FORT LEE BOARD OF EDUCATION FORT LEE, NEW JERSEY

MINUTES

PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING
April 4, 2022
Lewis F. Cole Intermediate School Cafetorium
and Zoom Meeting

CALL TO ORDER BY THE PRESIDENT

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Board President, Ms. Colbath.

FLAG SALUTE

The Flag Salute was led by Mr. Rubino.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The Public Announcement was read by Mrs. Colbath.

ROLL CALL

Present: Ms. Elisa Cho, Mrs. Kim Curry, Mrs. Holly Morell, Mrs. Kristen Richter, Mrs.

Candace Romba, Mr. Michael Rubino, Ms. Julene Stassou, Ms. Paula K.

Colbath

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

Mr. Lester E. Taylor III, Board Attorney

Absent: Mrs. Min Jeong Kim

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Romba, at 6:37 p.m., to move into Executive Session.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

The Board reconvened into the Public Meeting at 7:47 p.m.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Kravitz shared that he is administratively pulling the 2022-2023 District Calendar from tonight's agenda. Mr. Kravitz further shared that Policy 2422 (Comprehensive Health & Physical

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Education) is being reviewed and will appear on a future Board agenda.

Mr. Kravitz recognized the following student achievements:

- Rena Kim (grade 11) auditioned and was accepted into the New Jersey All State Orchestra for violin
- For the first time since Fort Lee has participated in Bergen County's Key Club, the newly elected Lieutenant Governor for the school year 2022-2023 is one of our own! Tessa Lee
- FLHS's Debate Team placed 1st in the county and 2nd for overall teams.
- FLHS Winter Guard won 1st place overall in their division in the Monroe Township Winter Guard Competition. They also received the highest score of all divisions.
- Steffi Yakoff made it to the 16 and under doubles semifinals of the USTA Easter Bowl in Indian Wells, CA
- Tyson Lowe and Alexandra Manatovic were both unanimously named 1st Team All-County for Winter Track.
- Today is the kick off for spring sports
- The Class of 2022 has college acceptance to several big name schools

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

Ms. Colbath introduced student representatives Michelle Cheon and Heather Overville.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

<u>Curriculum Committee</u>: Ms. Colbath shared that Policy 2422 was discussed at the March 30th Curriculum Committee meeting. Ms. Colbath further shared that Mrs. Kim will elaborate on the discussion at the next Public Business meeting.

<u>Security Committee</u>: Chairperson Michael Rubino shared that we presently have one Class III Officer, and by September we should have three Class III Officers.

<u>Buildings & Grounds Committee</u>: Chairperson Candace Romba shared that the committee met prior to today's Public Meeting and recommends an adjustment be made to our budgeted capital reserve projects including the installation of air-conditioning at the Lewis F. Cole Middle School in the Academic wing and in the gym.

<u>Personnel Committee</u>: Chairperson Julene Stassou shared that the committee met Monday, March 28th and discussed the process of hiring substitutes, tenure renewal, and non-certified staff for the purpose of the organization chart and job descriptions.

PUBLIC WORK SESSION

Mrs. Morell gave kudos to Mr. Rubino for endlessly working on hiring Class III officers. Mrs. Morell shared she is happy to see the Athletics Awards Dinner, and Performing Arts Awards Banquet on tonight's Agenda.

Mr. Kravitz administratively pulled Item #3B.

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. Morell, to open the floor to the public, 7:52 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

Public questions and comments included pleasure in seeing teachers' pictures added to the website; thanks to a High School Health teacher for teaching very informative topics; recognition of Nancy Ripoli's retirement; displeasure of sexual content being part of the curriculum; disturbance that students can self-identify as a cat; opining that parents are responsible for instilling a moral foundation for their children not a public school or the government; asking about the content of the health maintenance policy and if the health teachers are certified to teach sexual content; concern with the traffic management at the Lewis F. Cole Middle School; commending School #1 Acting Principal Mr. Diaz' exceptional performance; asked for clarification regarding awarding construction projects to the lowest bidder; asking about when parents will be notified about the Summer Bridge Academy.

Mr. Kravitz, Mrs. Collazo-Baker, Ms. Taylor, and Ms. Colbath addressed all questions and concerns.

