

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

PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION WILL IMMEDIATELY ENTER CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS
CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS.**

THE REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING WILL COMMENCE AT 7:30 P.M.

Monday, March 22, 2021

Meeting Start Time: 6:30 pm

Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89193469702?pwd=cmNwYWxqTjNxM0VMamd4VzIUOVhWQT09>

CALL TO ORDER BY THE PRESIDENT

FLAG SALUTE

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 15, 2021 and posted on the district website at www.flboe.com; published in the Board's designated online media outlet/newspaper: The Record; 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 may be broadcasted on local TV and the district's website at a future date.

The Open Public Meeting Act allows for remote participation at Board Meetings and defines "meeting" as any gathering whether corporeal or by means of communication equipment, which is attended by, or open to, all of the members of a public body, held with the intent, on the part of the members of the body present, to discuss or act as a unit upon the specific public business of that body.

ROLL CALL

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

- HIB Report
- Fire & Security Drills – February 2021
- Student Artwork Presentation - Ms. Nina Anderson
- Public Hearing - Central Office Lease

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC WORK SESSION - QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS ON ITEMS LISTED ON TONIGHT'S AGENDA OR ANY OTHER TOPIC

PUBLIC COMMENT - COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS LISTED ON TONIGHT'S AGENDA OR ANY OTHER TOPIC

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation shall be governed by the following rules (per District Policy #0167):

1. A participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface comments by an announcement of his/her name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate.
2. Participants are limited to three minutes in which to make their statement. Additional time may be granted at the discretion of the presiding officer.
3. The Board will not entertain any comments from persons who communicate obscene material, make statements which are considered bias intimidation in which a person intends to intimidate any individual or group because of race, color, religion, gender, handicap, sexual orientation or ethnicity or makes comments intending to harass or speak any offensive language.
4. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question Board members individually.
5. The presiding officer may:
 - a. Interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;
 - b. Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;
 - c. Request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;
 - d. Call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action; and
 - e. Waive these rules when necessary for the protection of privacy or the efficient administration of the Board's business.

RESOLUTIONS

BOARD

- 1B** **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, approves the following **minutes**:

Public Business Meeting Minutes
Private Executive Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2021
March 8, 2021

- 2B WHEREAS**, the Fort Lee Board of Education has received the Superintendent's report of **incident(s) of Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying ("HIB")** within the District; and

WHEREAS, the Board has had the opportunity to review the Superintendent's recommendations with respect to the incident(s) of HIB.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board accepts the Superintendent's recommendations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15(d), the Superintendent of Schools shall inform the applicable parents/guardians of the students involved in these incidents with the following information within five school (5) days of this Board meeting:

1. The nature of the investigation;
2. Whether the District found evidence of HIB;
3. Whether discipline was imposed;
4. Whether services were provided to address the incident of HIB.

- 3B WHEREAS**, the Fort Lee Board of Education ("Board") is a municipal body properly organized and governed by N.J.S.A. 18A:1-1 et seq; and

WHEREAS, the Board is subject to the New Jersey Public School Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq. ("PSCL"); and

WHEREAS, the PSCL specifically **requires that the Board award construction contracts to the "lowest responsible bidder"** for those contracts that exceed the bid threshold. See N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5; and

WHEREAS, the requirement to utilize the "lowest responsible bidder" has caused Boards of Education in New Jersey to spend more than budgeted for certain Projects due to the filing of change orders, failure to timely complete the work and/or poor workmanship; and

WHEREAS, the problems identified herein cause Board's of Education to spend taxpayer dollars over and above the anticipated budgets for said Projects, and in some cases, forces the Board's to utilize funds from their regular operating budgets, thereby depriving students and staff of critical instructional resources, and

WHEREAS, the Board requests that the Legislature amend the PSCL in a way to save taxpayer dollars and to govern the selection of contractors for construction work in a more effective and cost efficient manner; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey School Boards Association ("NJSBA") is an entity formed for the purpose of representing and lobbying on behalf of local Boards of Education including the Fort Lee Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, the Board seeks to have the NJSBA petition the New Jersey Legislature to amend the PSCL to address the problems that arise from the use of the “lowest responsible bidder”; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board hereby petitions the NJSBA to seek the amendment of these statutes prospectively; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board hereby authorizes the Board’s Legislative Representative to present the within resolution to all persons vested with the authority to seek the desired result of a modification to the PSCL.

4B THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education approves the appointment of the law firm of **Sciarrillo, Cornell, Merlino, McKeever & Osborne, LLC as Board Attorneys** from March 23, 2021 through March 31, 2021.

5B THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education approves the appointment of **Sciarrillo, Cornell, Merlino, McKeever & Osborne, LLC as Special Education Counsel** from April 1, 2021 through January 5, 2022 (next Reorganization of the Board).

