

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

MINUTES

**PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING
AUGUST 8, 2016
FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
6:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

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

FLAG SALUTE

The Flag Salute was led by Mr. Quraishi.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING 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, 2016 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, The Suburbanite; 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, Mrs. Esther Han Silver, Mrs. Holly Morell,
Mr. Michael Osso, Mr. Ammad Quraishi, Mr. Jeff Weinberg,
Mr. David Sarnoff

Absent: Mrs. Candace Romba, Mr. Joseph Surace

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Mrs. Han Silver, seconded by Mr. Quraishi, at 6:30 p.m., to move into Executive Session.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 7-0.

The Board reconvened into the Public Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Rota recognized Toma Takamatsu, School No. 3 student, who received a perfect score on the 2015-2016 Mathematical Olympiads for Elementary and Middle School Mathematics.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None.

MINUTES

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mr. Quraishi, that the Board of Education approves the following minutes:

Public Business Meeting Minutes	July 18, 2016
Private Executive Meeting Minutes	July 18, 2016

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

PUBLIC WORK SESSION

Mr. Sarnoff shared the resignation of Mr. Quraishi who is relocating for educational pursuits. Mr. Sarnoff remarked that while Ammad did not speak often, when he did speak, he expressed himself on complex issues. Mr. Sarnoff and the Board look forward to hearing great things about Ammad and wish him the best of luck.

Mrs. Morell stated that she was amazed to watch him in leadership and service roles at Fort Lee High School. She remarked how Mr. Quraishi has matriculated through our system and she wishes him the best in his endeavors.

Mr. Quraishi thanked everyone. He stated that he has grown in knowledge and exposure and that he is forever grateful. He felt like the Board was his second family and thanked them for the opportunity to serve.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation shall be governed by the following rules:

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.

HEARING OF CITIZENS

During this portion of the meeting, the residents are invited to address the Board with any questions, comments or concerns that may be in respect to the operation of their school.

MOTION by Mrs. Colbath, seconded by Mrs. Morell, to open the floor to the public, 7:38 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 7-0.

Three days after J. Fletcher Creamer surveyed her home, Mrs. Patty DiCostanzo asked for a copy of the survey. They shared that a copy is on file with them but not given to homeowner. Mrs. Patty DiCostanzo stated that she was disappointed in the progress of the construction and cited various issues and showed pictures taken of the areas near and around her home. Mrs. DiCostanzo did not hear the horn that warns of blasting this past Saturday. Her two year old granddaughter, who was at her home at the time, was afraid.

Mrs. Morell was unaware they were blasting on the weekend.

Mr. Rota stated that he would contact J. Fletcher Creamer. Mr. Rota also stated that he would follow-up with Messrs. Bendul and DeNichilo and get back to her.

Mrs. Morell thanked Bianca Stennett, School 4 teacher, for driving from Pennsylvania to come to the BOE meeting.

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Han Silver, to close the floor to the public, 7:52 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 7-0.

ALL RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

BOARD COMMITTEE

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Han Silver, that the Board of Education approves items #1B through #3B.

1B	RESOLUTION REGARDING SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT OF INCIDENTS OF HARASSMENT/INTIMIDATION/BULLYING
2B	AUTHORIZATION OF PAYMENT FOR COMPLETION OF MERIT GOALS FOR 2015-2016 FOR SUPERINTENDENT KENNETH J. ROTA
3B	ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION OF MR. AMMAD QURAISHI AS BOARD MEMBER

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 7-0, for items #1B and #2B. MOTION carried upon roll call vote, 5-1-1, for item #3B; Mrs. Morell voted no and Mr. Quraishi abstained.

B&G COMMITTEE

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Han Silver, that the Board of Education approves items #1B&G through #4B&G.

1B&G	INITIAL APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY INSTRUCTIONAL SPACE FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR AT SCHOOL NO. 4
2B&G	APPROVAL OF CONTINUED USE OF ALTERNATE METHOD OF COMPLIANCE OF TOILET ROOM FACILITIES FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR
3B&G	APPROVAL OF CONTINUED USE OF TEMPORARY INSTRUCTIONAL SPACE FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR
4B&G	APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDERS

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

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE (Mrs. Romba, Chairperson)

MOTION by Mr. Quraishi, seconded by Mrs. Morell, that the Board of Education approves items #1CUR through #6CUR.

