

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

**PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA**

**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION WILL IMMEDIATELY ENTER CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS  
CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS.**

**THE REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING WILL COMMENCE AT 7:30 P.M.**

**Wednesday, February 22, 2023**

**Meeting Start Time: 6:30 p.m.**

**Lewis F. Cole Intermediate School Cafetorium (in-person limited access) and Zoom (virtual)  
Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88319928363?pwd=dGFoMjBOUS9FaHBrczIBdHkzUjFmZz09>**

**CALL TO ORDER BY THE PRESIDENT**

**FLAG SALUTE**

**PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT**

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of the Act, the Fort Lee Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published on January 13, 2023 and posted on the district website at [www.flboe.com](http://www.flboe.com); published in the Board's designated online media outlet/newspapers: The Record and The Star Ledger; filed with the Clerk of the Borough of Fort Lee; and mailed to all persons, if any, who have requested said notice. Please be advised that this meeting is being taped and may be broadcasted on local TV and the district's website at a future date.

The Open Public Meeting Act allows for remote participation at Board Meetings and defines "meeting" as any gathering whether corporeal or by means of communication equipment, which is attended by, or open to, all of the members of a public body, held with the intent, on the part of the members of the body present, to discuss or act as a unit upon the specific public business of that body.

**ROLL CALL**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION - Approximately 6:30 p.m.**

The Board shall recess to Executive Session in accordance with New Jersey's Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) (1~9). The general nature of the discussion will involve matters confidential by law, any investigations or tactics or techniques to protect persons or public property, litigation, anticipated litigation and attorney-client matters. These matters will be disclosed to the public as soon as the need for confidentiality no longer applies.

**MOTION TO RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION - Immediately following Executive Session –  
Approximately 7:30 p.m.**

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

- HIB Report
- Audit Presentation

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**PUBLIC WORK SESSION - QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS ON ITEMS LISTED ON TONIGHT'S AGENDA OR ANY OTHER TOPIC**

**PUBLIC COMMENT - COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS LISTED ON TONIGHT'S AGENDA OR ANY OTHER TOPIC**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Public participation shall be governed by the following rules (per District Policy #0167):

1. A participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface comments by an announcement of his/her name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate.
2. Participants are limited to three minutes in which to make their statement. Additional time may be granted at the discretion of the presiding officer.
3. The Board will not entertain any comments from persons who communicate obscene material, make statements which are considered bias intimidation in which a person intends to intimidate any individual or group because of race, color, religion, gender, handicap, sexual orientation or ethnicity or makes comments intending to harass or speak any offensive language.
4. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question Board members individually.
5. The presiding officer may:
  - a. Interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;
  - b. Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;
  - c. Request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;
  - d. Call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action; and
  - e. Waive these rules when necessary for the protection of privacy or the efficient administration of the Board's business.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**BOARD**

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

Public Business Meeting Minutes	January 17, 2023
Private Executive Meeting Minutes	January 17, 2023

Public Business Meeting Minutes	February 6, 2023
Private Executive Meeting Minutes	February 6, 2023

- 2B 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.**

- 3B THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, approves the participation of Board Members for Workshops as outlined below:**

<b><u>WORKSHOP</u></b>	<b><u>BOARD MEMBER</u></b>	<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>PLACE</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT PER PERSON</u></b>
NJSBA School Finance Conference	Paula Colbath	3/1/2023	Virtual	\$50.00
Bergen County SBA - Unsung Heroes	Paula Colbath Kim Curry Catherine Golfinopoulos Holly Morell Kacy Knight Michael Rubino	3/30/2023	Ridgefield Memorial High School 555 Walnut Street, Ridgefield, NJ	-0-

- 4B** **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Fort Lee Board of Education approves the **amending of the school calendar to reflect a Delayed Opening for 9th, 10th, & 12<sup>th</sup> grade students to arrive at 9:45 a.m. from March 13-16, 2023, due to NJGPA Testing and for 10th, 11th, & 12th grade students from and May 15-16, 2023, due to NJSLA testing.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Fort Lee Board of Education approves the **amending of the school calendar to reflect a Delayed Opening for 9th, 10th, & 12th grade students to arrive at 9:45 a.m. on April 25, 2023 for SAT testing.**

**ALSO, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Fort Lee Board of Education approves the **amending of the school calendar to reflect a Delayed Opening, May 11-12, 2023 for 7th grade students for NJSLA testing.**

- 5B** **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Fort Lee Board of Education approves the **Approval of Michael DiBartolomeo to provide a remote College Search and Admissions Process presentation for parents/guardians of high school students. There is no cost for the presentation.**

