FORT LEE BOARD OF EDUCATION FORT LEE, NEW JERSEY

MINUTES

PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING
February 7, 2022
Lewis F. Cole Intermediate School Cafetorium
and Zoom Meeting

CALL TO ORDER BY THE PRESIDENT

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Board President, Ms. Colbath.

FLAG SALUTE

The Flag Salute was led by Mrs. Min Jeong Kim.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The Public Announcement was read by Mrs. Colbath.

ROLL CALL

Present: Ms. Elisa Cho, Mrs. Kim Curry, Mrs. Min Jeong Kim, Mrs. Holly Morell

(arrived 6:38 p.m.), Mrs. Kristen Richter, Mrs. Candace Romba, Mr.

Michael Rubino, Ms. Julene Stassou, Ms. Paula K. Colbath

Also Present: Mr. Robert L. Kravitz, Ms. Haqquisha Q. Taylor, Mrs. Diane Collazo-

Baker, Mr. Matthew Giacobbe, Board Attorney

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Mr. Rubino, seconded by Mrs. Romba, at 6:33 p.m., to move into Executive Session.

MOTION carried upon voice vote, 8-0.

The Board reconvened into the Public Meeting at 7:40 p.m.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Kravitz:

- Reiterated the Governor's mask mandate announcement is still in effect until March 7, 2022
- Recognized the middle school students' artwork.

Fort Lee Board of Education Public Business Meeting

- Acknowledged the Fort Lee High School's Model UN team participation in the Model UN Awards winning "Best Large Delegation."
- Congratulated the students for their hard work, skill, and dedication.
- Recognized Fort Lee High School Honors Choir's rigorous auditioning with four students winning places in the Bergen County Choir.
- Recognized the seven students named to participate in the Region 1 Orchestra.
- Recognized the two students named to the All-Region and All-State Band.
- Recognized the Fort Lee athletes that competed at the Prestigious Millrose Games (track and field), Bergen County Swimming Meet of Champions, Girls Bowling (won their first division title in school history), Bergen Invitational Tournament (girls' basketball), Bergen County Jamboree (boys basketball) and wrestling (senior night win).
- Reported on school safety incidents: 32 for the first two marking periods.

Ms. Colbath shared 4B, 5B, 6B and 17P Walk-in Resolutions and further shared that the 5B Resolution regarding a HIB Investigation Appeal was pulled.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Jeong Kim shared there was a Curriculum Committee meeting held Tuesday, January 25, 2022. The LinkIt software was presented.

Mr. Rubino shared there was a Security Committee meeting where Class III Officers are in the pipeline.

Mrs. Morell shared there was a Negotiation meeting on Monday, January 31, 2022 and scheduled several dates for additional Negotiations meetings.

RESOLUTIONS – WALK INS

Ms. Colbath thanked Board members for attending the NJ School Boards Association meeting last week and recognized Mrs. Richter and Mrs. Romba's Certified Board Member statuses.

PUBLIC WORK SESSION

Ms. Stassou congratulated Ms. Nina Anderson and the 8th graders for the fantastic artwork.

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

MOTION by Mr. Rubino, seconded by Mrs. Richter to open the floor to the public, 7:58 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 9-0.

Members of the public shared strong opposition to the Board potentially mandating face coverings after March 7, 2022, expressed the importance to place a Principal at School #1, and inquired about the school calendar.

MOTION by Mr. Rubino, seconded by Mrs. Morell to close the floor to the public, 8:29 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 9-0.

RESOLUTIONS

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

Public Business Meeting Minutes January 18, 2022 Private Executive Meeting Minutes January 18, 2022

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.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, approves the participation of Board Members for Workshops and New Jersey School Board Association Board Mandated Training as outlined below:

WORKSHOP	BOARD MEMBER	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	AMOUNT PER PERSON
Bergen County SBA	Elisa Cho Paula Colbath Kim Curry Kristen Richter Candace Romba	Monday, 1/31/2022	Live Virtual	-0-

