

**FORT LEE BOARD OF EDUCATION
FORT LEE, NEW JERSEY**

MINUTES

**PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING
September 9, 2019
FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL – MEDIA CENTER
6:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER BY THE PRESIDENT

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Mrs. Han Silver.

FLAG SALUTE

The Flag Salute was led by Mrs. Tuck.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of the Act, the Fort Lee Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published on January 16, 2019 and posted in the entrance hall of the Board Office, 2175 Lemoine Avenue; published in the Board's designated online media outlet/newspaper: The Record and the Gold Coast Life; filed with the Clerk of the Borough of Fort Lee; and mailed to all persons, if any, who have requested said notice. Please be advised that this meeting is being taped and will be broadcasted on local TV and the district's website at a future date.

ROLL CALL

Present: Ms. Elisa Cho, Ms. Paula K. Colbath, Mr. Ralph DiMeglio, Mrs. Holly Morell, Mrs. Kristen Richter, Mrs. Candace Romba, Mr. Michael Rubino, Mrs. Lauran Tuck, Mrs. Esther Han Silver

Also Present: Ms. Haquisha Q. Taylor, Dr. Sharon Amato, Mr. Dennis McKeever, Attorney

Absent: Mr. Kenneth Rota

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Mr. Rubino, seconded by Mrs. Morell, at 6:45 p.m., to move into Executive Session.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 9-0.

The Board reconvened into the Public Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Dr. Amato announced that the new Intermediate School opened. Mrs. Han Silver commended everyone especially custodians. Mrs. Han Silver appreciated the efforts by all and especially appreciated the patience by staff and families.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Fort Lee Administrator Group (FLAG) Memorandum of Agreement was approved at the last board meeting.

Mrs. Han Silver shared that Fort Lee Education Association (FLEA) and the Board's Negotiations Committee had its first mediation session last week.

Mrs. Romba is attempting to coordinate a Coffee & Conversation's date.

PUBLIC WORK SESSION

Ms. Cho asked if soliciting near schools is allowable. Two (2) solicitors were handing out flyers on the sidewalk at School No. 4. Board ensued discussing the matter.

HEARING OF CITIZENS - QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS LISTED ON TONIGHT'S AGENDA AND ANY OTHER TOPIC OF CONCERN

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Ms. Colbath, to open the floor to the public, 7:36 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 9-0.

Ms. Gibson, parent of a former FLHS student, distributed copies to Board members of a letter regarding the selection of a mediator for the legal matter.

Mr. Sarnoff, former Board President, congratulated Board members, former Superintendent Saxton, Superintendent Rota, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Amato, Jack DeNichilo, and all custodians for opening the new Lewis Cole Intermediate School.

Mrs. Han Silver, Mrs. Romba, and Mrs. Morell thanked, appreciate and applaud Mr. Sarnoff for all of his dedication and efforts towards the opening of the new Lewis Cole Intermediate School.

Alex Meyer, Lewis Cole Intermediate School student, thanked the Board members for building such a beautiful building and for offering subscription busing for the 5th and 6th graders but hopes that subscription busing will be offered to 7th and 8th graders as well.

Mrs. Han Silver appreciated the comments and feedback of Alex Meyer.

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Tuck, to close the floor to the public, 7:49 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 9-0.

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Romba, that the Fort Lee Board of Education approves item #1B&G.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 9-0.

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

1CUR THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves **class trips** listed in the attached summary. [See Appendix Page 12](#)

2CUR THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the amended **Intervention & Referral Services (IR&S) Manual** for Fort Lee Public Schools. [See Appendix Page 13 – As Amended](#)

3CUR THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the amended **504 Manual** for Fort Lee Public Schools. [See Appendix Page 44 – As Amended](#)

4CUR THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the attached **District Mentoring Handbook**. [See Appendix Page 54](#)

5CUR THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **District Social Studies Curriculum, Textbooks and Resources 2019-2020 (Social Studies Alive/America's Past)** for grades 4 and 5. [Curriculum Document Folder](#) & [Academic Textbooks & Resources 2019-2020](#)

MOTION by Mrs. Richter, seconded by Mrs. Tuck, that the Fort Lee Board of Education approves items #1CUR and #4CUR through #5CUR.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 9-0.

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mr. Rubino, that the Fort Lee Board of Education approves items #2CUR and #3CUR (as amended).

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 9-0.

