

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

MINUTES

**PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING
OCTOBER 2, 2017
FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER
6:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER BY THE PRESIDENT

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mr. Sarnoff.

FLAG SALUTE

The Flag Salute was led by Mrs. Candace Romba.

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 June 9, 2017 and posted in the entrance hall of the Board Office, 2175 Lemoine Avenue; published in the Board's designated online media outlet/newspapers: The Record, The Star Ledger, Gold Coast Life; 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 will be broadcasted on local TV and the district's website at a future date.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mrs. Paula Colbath (*arrived at 6:48 p.m.*), Mrs. Han Silver, Mr. Michael Osso, Mr. Anthony Papavasiliou, Mrs. Candace Romba, Mr. Michael Rubino, Mr. David Sarnoff

Absent: Mrs. Holly Morell, Mr. Joseph Surace

Also Present: Mr. Kenneth Rota, Dr. Sharon Amato, Ms. Haquisha Taylor, Dennis McKeever, Esq.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Mrs. Romba, seconded by Mr. Rubino, at 6:30 p.m., to move into Executive Session.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 6-0.

The Board reconvened into the Public Meeting at 7:31 p.m.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Rota reported that there were six (6) HIB incidents. Three (3) were founded.

Mr. Rota reported on the EVVRS and HIB-ITP Reporting for Period 2 of the 2016/2017 School Year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None.

HEARING OF CITIZENS - QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS LISTED ON TONIGHT'S AGENDA AND ANY OTHER TOPIC OF CONCERN

MOTION by Mrs. Colbath, seconded by Mr. Rubino, at 7:36 p.m., to open the floor to the public.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 7-0.

MOTION by Mrs. Romba, seconded by Mr. Rubino, at 7:36 p.m., to close the floor to the public.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 7-0.

RESOLUTIONS

BOARD

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

Public Business Meeting Minutes	September 18, 2017
Private Executive Meeting Minutes	September 18, 2017

- 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.

MOTION by Mrs. Romba, seconded by Mrs. Han Silver, that the Board of Education approves items #1B, as amended, and #2B.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 7-0.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

1B&G THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following change order:

CHANGE ORDER SUMMARY SHEET	OWNER	Fort Lee Board of Education
	ARCHITECT	SSP Architectural Group
	CONTRACTOR	Dobco, Inc.
PROJECT NO. 14-8231	FIELD	Turner Construction Co.

PROJECT: Lewis F. Cole Middle School Additions and Alterations Phase 2
Date: September 5, 2017

CONTRACTOR	C.O. NO.	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	AMT APPLIED TO ALLOWANCE
Dobco, Inc.	CO-5	PCO-36 Fire Alarm System Re-Engineering	\$4,273.50	\$4,273.50
		TOTAL	\$4,273.50	

MOTION by Mr. Osso, seconded by Mrs. Romba, that the Board of Education approves item #1B&G.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 7-0.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

1CW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following appointment **as a student representative to the Fort Lee Board of Education** at public board meetings for the 2017-2018 school year:

Amr Ahmed (Sophomore)

MOTION by Mrs. Romba, seconded by Mrs. Han Silver, that the Board of Education approves item #1CW.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 7-0.

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

1CUR THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves **class trips** listed in the attached summary. [See Appendix Page 8](#)

2CUR THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **Public and Non-Public School Nursing Services Plan** for the 2017-2018 school year, as per the attached. [See Appendix Page 9](#)

- 3CUR THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, under recommendation of the Superintendent, approves a **Related Services Provider** to provide speech language services during a leave replacement as outlined below:

Austin Texas Learning Group, LLC (ATX Learning) 12613 Scofield Farms Drive Austin, TX 78727 (800) 846-5120 x103	Services: Rate for Services – SLP: Start Date: End Date: Service Time:	Speech Language Pathologist \$95 per hour October 2, 2017 December 21, 2017 4 days/24 hours per week
---	--	--

MOTION by Mrs. Romba, seconded by Mr. Rubino, that the Board of Education approves item #1CUR through #3CUR.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 7-0.