				T				
	Bergen County SBA	Elisa Cho Paula Colbath Kim Curry Min Jeong Kim Holly Morell Kristen Richter Candace Romba Michael Rubino Julene Stassou	Wednesday, 6/2/2022	Hybrid, Clinton Inn Hotel (6:00 PM to 9:00 PM)	-0-			
	NJSBA GOVERNANCE TRAINING	BOARD MEMBER	<u>DATES</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	AMOUNT PER PERSON			
	Governance I	Kim Curry Min Jeong Kim	Wednesday, 4/6/22, 4/13/22, 4/27/22	Live Virtual	-0-			
	Governance II	Julene Stassou	Monday, 3/21/22	Live Virtual	-0-			
	Governance IV	Holly Morell Kristen Richter	Wednesday, 2/16/22	Live Virtual	-0-			
4B Walk-In	THEREFORE BE IT RES Settlement Agreement be conditions specified.							
6B Walk-In	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves Student ID # 22070185, completing senior year with approximately 4 months remaining at Fort Lee High School, effective immediately, according to the provisions for "Children Who Anticipate Moving to or from the District" as indicated under Board Policy No. 5111 - Eligibility of Resident/NonResident Students, for the 2021-2022 school year.							
	MOTION by Mrs. Romba seconded by Mrs. Richter, to approve items #1B through #4B and #6B.							
	MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 5-0-4, with the exception Ms. Cho, Mrs. Richter, Mrs. Morell and Ms. Colbath abstained on their own names on item #3B.							
1CUR	THEREFORE BE IT Recommendation of the summary. Attachment:	Superintendent	, approves class					

				1 490 0					
2CUR	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED , that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following out-of-district placements for the 2021-2022 school year:								
	OUT-OF-DISTRICT PLACEMENTS								
	Student	Placement	Dates	Tuition/Costs					
	#29080360	BCSS - Brownstone School 498 Saddle River Road Saddle Brook, NJ 07663	1/20/22 - June 2022	Annual tuition of \$62,240, prorated to \$38,976 (112 days @ \$348 per diem). Annual transportation cost of \$31,563, prorated to \$19,639.20 (112 days @ \$175.35 per diem).					
3CUR	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the 3-year English Language Learners (ELL) Plan for the 2021-2024 school years. Attachment: ELL 3-YEAR PLAN 2021-2024								
	MOTION #3CUR.	by Mrs. Rom	nba second	ded by Mrs. Morell, to approve items #1CUR through					
	MOTION	carried unanir	nously upo	n roll call, 9-0.					
1F	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, has received and accepts the financial reports of the Secretary and Treasurer of School Monies for the month ending December 2021 and certifies that the reports indicate that no major account or fund is over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the school year. Attachment: BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT-Dec 2021; TREASURER'S REPORT-Dec 2021								
2F	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, confirms the line item transfers for the month of December 2021. In order to accomplish the aforesaid purpose, the Business Administrator was authorized to transfer the amount of money into and out of the line items set forth on the attached schedule. Attachment: LINE ITEM TRANSFERS-Dec 2021								
3F	recomme bills li	endation of the ist in the	Superinter amou	ED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon ndent, approves the payment of the claims on the current nt of \$11,945,430.61 for February 2022 of BILLS LIST					

4F	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 \$93,492.86 for February 2022 checks. Attachment: 2022-02-07 CAFETERIA BILLS
5F	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 \$2,300.00 for February 2022 checks. Attachment: 2022-02-07 ATHLETIC BILLS
6F	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, authorizes the execution of a renewal Shared Services Agreement between the Borough of Fort Lee and the Fort Lee Board of Education for the Use of Certain Facilities for Recreational Purposes for the 2022-2024 Calendar Years. Attachment: SHARED SERVICES-USE OF FACILITIES
	MOTION by Mrs. Romba seconded by Mrs. Morell, to approve items #1F through #6F. MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call, 9-0.
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: 2022-02-07 STAFF TRIPS

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following **appointments** for the 2021-2022 school year, pending verification of employment:

	<u>APPOINTMENTS</u>									
First Name	Last Name	Name Position		Position Control #	Annual Salary Prorated	Effective Date				
Hye Sang	Park	Personal Aide Grades K-1 ASD 1:1 (.83)	S2	02-9101-23	Step 1/Degree \$23,797.00	2-8-2022				
Jacobkutty	Palamattom	Instructional Aide - Coverage (.83)	S2	02-9101-115	Step 1/Degree \$23,797.00	2-9-2022				
Mayra	Moscoso	Instructional Aide - Coverage (.83)	S2	02-9101-124	Step 1/Degree \$23,797.00	2-16-2022				
Josselyn	Cordero	Instructional Aide - Coverage (.83)	S2	02-9101-127	Step 1/Degree \$23,797.00	2-8-2022				
Destinee	Fornes	Instructional Aide - Coverage (.83)	LFCIS	05-9101-130	Step 1/Degree \$23,797.00	2-9-2022				
Manal	Hajmahmoud	Personal Aide MD 1:1 (.83)	LFCMS	06-9101- 117	Step 1/Non Degree \$20,501.00	2-8-2022				

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following additional **staff transfers** during the 2021-2022 school year.