6B THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education approves the appointment of **Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri, & Jacobs, LLC as Board Attorneys and Labor Counsel** from April 1, 2021 through January 5, 2022 (next Reorganization of the Board) *Attachment: [ATTORNEY FEE SCHEDULE](#)*

CURRICULUM

1CUR THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves **class trips listed on the attached summary**. *Attachment: [CLASS TRIPS](#)*

2CUR THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **2021-2022 District Calendar**, as per the attached. *Attachment: [DISTRICT CALENDAR 2021-2022](#)*

3CUR THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, **approves the attached Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Corrective Action Plan for the 2021-2022 school year** for submission to the Executive County Superintendent at the Bergen County Department of Education. *Attachment: [SEMI CAP 2021-2022](#)*

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 \$6,159,110.07 for March 2021 checks**. *Attachment: [BILLS LIST](#)*

- 2F **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 **Cafeteria bills list in the amount of \$59,991.74 for March 2021 checks.**

Attachment: [CAFETERIA BILLS](#)

- 3F **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 **Athletic bills list in the amount of \$2,244.00 for March 2021 checks.**

Attachment: [ATHLETIC BILLS](#)

- 4F **WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-10.11, a public hearing was advertised to be held at the meeting of the Fort Lee Board of Education on March 22, 2021 regarding a lease by and between the Borough of Fort Lee Board of Education and the Parking Authority of the Borough of Fort Lee to lease the third floor in the Guntzer Liner Building located at 231 Main Street, in the Borough of Fort Lee, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the lease will be \$150,000 per year for the first two years, \$160,000 for the third year, and for the fourth year and each year thereafter until the expiration of the lease, February 28, 2031, the annual cost shall increase 2% above the previous year's annual cost and will be funded from the general operating budget of the Borough of Fort Lee Board of Education.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves **a ten-year lease agreement with The Parking Authority of the Borough of Fort Lee, commencing on March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2031, for Board of Education District Offices located at the Third Floor Guntzer Liner Building, 231 Main Street, in the Borough of Fort Lee, New Jersey**, as per the attached agreement and authorizes the Board Secretary to execute said agreement. *Attachment:* [LEASE AGREEMENT - CO](#)

- 5F **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, authorizes the Board Secretary to advertise the General Education Preschool Lottery Program in all designated newspapers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education approves the **tuition rates for the General Education Preschool Program** for the 2021-2022 school year as follows:

\$900.00 per month per student for full-day program

- 6F **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves **Mindful Leadership Consulting, LLC for Substitute Administrator Consulting** at a per diem rate not to exceed \$350/day from March 23, 2021 through June 30, 2021.

7F **WHEREAS**, the South Bergen Jointure Commission (“SBJC”) and the Fort Lee Board of Education (“the Board”) are parties to a 2021-2022 agreement for SBJC, an approved Coordinated Transportation Service Agency, to coordinate transportation services for the Board’s students; and

WHEREAS, due to the current public health emergency, school districts may be required to close for health-related reasons; and

WHEREAS, under N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9, if a school district is subject to a health-related closure for a period longer than three consecutive school days, a jointure commission shall continue to make payments under the terms of a contract with a contracted service provider as if the school facilities remained open, and

WHEREAS, if there are health-related school closures, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9, the SBJC will be obligated to continue payments to its transportation service providers during the 2021-2022 school year; and

WHEREAS, SBJC’s commitment to continue payment to those contracted transportation service providers is contingent upon the Board’s continued payment to SBJC; and

WHEREAS, the SBJC is desirous of amending the terms of the Agreement to memorialize the Board’s responsibility to continue its payment obligations to the SBJC in the event of school closures due to health-related reasons to ensure full compliance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.

NOW, WHEREFORE, THE PARTIES AGREE as follows:

1. For the term of the 2021-2022 school year, if schools are closed and/or operating under virtual or remote instruction as a result of the current public health emergency, thereby not requiring transportation services for the Board’s students, the Board shall continue to make payments under its Agreement with SBJC, as if the school facilities remained open, for SBJC to pay its contracted transportation service providers in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.