1CUR	APPROVAL OF CLASS TRIPS AT NO COST TO THE DISTRICT
2CUR	PAYMENT OF HOME INSTRUCTION SERVICES
3CUR	APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL CURRICULUM WRITERS FOR 2016-2017
4CUR	APPROVAL OF DISTRICT CURRICULUM FOR 2016-2017
5CUR	APPROVAL TO ADOPT THE CURRICULUM TEXTBOOKS AND RESOURCES FOR USE DURING THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR
6CUR	APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-DISTRICT PLACEMENTS FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR

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

FINANCE COMMITTEE (Mr. Surace, Chairperson)

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mr. Weinberg, that the Board of Education approves items #1F through #4F.

1F	APPROVAL – CAFETERIA CLAIMS FOR JULY 2016 TOTALING \$75,333.65
2F	ACCEPTANCE OF 2016-2017 NCLB GRANT FUNDS AND PERMISSION TO SUBMIT APPLICATION
3F	ACCEPTANCE OF 2016-2017 IDEA GRANT FUNDS AND PERMISSION TO SUBMIT APPLICATION

4F	ACCEPTANCE OF EXTRAORDINARY AID FUNDS
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MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 7-0.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (Mrs. Morell, Chairperson)

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mr. Weinberg, that the Board of Education approves items #1P through #21P.

1P*	APPROVAL – STAFF TRIPS AND CONFERENCES AT A TOTAL COST TO THE DISTRICT NOT TO EXCEED \$99.44
2P	RESIGNATION OF STEFANIE SCICUTELLA AS AIDE AT SCHOOL NO. 2
3P	MATERNITY LEAVE FOR RACHEL HEALY AS A SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL
4P	MEDICAL LEAVE FOR LAURIE BUTLER AS CONFIDENTIAL HUMAN RESOURCE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT AT CENTRAL OFFICE
5P	APPOINTMENT OF GIANA DENTE AS ELEMENTARY TEACHER AT SCHOOL NO. 4 AND RESCINDING APPOINTMENT AS LEAVE REPLACEMENT AT SCHOOL NO. 4
6P	APPOINTMENT OF JACQUELINE TOZZI AS ELEMENTARY TEACHER AT SCHOOL NO. 4
7P	APPOINTMENT OF CARLIE VAN PATTEN AS TITLE I ENGLISH STRATEGIES TEACHER AT FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL
8P	APPOINTMENT OF MISHELL KWON AS ELEMENTARY TEACHER AT SCHOOL NO. 3
9P	APPOINTMENT OF HEESEONG LIM AS PART-TIME KOREAN TEACHER AT FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL
10P	APPROVAL OF CHANGE IN ASSIGNMENT FOR HELENE AZIZO AS A 1:1 AIDE FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR
11P	APPOINTMENT OF BERENICE ROSA AS 1:1 AIDE FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR AT SCHOOL NO. 1
12P	APPROVAL OF LEAVE REPLACEMENTS DURING 2016-2017
13P	TRANSFER OF STAFF MEMBERS
14P	APPROVAL OF JOB DESCRIPTION FOR SCHOOL SECURITY OFFICER
15P	START DATE ADJUSTMENT FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF LAMEKA AUGUSTIN AS ASSISTANT BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR
16P	SICK DAY PAYOUT FOR 2015-2016 RETIREES
17P	VACATION DAY PAYOUT FOR RETIREE YAN HARUN AS CUSTODIAN AT FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL

18P	APPROVAL OF FIELDWORK PLACEMENTS DURING THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR
19P	APPOINTMENT OF HOME INSTRUCTORS FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR
20P	APPOINTMENT OF JAIME CANGIALOSI-MURPHY AS AFFIRMATIVE ACTION OFFICER FOR 2016-2017
21P	APPOINTMENT OF DISTRICT COORDINATORS FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR

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

POLICY (Mrs. Colbath, Chairperson)

MOTION by Mrs. Colbath, seconded by Mrs. Morell, that the Board of Education approves items #1POL and #2POL.

1POL	FIRST READING OF POLICY/REGULATION UPDATES
2POL	SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF POLICY AND REGULATION NO. 5111 – ELIGIBILITY OF RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT STUDENTS (REVISED)

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

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS

Board President Sarnoff congratulated community on its first “Fort Lee Night Out.” Mr. Sarnoff further congratulated Fort Lee Police Department, Mr. Osso for his assistance in organizing the event and Superintendent Rota for manning a Board of Education table along with a few Board members.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Han Silver, to adjourn, 7:58 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 7-0.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



HAQUISHA Q. TAYLOR
SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

HQT/haa
08-09-16