

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

MINUTES

**SPECIAL PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING
July 28, 2021
Lewis F. Cole Intermediate School Cafetorium
and Zoom Meeting**

CALL TO ORDER BY THE PRESIDENT

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by President, Ms. Colbath.

FLAG SALUTE

The Flag Salute was led by Ms. Cho.

ROLL CALL

Present: Ms. Elisa Cho, Mrs. Esther Han Silver, Mrs. Holly Morell, Mrs. Kristen Richter, Mrs. Candace Romba, Mr. Michael Rubino, Ms. Julene Stassou, Ms. Paula K. Colbath

Also Present: Dr. C. Lauren Schoen, Ms. Haquisha Q. Taylor, Mrs. Diane Collazo-Baker, Ms. Frances Febres, Board Attorney

PURPOSE OF THE SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING

The purpose of the Special Public Business Meeting is to convene into an Executive/Private Meeting of the Fort Lee Board of Education to discuss Superintendent Candidates, personnel, and legal matters.

HEARING OF CITIZENS- QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mr. Rubino, to open the floor to the public, 5:07 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

Min Jeong Kim and Marie-Michelle Jean-Louis, potential BOE candidates, shared their background and statement of interest. Ms. Jean-Louis shared her presentation via video. Ms. Colbath thanked them both for sharing their interest and asked that they return to Monday night's Board meeting, August 2nd to answer questions from the Board.

Public members shared comments and expressed concerns including; how will administration ensure that middle school student(s) will not be left alone in the lunchroom without proper adult supervision; explain the replacement process of a vacant board seat; if any men shared a letter of interest; if there will be an interim Principal at School #1 in place at the start of the 2021-2022; mask coverings protocol for students when returning to in-person instruction; target date of when the air conditioning installation at School #3 will be complete; requests for the board to consider minorities with the required qualifications to also be considered to fill the vacant board seat.

Ms. Colbath provides a detail explanation of the board election process for board members running for a renewal term election for the beginning of the year and an explanation of the process to fill a vacant board seat.

MOTION by Ms. Stassou, seconded by Mr. Rubino, to close the floor to the public, 5:40 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

PUBLIC WORK SESSION

Mrs. Han Silver shared her views on the initial intent of tonight's Special meeting. Mrs. Romba echoed Mrs. Hans Silver views and concerns.

Mrs. Richter asked for clarification of the background clearance time for the new BOE candidate and the impact it would have on the new BOE member voting for a new Superintendent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Mr. Rubino, seconded by Ms. Stassou, at 5:57 p.m., to move into Executive Session.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

The Board reconvened into the Public Meeting at 8:12 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Rubino, seconded by Ms. Stassou, to adjourn, 8:20 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Haquisha Q. Taylor

HAQUISHA Q. TAYLOR
SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

HQT/toc
08/04/2021