FINANCE

1F THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the payment of the claims on the current **bills list in the amount of \$1,092,272.29 for September 2019 checks**. [See Appendix Page 117](#)

2F **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education,** upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the following **donation**:

Item	Amount/ Estimated Value	Donor	On Behalf Of
Luncheon	\$718.65	Anthony Papavasiliou It's Greek to Me Restaurant 1611 Palisade Avenue Fort Lee, NJ 07024	District New Teacher Orientation

3F **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the **non-public funding for the 2019-2020 school year** as follows:

Non-Public Funding 2019-2020	
Nursing	\$15,132
Technology	\$ 5,616
Textbook	\$ 8,223
Security	\$23,400

4F **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts **non-public school transportation funding for the 2018-2019 school year** as follows:

Non-Public Funding 2018-2019	
Transportation	\$65,990

5F **WHEREAS,** the Fort Lee Board of Education, hereafter referred to as "**Educational Facility**" is a member of the School Alliance Insurance Fund, hereinafter referred to as "**Fund**"; and

WHEREAS, said renewal membership terminates as of July 1, 2019 at 12:01 a.m. standard time, unless earlier renewed by agreement between the **Educational Facility** and the **Fund**; and

WHEREAS, the **Educational Facility** is afforded the following types of coverages:

- Workers' Compensation
- Supplemental Indemnity - Workers' Compensation
- Package - Property, Boiler & Machinery, General and Auto Liability, Environmental Impairment Liability
- Excess Liability (AL/GL)
- School Leaders Professional Liability
- Excess Liability (SLPL)
- Foreign Travel Liability
- Student Accident
- Security Guard Liability

WHEREAS, the **Educational Facility** desires to renew said membership;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. The **Educational Facility** agrees to renew its membership in the **Fund** for a period of three years beginning July 1, 2019, and ending July 1, 2022 at 12:01 a.m. eastern standard time, and to be subject to the coverages, operating procedures, bylaws, and other organizational and operational documents of the **Fund** presently existing or as from time to time amended by the **Fund** and/or the Department of Banking and Insurance.

2. The **Educational Facility's** Business Official, Haquisha Q. Taylor, is hereby appointed as the **Educational Facility's** Fund Commissioner and is authorized to execute the renewal Indemnity and Trust Agreement thereby evidencing annexed hereto and made a part hereof and to deliver same to the **Fund** the **Educational Facility's** renewal of its membership.

6F **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **rates for official fees for carded clock operators for the 2019-2020 school year** as follows:

Football \$75.00 per game
Basketball, Soccer, Wrestling \$50.00 per game

7F **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon **Pulled** recommendation of the Superintendent, authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to **renew the following amended transportation contracts with First Student Incorporated, for the 2019-2020 school year**. This supersedes Resolution No. 29761 previously approved on August 12, 2019

Route No.	Contract Amount
0001-Athletics	\$49,726.53
0010-Fort Lee Intermediate School	52,427.34
25DE-Dwight Englewood	24,197.65
Total Contract Amount	\$126,351.52

8F **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **disposal of obsolete vehicles and equipment**:

Quantity	Description	Location	FLBOE ID#s	Reason
1	1998 Jeep Cherokee	District	VIN #WL221014	Obsolete
1	2001 GMC Cargo Chassis	District	VIN#1J802487	Obsolete
1	Enamel Kiln	FLHS	Asset Tag #11816	Obsolete

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Ms. Cho, that the Fort Lee Board of Education withdraws item #7F.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 9-0.

MOTION by Mrs. Cho, seconded by Mr. DiMeglio, that the Fort Lee Board of Education approves items #1F through #6F and #8F. Ms. Colbath and Mrs. Tuck thanked the donor of #2F.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 9-0.

PERSONNEL

- 1P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the attendance of staff members at the **staff trips/conferences** listed on the attached summary. [See Appendix Page 141](#)
- 2P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following **resignations**:

<u>RESIGNATIONS</u>			
Employee	Position	Location	Effective Date
Katherine Ramirez	Paraprofessional	LFCIS	8/26/19
Sean Scully	Assistant Football Coach	FLHS	8/25/19
Dana Ripoli	Paraprofessional	School 2	8/28/19
Rachel Murphy	Paraprofessional (Declined Position)	School 2	9/3/19
Darlene Negron	Paraprofessional	School 1	8/29/19

3P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following **appointments for the 2019-2020 school year**, pending verification of employment:

APPOINTMENTS						
First Name	Last Name	Position	Loc	Position Control #	Annual Salary (Pending Negotiations)	Effective Date
Mark	Bitar	Supervisor, Math & Science	CO	00-0300-03	\$92,000.00 prorated	8/26/19 Amended
Kevin	Sylvester	Music Teacher	S4	04-2100-06	\$66,230.00 Step 6/MA	9/1/19 Amended
Xin	Cai	Teacher World Language PT (Mandarin) (.6)	FLHS	07-1401-03	\$60,581.00 Step 17/MA+30	9/1/19 Amended
Tracey	Robinson	Coordinator - Transportation and Food Services	CO	00-9301-01	\$53,000.00 prorated	9/23/19

4P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following **staff transfers** during the 2019-2020 school year.

