

**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.

Thursday, March 16, 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/86386500622>**

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 March 10, 2023 and posted on the district website at 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
- Fire & Security Drills – February 2023

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	March 6, 2023
Private Executive Meeting Minutes	March 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, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **2023-2024 School Calendar**.
Attachment: [2023-2024 SCHOOL CALENDAR](#)

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](#)*

- 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 2022-2023 school year:

OUT-OF-DISTRICT PLACEMENTS			
Student	Placement	Dates	Tuition/Costs
#2820944949	Windsor Prep High School Paramus, NJ	2/13/2023 - 6/30/2023	Annual tuition cost of \$58,772.28 prorated to \$21,196.56 (66 days @ \$321.16 per diem). Transportation cost prorated to \$2,600.00 (66 days @ \$40.00 per diem).

- 3CUR THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves Renaissance Learning to **provide professional development services to the Intermediate School teachers**. The services will be paid through the 20-270-320-00-000 account, at a cost not to exceed \$300.00.

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 \$6,868,417.46 for March 2023 checks**.
Attachment: [2023-03-06 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 \$51,543.76 for March 2023 checks**.
Attachment: [2023-03-06 CAFETERIA BILLS](#)
- 3F THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves **Jessica Addeo to provide a parent workshop on Co-Regulation at a cost not to exceed \$110.00, to be charged to Account #20-485-200-100-00-000**.

- 4F THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the adoption of the **Tentative 2023-2024 School District Budget of the use of Unrestricted Surplus (Fund Balance)** in the amount of \$2,523,085; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **inclusion in the Preliminary 2023-2024 School District Budget of a withdrawal from Capital Reserves** in the amount of \$3,963,750.00 as follows:

<u>CAPITAL RESERVE PROJECTS</u>	
18-21 Year Old Program	\$337,500.00
Lewis F. Cole MS Academic Wing Unit Vent Replacement with AC and UV	\$1,417,500.00
HS Shop & Training Program	\$708,750.00
Tom Hunter Rd.-Purchase of Property	\$1,500,000.00
Total Capital Reserve Projects	\$3,963,750.00

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **Preliminary 2023-2024 School District Budget as follows**:

	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>LOCAL TAX LEVY</u>
General Fund	\$86,074,065.00	\$72,386,681.00
Special Revenue Fund	\$4,154,038.00	-0-
Debt Service Fund	\$4,221,471.00	\$3,810,376.00
Total Base Budget	\$94,449,574.00	\$76,197,057.00

- 5F THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the following **donations**:

<u>DONATIONS</u>			
Item	Amount/ Estimated Value	Donor	On Behalf Of
Check	\$500.00	KPMG Gives % Bergen County's United Way	High School AOF Scholarship

6F **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves **GOMO Educational Services to provide student development services to grades 5 through 8 for the purposes of understanding the fundamental premise of acceptance to diversity, equity, and inclusion. Four onsite 45 minute sessions to occur in March 2023. Costs for these comprehensive services are not to exceed \$10,000.00. To be paid from account #20-280-100-300-30-000.**

7F **WHEREAS**, Policy No. 6471 “School District Travel” and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3 provide that the Fort Lee Board of Education shall establish in the annual school budget a maximum expenditure amount that may be allotted for travel and expense reimbursement; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **hereby establishes the school district travel maximum for the 2023-2024 school year at \$100,000.**

8F **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, **approves the attached Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Corrective Action Plan for the 2023-2024 school year** for submission to the Executive County Superintendent at the Bergen County Department of Education. **Attachment: SEMI CAP 23-24**

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, approves the following **resignations**:

RESIGNATIONS			
Employee	Position	Location	Effective Date
Stephani Fonseca	Paraprofessional	S2	3/14/23 - Declined Position
Brittany Ladato	Varsity Cheerleading Advisor	FLHS	3/8/23
Monica Lorences	Paraprofessional	S2	4/14/23

- 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, pending verification of employment:

APPOINTMENTS						
First Name	Last Name	Position	Loc	Position Control #	Annual Salary Prorated	Effective Date
Yesenia	Escobar	Paraprofessional	S2	02-9101-104	\$24,386.00	3/6/23 (Amended)
Sunny	Kim	Part Time (.83) Paraprofessional	S2	02-9101-65	\$24,386.00	3/20/23
Tze Ling (Pauline)	Pei	Part Time (.83) Paraprofessional	LFCIS	05-9101-48	\$24,386.00	3/27/23
Melissa	Thompson	Paraprofessional	S4	04-9101-102	\$24,386.00 (.83)	2/24/23 (Amended)
John	Urena	Custodian	LFCMS	06-9400-12	\$42,341.00 (Step 1)	3/17/23
Gloria	Vargas	Bus Driver	CO	00-9402-04	\$31,000.00	3/9/23 (Amended)

- 4P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the appointment of the following **Faculty Coordinators and Program Coordinators for the 2022-2023 school year**.

2022-2023 Faculty Coordinators/Program Coordinators				
Name	Department	Location	Class	Stipend
Peter Kraljic	Faculty Coordinator - ESY	District	N/A	\$5,000

- 5P **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	Type	New or Amend	Paid Leave	Unpaid Leave with benefits	Unpaid Leave No Benefits	Return Date
Rosa DiPuma	Paraprofessional	S2	Medical	Amend	3/13/23-4/7/23	N/A	N/A	4/10/23
Tracey O'Connell	Confidential Secretary to the Business Administrator	CO	Medical	Amend	3/28/23 - 4/4/23 (½)	N/A	4/4/23 (½) - 4/21/23	4/24/23

- 6P **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:

LEAVE REPLACEMENTS					
Name	Grade/ Subject	Loc	Salary	Effective Dates	Reason for opening
Briana Shuki	3rd Grade Teacher	S1	Continuous Assignment	9/1/22 - 6/30/23	Jessica Karoutsos (child care)
Caitlin Schiano	2nd Grade Teacher	S1	Continuous Assignment	9/1/22 - 6/30/23	Anastasia Findanis (child care)

- 7P **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 2022-2023 school year:

6th Period Stipends		
Lewis F. Cole Middle School		
First Name	Last Name	Department
Gene	Fusco	Special Education - Prorated 4/1/23 to 6/30/23
Angela	Papas	Special Education - Prorated 4/1/23 to 6/30/23
Elisa	Minissale	Special Education - Prorated 4/1/23 to 6/30/23
Dave	Fidel	Special Education - Prorated 4/1/23 to 6/30/23
Inne	Cho	Special Education - Prorated 4/1/23 to 6/30/23

POLICY

- 1POL **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 AND REGULATIONS**](#)

Policy/Reg No.	Topic
P 6471	School District Travel (M) (Revised)
R 6471	School District Travel (M) (Revised)
P 8140	Student Enrollments (M) (Revised)
R 8140	Enrollment Accounting (M) (Revised)
P 8330	Student Records (M) (Revised)
R 8330	Student Records (M) (Revised)

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Dr. Vincent Occhino

Dr. Vincent Occhino
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary

VO/toc
Attachments
03-15-23