leadership.

Judith Sullivan- reported that the Policy/Litigation/Legislation committee are recommending policies 3221, 2467, and 3142. The next policy meeting will be on 11/17. Ms. Sullivan thanked Dr. Riscica. She also noted that she is still requesting the google forms that parents submitted. Ms. Sullivan also mentioned social media. Ms. Sullivan also stated that Mr. Butto should have a proper goodbye, honoring his civic service.

Ms. Laforgia commented on social media posts. Ms. Laforgia thanked Dr. Riscica and wished him good luck. Ms. Laforgia made a comment to Mr. Fortunato regarding his comments.

Mr. Kinney made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fortunato to extend the application closing deadline for the Franklin Lakes open board seat.

Board discussion followed. The motion was unanimously carried.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

A. Moved by CAROLAN Seconded by KINNEY to open the meeting to public discussion.

Members of the public addressed the Board regarding Constitution Day.

Members of the public addressed the Board regarding the youtube videos of the Board meetings.

Members of the public addressed the Board regarding Schoology.

Members of the public addressed the Board regarding social media.

Members of the public addressed the Board regarding the code of ethics.

Members of the public addressed the Board regarding surveys.

Members of the public addressed the Board regarding police presence.

ANTICIPATED FUTURE MEETING DATES

Ms. Laforgia announced the anticipated future meeting date as follows:

Monday, November 22, 2021 Regular Public Meeting, 8 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by KINNEY Seconded by SETTEDUCATO to adjourn at 10:00 P.M.

John Carolan
Board President

Thomas Lambe
Business Administrator/Board Secretary