TRANSFERS						
Name	From Location	From Position	To Location	To Position	Salary Change	Effective Date
Hugo Bortoli	S1	Custodian	LFCIS	Custodian	N/A	9/1/19
Yordanis Morales Cruz	LFCIS	Custodian	S4	Custodian	N/A	9/1/19
Anthony Duffy	LFCIS	Custodian	S1	Custodian	N/A	9/1/19

5P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following **leaves**:

<u>LEAVES</u>								
Name	Position	Loc	Type	New or Amended	Paid Leave	Unpaid Leave with benefits	Unpaid Leave No Benefits	Return Date
Kaitlyn Rakas	Teacher Grade 3	S1	Maternity	Amended	9/1/19 to 10/25/19	10/26/19 to 2/2/20	N/A	2/3/2020

6P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **creation of 2 position(s) for a Bus Driver (1.0) and Part-time Bus Aide (.5)** for the 2019-2020 school year.

7P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **appointment of the following Substitutes** for the 2019-2020 school year:

<u>SUBSTITUTES</u>
Tyler Sanders
Jeffrey Tucker
Andrew Park (Amended)
Corrine Glowski
Michael Creed

8P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **salary adjustment for the removal of the night shift differential pay of \$375.00** for the following custodians, effective September 1, 2019:

Val Chiaviello
Miguel MkCulloch
Jorge Brito
Antonio Perrone

9P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **updated Position Control List** for the 2019-2020 school year. [See Appendix Page 142](#)

10P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the revised salaries adjustments for **staff members under the Fort Lee Administrator's Group (FLAG) Agreement for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years**, based upon the execution of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) approved on Resolution No. 29788 dated August 26, 2019. [See Appendix Page 182](#)

11P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **placement of the following Student Teachers or Practicum Candidates** during the Fall 2019 semesters:

Referring University	Student Name	Type of Placement	Subject Area	Duration	Months From-To	School Placed	Cooperating Staff Member
William Paterson University	Krista Rambala	Internship	School Counseling	300 hours	Sept – Dec 2019	HS	Lauren Carrubba

12P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **appointment of Co-Curricular Advisors** for the 2019-2020 school year. All appointments are subject to completion of all personnel documentation and fingerprinting process, prior to starting of said activities.

Name	Co-Curricular Activity	Class	19-20 Stipend	Agenda Date
Kyle Cosman*	Band Wind Instructor-HS	A	\$2,126.00	9/9/19
Kenneth Korlishin*	Brass Instructor	A	\$2,126.00	9/9/19
Yuri Resetov	Drill Technician	A	\$2,126.00	9/9/19
Julia Haviland*	Marching Band Drill Instructor - HS	A	\$2,126.00	9/9/19
Jonathan Feis*	Percussion Instructor	A	\$2,126.00	9/9/19
Joseph Picone	Assistant Band Director-HS	C	\$6,327.00	9/9/19
Caitlin Feis*	Color Guard/Winter Guard	C	\$6,327.00	9/9/19
Harry Welte	Marching Band Coordinator	Hourly	\$68.82/hr. not to exceed \$5,787 (approx.. 84 hrs.)	9/9/19

*Out-of-District

13P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the appointment of **Fall Coaches** for the 2019-2020 school year, as follows. All appointments are subject to completion of all personnel documentation and fingerprinting process, prior to starting of said activities.

Coach	Sport	Position	Season	Class	Step	Stipend
Vincent Tripodi (Pending Certification)	Football	Assistant Coach	Fall	I	1	\$6,594
Robert Gehres	Boys Soccer	Assistant Coach	Fall	II	2	\$6,524

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the appointment of a **Volunteer Athletic Coach** for the 2019-2020 Fall Season, with no compensation, as follows:

Michael Miqueli - Volunteer Assistant Football Coach

14P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the appointment of additional **Curriculum Writers** for 2019-2020, for services to be performed outside the contractual day, to be paid a stipend at an hourly rate of \$45.00 per hour, for an aggregate total not to exceed \$30,000 to be charged against account # 11-000-221-104-00-000, for the teaching staff members listed below:

CONTENT AREA	CERTIFICATED STAFF MEMBERS
K-6 Physical Education	Tara Gratacos

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Ms. Colbath, that the Fort Lee Board of Education approves items #1P through #14P.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 9-0.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Cho asked if empty seats on the subscription 5/6 bus can be filled. Mrs. Han Silver reminded all that busing ridership will be unstable for the first week or so of school.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Rubino, seconded by Mrs. Morell, to adjourn, 7:56 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 9-0.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Haquisha Q. Taylor

HAQUISHA Q. TAYLOR
SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

HQT/mo
09-11-19