

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

MINUTES

**SPECIAL PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING
December 21, 2022
Lewis F. Cole Intermediate School Cafetorium
and Zoom Meeting**

CALL TO ORDER BY THE PRESIDENT

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President, Ms. Colbath.

FLAG SALUTE

The Flag Salute was led by Mrs. Romba.

ROLL CALL

Present: Ms. Elisa Cho (arrived (6:10 p.m), Mrs. Kim Curry, Mrs. Holly Morell, Mrs. Kristen Richter, Mrs. Romba, Mr. Michael Rubino, Ms. Julene Stassou, Ms. Paula K. Colbath

Also Present: Mr. Robert Kravitz, Ms. Haquisha Q. Taylor, Mrs. Diane Collazo-Baker, Lester E. Taylor III, Board Attorney

Absent: Dr. Catherine Golfinopoulos

PURPOSE OF THE SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING

The purpose of tonight's Special Public Meeting was to convene in open session and then immediately proceed into closed, Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters. The Board will return to Public Session at approximately 6:10 p.m. to hear public comments from the community and adjourn. Official action may be taken.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Mr. Rubino, seconded by Mrs. Curry, at 6:02 p.m., to move into Executive Session.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

The Board reconvened into the Public Meeting at 6:19 p.m.

PUBLIC WORK SESSION

None.

Mr. Taylor shared that Item #2P should be moved to the floor for discussion.

HEARING OF CITIZENS- QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

MOTION by Mrs. Romba, seconded by Mrs. Morell, to open the floor to the public, 6:21 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

A member of the public shared her disappointment that Haquisha Q. Taylor resigned. She shared that Ms. Taylor is extremely professional, kind and thoughtful and wished her all the best.

MOTION by Mrs. Curry, seconded by Mr. Rubino, to close the floor to the public, 6:23 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

RESOLUTION

Several Board members wished Ms. Taylor well in her new endeavor.

1P THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following **resignations**:

<u>RESIGNATIONS</u>			
Employee	Position	Location	Effective Date
Haquisha Taylor	School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary	CO	3/14/23 or sooner
Irene Gray	Assistant Business Administrator	CO	3/15/23 or sooner
Anthony Frato	Security Officer	CO	12/12/22
Jennifer Cennerazzo	Paraprofessional	S2	12/23/22

2P THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **termination of employment for Employee #7038, effective December 22, 2022.**

3P THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following **appointments** for the 2022-2023 school year.

<u>APPOINTMENTS</u>						
First Name	Last Name	Position	Loc	Position Control #	Annual Salary Prorated	Effective Date
Michele	Carlor, Ed.D	Assistant Principal	MS	06-0222-01	\$120,000.00 Plus \$1,000 Doctoral Pensionable Salary Adjustment	12/22/22
Nicholas	Coscia	Network Specialist	District	00-9031-01	\$77,500.00	12/22/22

4P THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following additional **staff transfers** during the 2022-2023 school year.

<u>TRANSFERS</u>						
Name	From Location	From Position	To Location	To Position	Salary Change	Effective Date
Ilene Cohen	CO	Confidential Secretary	CO	Confidential Assistant to the Superintendent	\$75,000.00 (no salary change)	1/1/23
Maria Varela	IS	Secretary	CO	Confidential Secretary	\$65,036.00 to \$70,000.00	1/1/23

5P THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the appointment of **leave replacements** during the 2022-2023 school year, as outlined below:

<u>LEAVE REPLACEMENTS</u>					
Name	Grade/Subject	Loc	Salary	Effective Dates	Reason for opening
Sara Rho	3rd Grade	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	1/12/23 to 6/30/23	Elisa Karam

6P THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the attached proposal for **Dr. Sharon Amato to serve as Interim Principal at School No. 3**, effective January 10, 2023 at a per diem rate not to exceed \$500/day during the 2022-2023 school year. **Attachment: DR. AMATO INTERIM PRINCIPAL PROPOSAL**

Ms. Colbath shared they will isolate the vote for item #2P.

MOTION by Mrs. Richter, seconded by Mrs. Morell, that the Fort Lee Board of Education approves item #2P.

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

Mr. Kravitz explained the circumstances that lead to the recommendation to terminate employee #7038, and the topic is open for discussion. Mr. Lester Taylor then recapped the incident for all. Board conversation ensued.

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Romba, that the Fort Lee Board of Education approves item #1P and items #3P through #6P.

MOTION carried upon roll call vote, 7-0-1, as Ms. Cho abstained on item #4P only.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mrs. Curry, seconded by Mrs. Morell, to adjourn, 6:33 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
12/23/22