MOTION by Ms. Stassou, seconded by Mr. Rubino, to close the floor to the public, 8:12 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

RESOLUTIONS

BOARD

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

Public Business Meeting Minutes March 21, 2022 Private Executive Meeting Minutes March 21, 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, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the 2022-2023 District Calendar, as per the attached. Attachment: TBD
 - THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, approves the participation of Board Members for Workshops as outlined below:

<u>WORKSHOP</u>	BOARD MEMBER	<u>DATE</u>	PLACE	AMOUNT PER PERSON
NJSBA Wind Down: Empowerment Series	Elisa Cho Paula Colbath	April 13, 2022	Virtual	-0-

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, permits the following non-resident student(s) to continue enrollment at the Fort Lee Public Schools and waives tuition costs for the 2021-2022 school year.

STUDENT ID#

#22060095 (HS, Gr. 12) #34060426 (S1, Gr. K)

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Richter, that the Fort Lee Board of Education approves items #1B through #5B.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0, with exception, Ms. Cho and Ms. Colbath abstained on own names on item #4B and postponing Item #3B.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

1B&G WHEREAS, the Fort Lee High School Partial 2nd Floor Window Replacement was properly advertised to prospective bidders in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, March 18, 2022, the following bids were received from potential bidders in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1, et seq.; and

Fort Lee High School Partial 2nd Floor Window Replacement					
Bidder Base Bid					
Premier Group Inc.	\$333,000				
Al Construction Services	\$565,000				
Panoramic Window & Door, Inc.	\$277,000				

WHEREAS, the bid submitted by **Panoramic Window & Door, Inc.** has been reviewed by Board Architects, ENV, and Board Attorneys Florio Perrucci Steinhardt Cappelli Tipton & Taylor LLC, and deemed compliant with the bid specifications and New Jersey Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Board Architects, ENV, hereby awards Partial 2nd Floor Window Replacement at Fort Lee High School to Panoramic Window & Door, Inc. as the lowest responsible bidder at the total amount of \$277,000.

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

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0.

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: 2022-04-04 CLASS TRIPS

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					
#99000231	Bergen Center for Child Development 140 Park Street Haworth, NJ 07641	3/22/22 - June 2022	Annual tuition cost of \$82,211.70, prorated to \$22,942.80 (60 days @ \$382.38). 1:1 Aide at a cost of \$12,600.00 (60 days @ \$210.00 per diem.) Transportation provided by district.					
#25050176	BCSS Gateway School 304 East Midland Avenue Paramus, NJ 07652	3/28/22 - June 2022	Annual tuition cost of \$62,640.00, prorated to \$20,532.00 (59 days @ \$348.00 per diem). Transportation costs prorated to \$8,154.00 (54 days @ \$151.00 per diem).					
#26100014	Cornerstone Day School 10-12 Commerce Drive Cranford, NJ 07016	3/29/22 - June 2022	Annual tuition of \$89,850.20, prorated to \$24,096.19 (59 days @ \$408.41 per diem). Transportation costs prorated to \$4,069.41 (\$83.59 per diem for 3 days in March and \$68.19 per diem for 56 days from April - June 2022.					

- **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following **program for Summer 2022**:
 - Extended School Year (ESY) 2022 Program for Special Education students from Tuesday, July 5, 2022 through Friday, July 29, 2022 at School No. 2 for elementary students and Lewis F. Cole Intermediate/Middle School for intermediate and secondary students, to be funded by the general education fund.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following NJDOE accredited public school academic program providers that offers courses for advancement and credit recovery, to be delivered in either traditional or online format, for the 2022 Summer Session and the 2022-2023 school year at no cost to the district. Advancement and credit recovery will be granted only with written consent from the Guidance Department. Students are responsible for all fees associated with these programs.

Bergen Community College - High School Program
Dwight Englewood High School
Educere Online
PAMOJA Online
Leonia High School
Monmouth-Ocean Educational Services Commission (MOECS)/NJ Virtual School
The Virtual High School
Ridgewood High School

MOTION by Mrs. Richter, seconded by Mrs. Romba, that the Fort Lee Board of Education approves Items #1CUR through 4CUR.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0.