	<u>TRANSFERS</u>							
Name	From Location	From Position	To Location	To Position	Salary Change	Effective Date		
Maria Varela	СО	Secretary Central Office 00-9300-01	LFCMS	School Secretary 06-9300-01	Frozen until guide catches up	2-8-2022		

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	Туре	New or Amend	Paid Leave	Unpaid Leave with benefits	Unpaid Leave No Benefits	Retur Date	
Stefanie Holman	Teacher Grade 2	S1	Medical	Amend	1/13/22 to 2/22/22	N/A	N/A	2/23/2	
Gilda Farahnak	Paraprofessional	S2	Medical	New	1/18/22 to 2/23/22	2/24/22 to 3/31/22	N/A	4/1/22	
Melanie Markarian	Teacher Grade 3	S4	Maternity	Amend	5/24/21 to 6/30/21	9/1/21 to 2/28/22	N/A	3/1/22	
Lauren Brickner	Teacher Special Education	IS	Maternity	Amend	1/26/22 to 3/3/22 (half)	3/3/22 (half) to 6/30/22	N/A	9/1/22	
Eleni Despotakis	Teacher Art	IS	Maternity	Amend	9/9/21 to 12/7/21	12/8/21 to 6/30/22	N/A	9/1/2	
Dana Cafasso	Teacher G&T	S2/S4/IS	Maternity	Amend	1/28/22 to 2/14/22	2/15/22 to 3/31/22	4/1/22 to 6/30/22	9/1/22	
Stefanie Katic	Teacher Math	MS	Maternity	New	4/18/22 to 5/27/22	5/28/22 to 10/31/22	N/A`	11/1/2	
Khelly Romero Bustamante	Paraprofessional	MS	Maternity	Amend	N/A	N/A	1/10/22 to 6/30/22	9/1/2	
Nicole Boote	Teacher English	HS	Medical	Amend	1/18/22 to 1/21/22 (half)	1/21/22 (half) to 2/6/22	N/A	2/7/2:	
Tracey O'Connell	Confidential Secretary	со	Medical	Amend	11/15/21 to 12/1/21	N/A	12/2/21 to 2/13/22	2/14/2	
ID #4626	-	-	Suspended with Pay	Amend	12/13/21 to 2/7/22	N/A	N/A	2/8/2:	

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the appointment of **leave replacements** during the 2021-2022 school year, as outlined below:

LEAVE REPLACEMENTS							
Nam	Grade/ Subject	Loc	Salary	Effective Dates	Reason for opening		
Laudan Asharian	Teacher Grade 3	S4	Renewed for Continuous Assignment	9/1/21 to 2/28/22 (Amended)	Melanie Markarian (Maternity)		
Laudan Asharian	Teacher Gifted & Talented	S2/S4/ IS	Continuous Assignment	3/1/22 to 6/30/22 (Amended)	Dana Cafasso (Maternity)		
Michille Lee- Ein	Teacher Art	LFCIS	Sub pay for the first 60 days \$150 per day, day 61+ at the daily rate equal to a BA, Step 1; No Benefits	9/13/21 to 6/30/22 (Amended)	Eleni Despotakis (Maternity)		
Allison Lane	Teacher Special Education Resource	LFCIS	Continuous Assignment	1/10/22 to 1/31/22 (Amended)	Lauren Brickner (Maternity)		
Katerina Mancevska	Teacher Biology	FLHS	Sub pay for the first 60 days \$150 per day, day 61+ at the daily rate equal to a BA, Step 1 (Pending Certification); No Benefit	1/18/22 to 6/30/22	Brittany West (Maternity)		

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 2021-2022 school year:

SUBSTITUTES

Sufian Ayyad Kimberly Campoverde Amir Hassan Joanna Tsoullis

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves **Howard Lipoff to provide 24 hours of Orton Reading Instruction** at \$45 per hour for student ID # 23100139.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves to amend the following Position Control number for the 2021-2022 school year as outlined below:

POSITION CONTROL								
From Position Number	From Position Name	From Location	From FTE	To Position Number	To Position Name	To Location	To FTE	Account Number
00-9300-01	Secretary Central Office	СО	1.0	06-9300-01	School Secretary	LFCMS	1.00	11-000-240- 105-00-000

