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.

Monday, March 18, 2024

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/89842680962

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 11, 2024 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.

<u>MOTION TO RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION</u> - Immediately following Executive Session – Approximately 7:30 p.m.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

- HIB Report
- February 2024 Fire and Security Drills

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

<u>PUBLIC COMMENT - COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS LISTED ON TONIGHT'S</u> 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. If warranted, a response will be given after the three minutes.
- 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 4, 2024 Private Executive Meeting Minutes March 4, 2024						
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:						
	 The nature of the investigation; Whether the District found evidence of HIB; Whether discipline was imposed; 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 as outlined below:

<u>WORKSHOP</u>	BOARD MEMBER	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	AMOUNT PER PERSON
Garden State Coalition of Schools meeting	Paula Colbath	Wednesday April 17, 2024	160 West State Street, Trenton, New Jersey	-0-
Governance III Training	Kimberly Curry	Wednesday March 20, 2024	Virtual	-0-
Governance II Training	Kacy Knight	Wednesday April 17, 2024	Virtual	-0-
Governance I Training	Douglas Lopez	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday March 5-7, 2024	Virtual	-0-
Building a Diverse Staff to improve Equity and Student Outcomes	Holly Morell Kristen Richter Amy Ko-Tang	Thursday, March 14, 2024	Virtual	-0-

CURRIC	CULUM
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: 2024-03-18 CLASS TRIPS
2CUR	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following program for Summer 2024:
	 Summer 2024 Math Advancement Program for students entering grades 7 and 8 from Monday, July 8, 2024 through Friday, August 9, 2024 at Lewis F. Cole Middle School.
3CUR	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the attached agreement with Janine Standish Wellness, LLC., to conduct a student Wellness Assembly at School #1 on 4/16/24, School #2 on 4/22/24, School #3 on 3/26/24, and School #4 on 4/9/24, using account #20-280-200-300-00-000. Attachment: STANDISH WELLNESS PROPOSAL
FINANC	<u>E</u>
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 February 2024 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: SECRETARY REPORT FEBRUARY 2024; TREASURER REPORT FEBRUARY 2024
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 February 2024. 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: TRANSFER REPORT FEBRUARY 2024
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 bills list in the amount of \$3,776,704.23 for March 18, 2024 checks. Attachment: 2024-03-18 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 \$89,101.20 for March 18, 2024 checks. Attachment: 2024-03-18 CAFETERIA BILLS LIST
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 \$59.00 for March 18, 2024 checks. Attachment: 2024-03-18 ATHLETIC BILLS LIST

6F		ORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon endation of the Superintendent, accepts the following donations:						
			<u>DONATIONS</u>					
		Item	Amount/ Estimated Value	Donor	On Behalf Of			
		\$25.00 Acme gift cards	\$3,175.00	ACME's Nourishing Neighbors Program	Students			
		Check	\$2,000.00	Greater Fort Lee Chamber of Commerce	Academy of Finance			
7F	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 2024-2025 school year for submission to the Executive County Superintendent at the Bergen County Department of Education. Attachment: SEMI CAP 24-25							
8F	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the attached High School Master Schedule Proposal for POWER Educational Consultants, LLC., for \$9,800.00. Attachment: POWER EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANTS PROPOSAL							
9F	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the attached contract and rider submitted by Sylvan Learning Center to provide College Preparation Educational Tutoring Services to Fort Lee High School Students receiving Title I services, at a cost not to exceed \$43,500.00, to be paid from account #20-231-100-320-07-000. Attachment: SYLVAN LEARNING CENTER CONTRACT; SYLVAN LEARNING CENTER RIDER							
10F	recommer computer	ndation of the equipment as						

12F

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the adoption of the Tentative 2024-2025 School District Budget which includes an appropriation of surplus in the amount of \$2,697,821; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, includes in the Preliminary 2024-2025 Budget the adjustment for banked cap in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-10.1(b). The district has fully exhausted all eligible statutory spending authority and must increase the base budget in the amount of \$1,245,707 for the purpose of out -of-district tuition and transportation for special education students. The district intends to complete said purposes by June 2025; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education includes in the Preliminary 2024-2025 Budget the adjustment for increased costs of health benefits in the amount of \$499,066. The additional funds will be used to pay for the additional increases in health benefit premiums; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education includes in the Preliminary 2024-2025 Budget a \$700,000 withdrawal from the Maintenance Reserve Account for districtwide flooring repairs, repointing, concrete repairs, plumbing repairs, electrical, sewage, etc.; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education includes in the Preliminary 2024-2025 Budget a \$1,803,409 withdrawal from the Capital Reserve Account for the High School Shop and Training Program,

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

	<u>BUDGET</u>	LOCAL TAX LEVY
General Fund	\$90,167,089	\$75,579,188
Special Revenue Fund	\$ 2,092,538	\$0
Debt Service Fund	\$ 4,221,426	\$ 3,810,261
Total Base Budget	\$96,481,053	\$79,389,449

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3, a board of education must establish a maximum dollar limit for travel expenditure, as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq., and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Fort Lee Board of Education includes in the tentative budget a maximum travel expenditure in the amount of \$83,450 for SY 2024-2025. The maximum travel expenditure amount for SY 2023-2024 is \$85,069, of which, \$19,961.37 has been spent and \$5,554.30 is encumbered as of March 11, 2024.