FINANCE

- 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 February 2022 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-Feb 2022: TREASURER'S REPORT-Feb 2022
- 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 February 2022. 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-Feb 2022

- 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 \$685,330.01 for March 2022 checks. Attachment: 2022-04-04 BILLS LIST
- 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 \$125,384.06 for March 2022 checks. Attachment: 2022-04-04 CAFETERIA BILLS LIST
- 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 \$352.00 for March 2022 checks. Attachment: 2022-04-04 ATHLETICS BILLS LIST
- **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby <u>rescinds</u> Resolution No. 31429 dated March 21, 2022 for the out-of-district placement for a Non-Resident Student for JVT (ID#29100157) to attend BCSS/Brownstone School for the 2021-2022 school year.
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to enter into a joint transportation agreement between the Fort Lee Board of Education and Palisades Park Board of Education for out-of-district transportation of students at a cost not to exceed \$4,420.00 for the 2021-2022 school year. Attachment: PALISADES PARK JOINT TRANSPORTATION 2021-2022
- **8F THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the contract with Fiesta Catering for the **Fort Lee High School 2022 Athletics Awards Dinner** to be held on Thursday, June 2, 2022 at a price not to exceed \$35.00 per person.
- **9F THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the contract with the DoubleTree by Hilton for the **Fort Lee High School 2022 Performing Arts Awards Banquet** to be held on Wednesday, June 1, 2022 at a price not to exceed \$45.00 per person.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves HPE Solutions to provide professional development support during the 2021-2022 school year, based upon the attached proposal. Attachment: HPE Solutions PD 2021-2022

Professional Development Training	Total Not To Exceed	Account #
To provide support with aligning the physical education and health curriculum to the 2020 New Jersey Student Learning Standards.	\$4,500	20-270-200- 320-30-000

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, authorizes the Board President and School Business Administrator to execute Non-Resident Tuition Student Agreements for non-resident students whose parent(s) are employed by the district for the 2022-2023 school year. Tuition rates to be determined by the Business Office and according to Board policy.

NON-RESIDENT TUITION STUDENT AGREEMENT					
STUDENT	GRADE	SCHOOL ATTENDING			
SS	Kindergarten	School #2			

MOTION by Ms. Cho, seconded by Mr. Rubino, that the Fort Lee Board of Education approves Items #1F through #11F.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0.

PERSONNEL

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: 2022-04-04 STAFF TRIPS**

- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts, with regret, the deferred retirement of Nicole Boote, as an English Teacher at Fort Lee High School, after dedicating 20 years of service to the district, effective July 1, 2022.
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts, with regret, the retirement of Ceneida Ramirez, as a School Custodian at Fort Lee High School, after dedicating 17.5 years of service to the district, effective August 1, 2022.
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts, with regret, the retirement of Nancy Ripoli, as a Paraprofessional at School 1, after dedicating 32 years of service to the district, effective July 1, 2022.
- **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								
Valerie	Aroni	Bus Aide Part Time (.84)	СО	00-9401-06	\$20.55/hour	4-20-2022		

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	Return Date	
Laura Cooper	Paraprofessional	S1	Medical	New	4/8/22 to 5/15/22	N/A	N/A	5/16/22	
Anastasia Findanis	Teacher Grade 2	S1	Maternity	Amend	5/27/20 to 6/30/20	9/1/20 to 2/28/21	3/1/21 to 1/2/23	1/3/23	
Brandon O'Connell	Custodian	S1	Medical	Amend	2/28/22 to 3/10/22	3/11/22 to 3/27/22	N/A	3/28/22	
Jennifer Leyton	Teacher Art	S3	Maternity	Amend	1/3/22 to 2/6/22	2/7/22 to 1/2/23	N/A	1/3/23	
Mishell Chung	Teacher Grade 4	S3	Maternity	Amend	3/28/22 to 5/22/22	5/23/22 to 10/31/22	N/A	11/1/22	
Melanie Catalano	Teacher Graphic Design	HS	Maternity	Amend	3/21/22 to 4/21/22	4/22/22 to 1/2/23	N/A	1/3/23	
Employee #4758	-	-	Admin Leave	New	3/30/22 to TBD	N/A	N/A	TBD	