2. All other terms and conditions of the Agreement not addressed herein shall remain in full force and effect. **Attachment: [SBJC AGREEMENT 2021-2022](#)**

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. **Attachment: STAFF TRIPS**

2P THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following **appointments** for the 2020-2021 school year, pending verification of employment:

APPOINTMENTS						
First Name	Last Name	Position	Loc	Position Control #	Annual Salary Prorated	Effective Date
Tiana	Korsgen	Instructional Aide Physical Education (.83)	LFCIS	05-9101-119	Step 1/ Degree \$21,976.00	04-06-21
Doraine	Francisco	Instructional Aide PK Spec Ed (.83) (Rehired from Leave Replacement Position)	School 2	02-9101-37	Step 4/Degree \$25,954.00	04-06-21

3P THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following **leaves**:

LEAVES OF ABSENCES									
Name	Position	Loc	Type	New or Amend	Paid Leave	Paid FFCRA Leave Full Salary up to \$511.00/day	Unpaid Leave with benefits	Unpaid Leave No Benefits	Return Date
Donald Picinich	Social Studies Teacher	MS	FMLA	New	4/6/21 to 4/11/21	N/A	4/12/21 to 6/30/21	N/A	9/1/22

- 4P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the appointment of **leave replacements** during the 2020-2021 school year, as outlined below:

LEAVE REPLACEMENTS					
Nam	Grade/ Subject	Loc	Salary	Effective Dates	Reason for opening
Deborah Famiglietti	Teacher Grade 1	S3	Continuous Assignment	9/8/20 to 4/9/21 Amended	Kerri-Lynn Mauer (FMLA/Medical)
Doraine Francisco	Teacher Preschool Special Education	S2	Sub pay for the first 60 days \$150 per day, day 61+ at the daily rate equal to a BA, Step 1; No Benefits.	10/18/20 to 4/5/21 Amended	Theresa Bustamante (Maternity)

- 5P THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **appointment of Spring Coaches for the 2020-2021 school year**, as follows. All appointments are subject to completion of all personnel documentation and fingerprinting process, prior to starting of said activities.

SPRING COACHES 2020-2021						
Coach	Sport	Position	Season	Class	Step	Stipend
Peter Kraljic Jr	Baseball	Head Coach	Spring	II	2	\$8,975
Ian Oates*	Baseball	Assistant Coach	Spring	II	2	\$6,524
Diego Lombardo	Baseball	Assistant Coach	Spring	II	2	\$6,524
Gerard Carroll*	Baseball	Assistant Coach	Spring	II	2	\$6,524
Crystal Vargas	Softball	Head Coach	Spring	II	2	\$8,975
Zachary Schlemm	Softball	Assistant Coach	Spring	II	2	\$6,524
Brianna Mattessich	Softball	Assistant Coach	Spring	II	2	\$6,524
Jennifer Cella	Softball	Assistant Coach	Spring	II	2	\$6,524
Daniel Cirone	Boys Track	Head Coach	Spring	II	2	\$8,975
Demba Mane	Boys Track	Assistant Coach	Spring	II	2	\$6,524
Nicole Pacciani	Boys Track	Assistant Coach	Spring	II	2	\$6,524
Charlie Salame	Girls Track	Head Coach	Spring	II	2	\$8,975
Nicole Piccinich	Girls Track	Assistant Coach	Spring	II	1	\$5,955
Sean Scully	Golf	Head Coach	Spring	III	2	\$5,349
Philip Zappel	Boys Tennis	Head Coach	Spring	III	2	\$5,349

*Non-Staff Member

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **appointment of Volunteer Athletic Coaches for the 2020-2021 Spring Season**, with no compensation, as follows:

VOLUNTEER ATHLETIC COACHES 2020-2021						
Coach	Sport	Position	Season	Class	Step	Stipend
William Straub	Baseball	Volunteer	Spring	N/A	N/A	N/A
Kellie Lane	Girls Track	Volunteer	Spring	N/A	N/A	N/A

- 6P **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 2020-2021 school year:

<u>SUBSTITUTES</u>
Ivette Tardy

- 7P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the appointment of the following Detention Monitors for students for the 2020-2021 school year to be paid at the rate of \$50 per hour:

Debbie Brigida
Joseph Berlingo
Laura Gemignani
Brian Larcheveque
Alexandra Motola

- 8P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the placement of the following **Internships, Student Teachers or Practicum Candidates** during the 2020-2021 school year:

<u>INTERNSHIPS/STUDENT TEACHERS/PRACTICUM CANDIDATES</u>							
Referring University	Student Name	Type of Placement	Subject Area	# Hours	Months From-To	School Placed	Cooperating Staff Member
Fairleigh Dickinson University	Megan Cooper	Fieldwork	Elementary Education	60 Hrs.	3/23/2021 -5/30/2021	School No. 1	Karen Simone-Osso

POLICY

1POL THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **second reading and adoption of the following policy/regulation updates** listed below: [*Attachment: 2021-03-22 POLICY UPDATES*](#)

Policy/Reg No.	Topic
P0155	Board Committees

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Haquisha Q. Taylor

HAQUISHA Q. TAYLOR
SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

HQT/sa
Attachments
03-18-21