FINANCE

- 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 August 2017** 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. [See Appendix Page 18](#)
- 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 August 2017**. 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. [See Appendix Page 54](#)
- 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 \$3,929,035.88** for October 2017 checks. [See Appendix Page 56](#)
- 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 list in the amount of \$3,032.10** for September 2017 checks.
- 5F THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the **Board of Education**, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the following donations:

Item	Amount/ Estimated Value	Donor	On Behalf Of
1 Sony HDR-CX405/B Camcorder & Accessories	\$288.55	Anthony Papavasiliou 1083 Cumbermeade Road Fort Lee, NJ 07024	Fort Lee High School Filming of Marching Band Performances/Drills
Check	\$2,800.00	Charles Luppino 1265 – 15 th Street Fort Lee, NJ 07024	School No. 1 Replace Basketball Backboard & Rim (1 of 2)
Check from Red Robin Loyalty Program	\$6.26	The Kula Foundation 6600 Peachtree Dunwoody Road 600 Embassy Row Suite 255 Atlanta, GA 30328	Fort Lee High School Student Activities
TOTAL VALUE	\$3,094.81		

6F **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **2017-2019 Bloodborne Pathogen Program Agreement** between the Bergen County Department of Health Services and the Fort Lee Board of Education as per the attached. [See Appendix Page 86](#)

7F A **RESOLUTION** to terminate participation under the New Jersey State Health Benefits Program Act of the State of New Jersey for **Prescription Drug Coverage only**.

BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The Fort Lee Board of Education hereby **resolves to terminate its participation in the Local Employee Prescription Drug Plan** thereby canceling prescription drug coverage provided by the New Jersey State Health Benefits Program or the School Employees' Health Benefits Program (N.J.S.A. 52:14-17.25 et seq.) for all its active employees.
2. We shall notify all active employees of the date of their termination of coverage under the program.
3. We understand that all COBRA participants will be notified by the Division of Pensions and Benefits and advised to contact our office concerning a possible alternative prescription drug program.
4. We understand that this resolution shall take effect the first of the month following a 60-day period beginning with the receipt of the resolution by the State Health Benefits Commission or the School Employees' Health Benefits Commission.

8F **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the participation in the BeneCard Prescription Program, through a proposal from Brown and Brown Benefit Advisors, for a one-year period commencing on January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

9F **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **2018-2019 Budget Development Schedule** as per the attached. [See Appendix Page 94](#)

MOTION by Mrs. Romba, seconded by Mrs. Han Silver, that the Board of Education approves items #1F through #9F.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 7-0, with exception. Mr. Papavasiliou abstained on his name in #5F. Messrs. Sarnoff and Osso thanked the three donors in #5F.

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. [See Appendix Page 97](#)

2P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the **resignation of Christina Chandras as a Special Education Teacher at School No. 2**, effective November 26, 2017 or sooner.

- 3P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts, with regret, the **retirement of Librado Pena as a Part-Time Courier**, after dedicating 15 ½ years of service to the district, effective October 1, 2017.
- 4P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **appointment of Ezio Montorio, Jr. as a Physical Education Teacher at School No. 1** for the 2017-2018 school year, to be placed at Step 2, Class BA, on the 2015-2016 Teachers' Guide, at an annual salary of \$56,530 to be prorated, pending negotiations, effective December 4, 2017 or sooner.
- 5P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **appointment of additional Aides** for the 2017-2018 school year, as follows:

Appointment of Additional Aides for the 2017-2018 School Year (All Salaries are Prorated and Pending Negotiations)								
First Name	Last Name	Position	Loc	Step	Class	Annual Salary	Effective Date	Reason
Natalie	Katchadourian	PT Aide (.83)	S1	1	Degreed	\$21,019	10/3/17	Resignation of B. Rosa
Brianne	Heaney	PT Aide (.83)	S1	1	Degreed	\$21,019	10/3/17	IEP need
Anatoily	Alkhazov	PT Aide (.83)	MS	1	Degreed	\$21,019	10/3/17	IEP need

- 6P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **transfer of Staff Members for the 2017-2018 school year**, as outlined below:

Assignment Change for the 2017-2018 School Year					
First Name	Last Name	Position	Loc Change	Effective Date	Reason
Michael	Levy	Instructional Aide Grades 2-4 ASD to 2:1 Grade 6 LLD	S2	9-8-17	IEP Need