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		
Robert Rucker	Music Teacher	LFCIS/MS	Sub pay for the first 60 days \$150 per day, day 61+ at the daily rate equal to a BA, Step 1; No Benefit	4/7/22 to 6/30/22	Yuri Resetovs (FMLA)		
Priscilla Madera	Teacher World Language Spanish	FLHS	Sub pay for the first 60 days \$150 per day, day 61+ at the daily rate equal to a BA, Step 1; No Benefit	1/24/22 to 3/31/22 (Amend)	Ada Acosta Chehirian (Maternity)		
Priscilla Madera	Teacher World Language Spanish	S1, S2, S3, S4	Continuous assignment daily rate equal to a BA, Step 1; No Benefit	4/1/22 to 6/30/22	Temporary Teacher (Make up Instruction due to Maternity Leaves)		

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

Inci Oluc Wonbin Im Charisse Stabile Erik Holzapfel **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following staff members **for After-School and Extra Curricular Activities** during the 2021-2022 school year on an as needed basis:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	Extra Compensation
Manuel Rivera Sangeeta Jain	Extracurricular Paraprofessionals for After-School Activities	\$17.50 per hour

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, in order to fulfill program requirements of Biology and Innovation and Invention, approves the following certificated staff members to **provide assessment, tutoring, and student assignment review** at \$45.00 per hour for 13 weeks:

<u>Certificated Staff Members</u>
Gary Glebas

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following additional District **translators** for 2021-2022 school year, at the rate of \$30.00 per hour, on an as needed basis for oral translation:

DISTRICT TRANSLATORS 2021-2022							
Name Position Location Language							
Sue Mazici	Paraprofessional	School 2	Turkish				
Priscilla Maderaa Teacher FLHS French, Spanish, Turk							
Mariam Koukeian	Accounting Coordinator	СО	Armenian, Turkish				

- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, authorizes the execution of the Standard School Administrator Residency Agreement, based upon the terms and conditions provided herein, between the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) and Fort Lee Public Schools to provide a program of training and supervision as required by N.J.A.C. 6A:9-12.5 for the mentoring of John Giordano as per Principal Provisional Certification Requirements.
- 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			
Carol	Dimino	\$128.00			

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Richter, that the Fort Lee Board of Education approves items #1P through #13P.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0, Ms. Colbath voted yes on Item #4P with reluctance. Board members congratulated all the retirees.

POLICY

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: 2022-04-04 POLICY UPDATES

Policy/Reg No.	Торіс
P 2467	Surrogate Parents and Resource Family Parents (M) (Revised)
P 5111	Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students (M) (Revised)
P 5114	Children Displaced by Domestic Violence (Abolished)
P 5116	Education of Homeless Children (Revised)
P 6311	Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by Federal Grants (M) (Revised)
P&R 7432	Eye Protection (M) (Revised)
P 8540	School Nutrition Programs (M) (Revised)
P 8600	Student Transportation (M) (Revised)
P 8810	Religious Holidays (Abolished)

MOTION by Ms. Cho, seconded by Mrs. Richter, that the Fort Lee Board of Education approves Item #1POL.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Colbath recognized Mrs. Romba achieving Master Board Member and Certified Board Leader statuses.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Cho shared that she participated in a very informative webinar on procurement on March 24th and highly recommends Board members participate in any upcoming New Jersey School Boards Association procurement webinars.

Ms. Cho recognized Ms. Taylor's presentation on behalf of the Bergen County Association of School Business Officials (BCASBO) to the NJSBA Bergen County membership at the March 29th meeting.

Ms. Colbath shared the Delegate Assembly meeting will be held on Saturday, May 14^{th,}

Ms. Colbath shared that the 2022 NJSBA Workshop Conference will be held at the Atlantic City Convention Center Monday, October 24th through Wednesday, October 26th, and highly recommends Board members to register early in order to receive the discounted group rate.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Ms. Stassou seconded by Mr. Rubino, to adjourn, 8:19 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Haqquisha Q. Taylor

HAQQUISHA Q. TAYLOR

SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

HQT/toc 04/07/2022