#### **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: [CLASS TRIPS](#)*

#### **FINANCE**

- 1F** **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 \$1,266,497.48 for February 2023 checks.** *Attachment: [2023-02-11 BILLS LIST](#)*
- 2F** **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 \$90,816.72 for February 2023 checks.** *Attachment: [2023-02-11 CAFETERIA BILLS](#)*
- 3F** **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 \$21,725.00 for February 2023 checks.** *Attachment: [2023-02-22 ATHLETICS BILLS](#)*

- 4F **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to **utilize joint transportation services with the River Edge Public Schools Board of Education for out-of-district transportation of students at a cost not to exceed \$174,750 for the 2022-2023 school year.** *Attachment:* [2022-2023 JOINT TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT](#)
- 5F **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. Prorated Tuition rates to be determined by the Business Office and according to Board policy.**

NON-RESIDENT TUITION STUDENT AGREEMENT		
STUDENT	GRADE	SCHOOL ATTENDING
LS	Kindergarten	School #1

- 6F **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **hereby accepts the Audit Report for the year ending June 30, 2022 as prepared by Wielkotz and Company, LLC, Certified Public Accountants.** *Attachment:* [AUDIT SYNOPSIS 6-30-2022](#)
- 7F **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 2023 Athletics Awards Dinner to be held on Thursday, June 1, 2023 at a price not to exceed \$35.00 per person.** *Attachment:* [FIESTA CONTRACT](#)

**PERSONNEL**

- 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:* [STAFF TRIPS](#)
- 2P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts, with regret, the **retirement of Nina Anderson as a Teacher-Art at the Lewis F. Cole Middle School, after dedicating 27 years of service to the district, effective July 1, 2023.**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts, with regret, the **retirement of Janet Elmers as a Paraprofessional at School 2, after dedicating 13 years of service to the district, effective July 1, 2023.**

- 3P THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, **approves the following resignations:**

<b><u>RESIGNATIONS</u></b>			
<b>Employee</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Craig Kramer	Custodian	LFCMS	3/3/23
Soo Han	Paraprofessional	LFCMS	2/28/23

- 4P 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, pending verification of employment:**

<b><u>APPOINTMENTS</u></b>						
<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Loc</b>	<b>Position Control #</b>	<b>Annual Salary Prorated</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Carly	Adam	Speech Language Specialist	S2	02-3120-03	\$62,475.00 Step 2-3/MA	2/23/23
Stephani	Fonseca	Paraprofessional	S2	02-9101-104	\$21,090.00 Step1/ND	3/13/2023 or sooner
Jonathan	Melendez	Teacher - Social Studies	FLHS	07-2322-05	\$59,075.00 Step 2-3/BA	2/23/23
Melissa	Thompson	Paraprofessional	S4	04-9101-102	\$24,386.00 Step1/Deg	2/23/23
Viveca	Williams-Glover	Principal	S3	03-0231-03	\$130,000	4/24/23 or sooner

- 5P THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **employment of Dina Messery, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, effective on or before May 1, 2023.** Pending approval by the Executive County Superintendent, for the 2022-2023 school year.

- 6P **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.**

<b><u>TRANSFERS</u></b>						
Name	From Location	From Position	To Location	To Position	Salary Change	Effective Date
Salma Major	S3	Teacher- BSI	S2	Teacher - Special Education	N/A	2/22/23
Daniel Cignarella	MS	Teacher-Special Education	S2	Teacher - Special Education	N/A	2/22/23

- 7P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, **approves the following leaves:**

<b><u>LEAVES OF ABSENCES</u></b>								
Name	Position	Loc	Type	New or Amend	Paid Leave	Unpaid Leave with benefits	Unpaid Leave No Benefits	Return Date
Laura Caddell	Counselor	HS	Medical	Amended	1/11/23 - 2/24/23	N/A	N/A	2/27/23
Rosa DiPuma	Paraprofessional	S2	Medical	New	3/14/23 - 4/7/23	N/A	N/A	4/10/23
Rosa Pelletier	Bus Driver	CO	Medical	New	1/31/23 - 2/10/23	N/A	N/A	2/13/23

- 8P **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 2022-2023 school year:**

<b><u>SUBSTITUTES</u></b>
<p>Juni Kim, Substitute Teacher  Brian Kim, Substitute Teacher  Danna Attiyyeh, Substitute Teacher  Roberto Yan, Substitute Custodian  Mariela Sanchez, Substitute Custodian</p>