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

First Name	Last Name	Position	Loc	Type	New or Amended	Paid Leave	Unpaid Leave with benefits	Unpaid Leave No Benefits	Return Date
Allison	Artinger	Kindergarten Teacher	S4	Maternity	New	1/29/18-3/21/18	3/22/18-6/30/18	N/A	9/1/18
Alla	Brutter	Speech Specialist	S1	Medical	Amended	10/2/17-1/1/18	N/A	N/A	1/2/18
Marilyn	Saavedra	Paraprofessional	S2	FMLA	New	N/A	10/3/17-10/6/17	N/A	N/A
Maureen	Tropea	Aide	S1	Medical	Amended	9/5/17-9/29/17	N/A	N/A	10/2/17

- 8P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **appointment of leave replacements** during the 2017-2018 school year, as outlined below:

LEAVE REPLACEMENT						
FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	GRADE/ SUBJECT	SCHOOL	Salary	Effective Dates	Reason for opening
Alyson	Levine	Grade 1	S3	Sub pay for the first 10 days \$100 per day, day 11-60 \$110 per day, day 61+ at the daily rate equal to a BA, Step 1; No Benefits	Work days: 11-20-17 to 6-30-18	Maternity Leave Simone Ballance
Jocelyn	Levine	Grade 3	S3	Sub pay for the first 10 days \$100 per day, day 11-60 \$110 per day, day 61+ at the daily rate equal to a BA, Step 1; No Benefits	Work days: 11-16-17 to 6-30-18	Maternity Leave for Stacey Dee

- 9P **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 2017-2018 school year:

Lynne Hesney
Maria Leiva
Marilyn Saavedra

- 10P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **appointment of Building Technology Assistants** at a non-pensionable stipend of \$2,000 for the 2017-2018 school year:

Name	Location
Erika Cirone	School No. 1
Maria Castano	School No. 2
Marrietta Golenischew	School No. 3
Rachel Ventrella	School No. 4
Cean Spahn	Lewis F. Cole Middle School
Gabrielle Bernardo	Fort Lee High School
Klarissa Bruno	Fort Lee High School

- 11P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **appointment of additional Co-Curricular Advisors** for the 2017-2018 school year. All appointments are subject to completion of all personnel documentation and fingerprinting process, prior to starting of said activities. [See Appendix Page 99](#)

MOTION by Mrs. Han Silver, seconded by Mrs. Romba, that the Board of Education approve items #1P through #11P.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 7-0, for items #1P through #11P with exception. Mr. Osso abstained on one name (Gabriella Bernado) for item #10P.

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 and attached hereto: [Click here for 2017-10-02 #1POL Back-up](#)

Policy/Reg No.	Topic
P 2700	Services to Nonpublic School Students (M) (Revised)
P & R 7100	Long-Range Facilities Planning (M) (Revised)
P & R 7101	Educational Adequacy of Capital Projects (Revised)
P 7102	Site Selection and Acquisition (Revised)
R 7102	Site Selection and Acquisition (New)
P 7130	School Closing (Revised)
P 7300	Disposition of Property (Revised)
R 7300.1	Disposition of Instructional Property (Abolished)
R 7300.2	Disposition of Land (Revised)
R 7300.3	Disposition of Personal Property (Revised)
R 7300.4	Disposition of Federal Property (Revised)

MOTION by Mrs. Colbath, seconded by Mrs. Han Silver, that the Board of Education approves item #1POL.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Romba inquired about the status of School No. 3 parent complaints including donated water fountain installations, lack of heat, old carpets and multiple replacements of security guards.

Mr. Rota shared the agreement of the PTA with B&G (Scott Bendul) to minimize installation costs by having FLBOE employees install the fountains. Mr. Rota shared that a work-around was implemented to repair the antiquated electronic/pneumatic heating system due to the prohibitive costs of a complete replacement. Mr. Rota also shared that carpets had been replaced in hallways and one classroom. Mr. Rota also confirmed that there had been multiple replacements of security guards and will address this issue.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Rota reported that Ms. Rosemary Giacomelli, Fort Lee Elementary School No. 1 Principal, organized a Hurricane Relief Drive. Donations will be sent to a school in need in Florida. Mr. William Diaz, Fort Lee High School Assistant Principal, organized a Hurricane Relief Drive collecting water and supplies from the high school.

The Madonna 5-K Run was well-attended. Mr. Demba Mane, Fort Lee Boys Soccer Coach, and the entire soccer team were there from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Mrs. Romba recommends students receive community service hours for their contributions.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Papavasiliou, seconded by Mr. Rubino, to adjourn, 7:48 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 7-0.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Haquisha Q. Taylor

HAQUISHA Q. TAYLOR
SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

HQT/haa
10-11-2017