

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

**MINUTES**

**SPECIAL PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING  
August 4, 2021  
Lewis F. Cole Intermediate School Cafetorium  
and Zoom Meeting**

**CALL TO ORDER BY THE PRESIDENT**

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m. by President, Ms. Colbath.

**FLAG SALUTE**

The Flag Salute was led by Ms. Stassou.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Ms. Elisa Cho, Mrs. Esther Han Silver, Mrs. Holly Morel (4:22 p.m.), Mrs. Kristen Richter, Mrs. Candace Romba, Ms. Julene Stassou, Ms. Paula K. Colbath

**Also Present:** Dr. C. Lauren Schoen, Ms. Haquisha Q. Taylor, Mrs. Diane Collazo-Baker

**Absent:** Mr. Michael Rubino, Ms. Frances Febres, Board Attorney

**PURPOSE OF THE SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING**

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

MOTION by Mrs. Romba, seconded by Ms. Cho, at 4:04 p.m., to move into Executive Session.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 7-0.

The Board reconvened into the Public Meeting at 7:17 p.m.

**HEARING OF CITIZENS- QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

MOTION by Mrs. Romba, seconded by Mrs. Richter, to open the floor to the public, 7:20 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 7-0.

Several members of the public shared their comments and concerns including: School #1 had a large percentage of in-person students and fun and festive activities thanks to the support of Mrs. Giacomelli;

various views and expectations of how well defined the school re-opening plan will be clearly communicated and executed; districts position regarding face coverings; shared a U.S. Code of Emergency Use Authorization; the status of School #1 Principal.

Dr. Schoen shared that the administrators and Board members are actively involved working with the pandemic committee due to the ever-changing COVID-19 protocols. Dr. Schoen then shared she is performing her due diligence in order for her and the administrators to develop a comprehensive school re-opening plan. Dr. Schoen further shared that a decision has not been made for a permanent School #1 Principal and Dr. Sharon Amato will remain as the Administrator in charge.

MOTION by Mrs. Richter, seconded by Mrs. Morell, to close the floor to the public, 7:50 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 7-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Mrs. Romba, seconded by Mrs. Richter, to adjourn, 7:51 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 7-0.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

*Haquisha Q. Taylor*

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**HAQUISHA Q. TAYLOR**  
SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

HQT/toc  
08/13/2021