- 9P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves **amending** the compensation for the staff members for **After-School Tutoring Program during the 2022-2023 school year**. Rates were \$45.00 per hour and will now be \$55.00 per hour, effective January 3, 2023. This compensation is **funded by ESSER II Learning Acceleration and ARP ESSER funds. Account codes #20-484-100-100-00-000 and #20-487-100-100-00-000.**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Extra Compensation</u>
Michael Mottershead	After-School Tutoring Program	S2	\$55.00 per hour
Rachael Standish	After-School Tutoring Program	S2	\$55.00 per hour
Amy Patterson	After-School Tutoring Program	S1	\$55.00 per hour
Jonathan Reinsdorf	After-School Tutoring Program	S1	\$55.00 per hour

- 10P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **amended payment** for Dr. Sharon Amato, **to Mindful Leadership Consultants, LLC**, who is serving 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 as per the previously approved contract from 12/21/2023.
- 11P **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:**

<u>SUBSTITUTE TEACHER CERTIFICATION FEE REIMBURSEMENT</u>		
<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Veronica	Marin Fuentes	\$128.38

- 12P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **reimbursement of professional development fees funded from account #11-000-262-890-40-000 for the employee listed below:**

<u>PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FEE REIMBURSEMENT</u>		
<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Demba	Mane	\$195.00



- 13P THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following **2023 Spring Season Coaching names and stipends for the High School:**

NAME	SPORT	POSITION	SEASON	CLASS	STEP	STIPEND
Peter Kraljic, Jr	Baseball	Head Coach	Spring	II	2	\$8,975
Mike LoPresti	Baseball	Assistant Coach	Spring	II	2	\$6,524
Ian Oates	Baseball	Assistant Coach	Spring	II	2	\$6,524
Anthony Medaglia	Baseball	Assistant Coach	Spring	II	2	\$6,524
William Straub	Softball	Head Coach	Spring	II	2	\$8,975
Kellie Lane	Softball	Asst. Coach	Spring	II	2	\$6,524
Brianna Mattessich	Softball	Asst. Coach	Spring	II	2	\$6,524
Peter Romano	Softball	Asst. Coach	Spring	II	2	\$6,524
Charlie Salame	Boys Track	Head Coach	Spring	II	2	\$8,975
Demba Mane	Boys Track	Asst. Coach	Spring	II	2	\$6,524
Jacob Williams	Boys Track	Asst. Coach	Spring	II	1	\$5,955
Nicole Pacciani	Girls Track	Head Coach	Spring	II	1	\$7,829
Sean Scully	Golf	Head Coach	Spring	III	2	\$5,349
Philip Zappel	Boys Tennis	Head Coach	Spring	III	2	\$5,349

- 14P THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following **2023 Spring Season Coaching names and stipends for the Middle School:**

NAME	SPORT	POSITION	SEASON	CLASS	STEP	STIPEND
Lewis Maira	Co-ed Track	Co-Coaches	Spring	N/A	N/A	\$1,000
Renee Mattesich	Co-ed Track	Co-Coaches	Spring	N/A	N/A	\$1,000
Justin Picache	Baseball	Head Coach	Spring	N/A	N/A	\$2,000
Todd Church	Softball	Head Coach	Spring	N/A	N/A	\$2,000

15P

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **appointment of Volunteer Athletic Coaches for the 2022-2023 Spring Season, with no compensation, as follows:**

High School volunteer coaches are as follows:

Tom Kraljic*	Baseball
Erik Holzapfel*	Baseball
Justin Santiago*	Baseball
Neil Grant*	Golf

\*Denotes non-staff member

**POLICY**

1POL **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **first reading of the following policy/regulation updates listed below:** [\*Attachment: POLICIES/REGULATIONS FIRST READING\*](#)

Policy/Reg No.	Topic
R 5751	Sexual Harassment of Students (M)
P 0152	Board Officers

2POL **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: POLICIES/RESOLUTIONS SECOND READING\*](#)

Policy/Reg No.	Topic
P 1648.11	The Road Forward COVID-19 – Health and Safety (M) (Abolished)
P 1648.13	School Employee Vaccination Requirements (M) (Abolished)
P 0161	Call, Adjournment, and Cancellation (Revised)
P 0162	Notice of Board Meetings (Revised)
R 8420.2	Bomb Threats (M) (Revised)
R 8420.7	Lockdown Procedures (M) (Revised)
R 8420.10	Active Shooter (M) (Revised)

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

*Dr. Vincent Occhino*

Dr. Vincent Occhino  
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary

VO/ic  
Attachments  
02-22-23