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall track and record these costs to ensure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

13F	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED , that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves Environetics Group Architects (ENV) to complete an HVAC Condensation analysis of the Lewis F. Cole Intermediate School's classroom HVAC system. The services will be completed on an hourly basis, with a maximum of \$7,500.00, plus reimbursable expenses, from account #30-000-430-334-06-A15. <i>Attachment:</i> ENV PROPOSAL							
14F	recomm School	endation of the Dude Facil	SOLVED, that the Fo Superintendent, app lities and Brightl r the Fort Lee School I	roves i y-School	renewing the E I Dude Tecl	Brightly- hnology		
PERSO	NNEL							
1P 2P	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: 2024-03-18 STAFF TRIPS 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			
		Carly Adam	Speech Language Specialist	S2	5/13/24			
		Minah Kim	Marching Band Asst	FLHS	3/8/24			
		John Viola	Computer Technician	со	3/25/24			
		Gordon Yu	Marching Band Asst	FLHS	3/4/24			
	Effective date indicates the first day off payroll							

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following **appointments** for the 2023-2024 school year, pending verification of employment:

	<u>APPOINTMENTS</u>								
First Name	Last Name	Position	Loc	Position Control #	Annual Salary Prorated	Rationale	Effective Date		
Ye Ji	Ferrabolli	Teacher - English Special Education	FLHS	2400-050-1213-07	\$80,375.00 9/MA+60 Amend	Resignation	5/12/2024 Amend		
Michael	Gerst	Head Coach - Varsity Football	FLHS	N/A	\$8,933.00 1/I	Resignation	3/25/24		
Dally	Miranda	PT Paraprofessional ASD 2-3 1:1	S2	9101-070-217-04	\$25,079.00 prorated (.83) Step 1/Deg	Resignation	3/25/24 Amend		
Christina	Perla	Learning Disabilities Consultant Teacher	LFCMS	3118-100-219-01	\$117,652.00 17/MA+60	Resignation	4/15/24 Amend		

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
Annmarie LaRusso	Special Education Teacher	S2	Maternity	Amend	3/5/24 - 3/21/24	N/A	3/22/24 - 5/31/24	06/03/24
Jaritza Rojas	K-1 BD Special Ed Teacher	S2	Maternity	Amend	9/1/24 - 10/15/24	10/16/24 - 11/15/24	N/A	11/18/24
Kimberly Soto	Grade 2 Teacher	S4	Maternity	Amend	4/15/24 -6/7/24	6/10/24 - 12/31/24	N/A	1/2/25

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the appointment of leave replacements during the 2023-2024 school year, as outlined below:

LEAVE REPLACEMENTS						
Name	Grade/ Subject	Loc	Salary	Effective Dates	Reason for opening	
Diane Schusterman Bank	Gr 5-6 BSI Math Teacher	IS	\$59875.00 prorated (Leave Replacement Rate)	3/13/24 - 5/17/24 Amended	Genna Kornweiser	
Natalie Khatchadorian	Social Worker	MS	\$63,275.00 prorated	3/5/24 - 4/15/24 amended	Christina Ranaudo	

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 2023-2024 school year:

SUBSTITUTES

Diana Castillo Alsina - Substitute Teacher Tevhide Aliveren - Substitute Teacher Elsa Salazar - Substitute Teacher Meleika Amos - Substitute Teacher

7P THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the amended appointment of District Compliance Officers for the 2024 calendar year:

District Compliance Officers					
Compliance Position Employee Title					
District Test Coordinators	Cean Spahn	Media Specialist			
District Test Coordinators James Puliatte Teacher					

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 2023-2024 school year as follows:

Additional Home Instructor 2023-2024						
Name	Name Certification Area(s) Rate					
Denise Morales	\$45.00 per hour					

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the appointment of the following faculty members to administer AP exams outside of the normal work day, during the month of May 2024, at an hourly rate of \$45.00, with a maximum of 15 hours per faculty member, using account #11-401-100-100-000.

- Peter Romano
- Gabrielle Brown
- Diana Acosta
- Laura Caddell
- Priscilla Yoon
- Yvette Rodriguez
- Erin Powers
- Jodi Etra
- Ada Acosta
- Chloe Shannon
- Adam Shrager
- Jessica Bijari
- Matthew Cohn
- Kellie Lane
- Gary Glebas
- Fathia Balgahoom
- Stephen Wolowitz
- Alysia Ott
- Yaron Goldrich
- Doug Walden
- Tara Lawlor
- Kelly Horton

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following Affirmative Action Team to review the district's needs assessment and complete the Comprehensive Equity Plan for the 2024-2027 school years.

- Diane Collazo-Baker
- Kate Drumgoole
- Disha Patel
- Celeste Williams

P3319

11P THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the Title I ELA and Math tutoring at a rate of \$55.00 an hour and paid from account 20-231-100-101-06-000. Chloe Shannon Nicole Pacciani Heather Glickel-Maye 12P THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following additional appointment of an Athletic Game Worker for the 2023-2024 school year, to be paid at the rate of \$55.00 per game. They may work in the following capacities and will be reimbursed \$55.00 per event: Gate Personnel, Crowd Control, Clock Operator, Site Manager, Announcer. Brandon Ortiz **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: 2024-03-18 FIRST READING Policy/Reg No. Topic

Policy 3319

BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

Dina Messery

Dina Messery
SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

DM/is Attachments 03-18-24