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the amendment of a pensionable stipend of \$6,500, for teaching staff members assigned to **teach a sixth period** at Lewis F. Cole Middle School for the 2021-2022 school year:

6th Period Stipends						
Lewis F. Cole Middle School						
First Name	Last Name	Department				
Christina	Cigolini	Science (Effective 9/17/21 through 2/15/22)				
Richard	Gardner	Science (Effective 9/17/21 through 2/15/22)				
Brian	Larcheveque	Science (Effective 9/17/21 through 2/15/22)				
Elisa	Minissale	Science (Effective 9/17/21 through 2/15/22)				
Angela	Papas	Science (Effective 9/17/21 through 2/15/22)				

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the additional pensionable stipend of \$6,500, for a teaching staff member assigned to **teach a sixth period** at Fort Lee High School for the 2021-2022 school year:

6th Period Stipends					
	Fort Lee High School				
First Name	Last Name	Department			
Sandra	Froimovich	English (Effective 10/19/21 through 6/30/22)			

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the appointment of an additional **Home Instructor** for the 2021-2022 school year as follows:

Additional Home Instructor 2021-2022				
Name	Rate			
Rachel Ventrella	K-6 Regular Education all Subjects	\$45.00/hour		

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following revised job descriptions: Attachments

School Security Coordinator (As Amended)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following **new job descriptions:** *Attachments*

Head Custodian - Elementary
Head Custodian - Intermediate/Middle School
Head Custodian - High School

- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the payment of additional hours at the rate of \$45.00 per hour, for all District Nurses, for the purposes of COVID contact tracing, outside of contracted work hours, not to exceed an aggregate total of \$5,000.00 to be charged against Account #11-000-213-100-00-000 through 1-31-22, \$35,000.00 to be charged against Account #20-483-200-100-00-000 and \$35,000.00 to be charged against Account #20-487-200-100-000 from 2-1-22 through 6-30-22.
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the amended reimbursement of substitute teacher certification fees funded from account #20-487-200-300-00-000 for the employees listed below:

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER CERTIFICATION FEE REIMBURSEMENT							
First Name	Last Name	Amount					
Sangeeta	Jain	\$128.00					
Fatima	Nabiyouni	\$128.00					
Angelice	Piper	\$157.75					

15P

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the additional payment of \$521.87 to John Giordano for coordination services provided during the 2021 Summer Program, charged to Account # 20-483-100-101-00-000.

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 2021-2022 school year. All appointments are subject to completion of all personnel documentation and fingerprinting process, prior to starting of said activities.

CO-CURRICULAR 2021-2022								
Name	Co-Curricular Activity		s	21-22 Stipend				
Kayleigh Morpeth *	Winter Percussion Director	HS	Α	\$2,126.00				
Jodi Schultz-Etra	Academy of Theater Arts Coordinator		В	\$3,161.00				
Melissa Rosen	African American Club Advisor		Α	\$2,126.00				
Sophia Karabatsos	Fort Lee-der Advisor		В	\$3,161.00				
Mary Terry	Orchestra Director - HS		D	\$6,327.00				
Mary Battista	Theater - Producer	HS	N/A	\$1,000.00				

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 2021-2022 school year:

INTERNSHIPS/STUDENT TEACHERS/PRACTICUM CANDIDATES									
Referring University	Student Name	Type of Placement	Subject Area	Duration	Months From-To	School Placed	Cooperating Staff Member		
Fairleigh Dickinson University	Adibeh Awad	Field Experience	Elementary Education	60 Hours	2/8/2022 – 4/30/2022	School No. 2	Catherine Arfuso		

17P Walk-In THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the unpaid leave of absence for Employee #6181 for the 2022-2023 school year without pay and/or health benefit coverage.

MOTION by Mrs. Morell seconded by Mrs. Richter, to approve items #1P through #17P.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 9-0, with exception of #11P and 14P with a vote of 8-1 as Mrs. Morell voted no on items #11P and 14P only.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #2

Ms. Colbath announced that the Board will reconvene into Executive Session.

MOTION by Mr. Rubino, seconded by Mrs. Morell at 8:34 p.m., to reconvene into Executive Session to discuss HIB report, and mask optional guidance starting 3/07/22.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote,9-0.

The Board reconvened into the Public Meeting at 8:50 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Kravitz recognized Hagquisha Q. Taylor as the new President of BCASBO.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mrs. Morell seconded by Mr. Rubino, to adjourn, 8:51 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 9-0.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Hagquisha Q. Taylor

HAQQUISHA Q. TAYLOR

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

HQT/lz 02/03/2022