

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

**MINUTES**

**PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 6, 2016  
FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER  
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. Surace.

**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, Mrs. Candace Romba, Mr. Joseph Surace, Mr. Jeff Weinberg, Mr. David Sarnoff

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION #1**

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

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

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

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

Mr. Rota reported on the Fire & Security Drills for July/August 2016 and the School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act for 2015/16. Mr. Rota then introduced the Board candidates.

**HEARING OF CITIZENS – BOARD CANDIDATE**

The two candidates for the Board vacancy, Mr. Rubino and Mr. Liapes were asked questions by individual Board members.

MOTION by Mrs. Romba, seconded by Mr. Weinberg, to open the floor to the public, 7:51 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

The following people spoke in favor of Mr. Liapes: Mrs. Kokkinos, Mrs. Garcia, Dr. Levinson and Mr. Mertens.

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Romba, to close the floor to the public, 7:59 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION #2**

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Han Silver, at 8:00 p.m., to move into Executive Session for discussion of two candidates.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

The Board reconvened into the Public Meeting at 8:15 p.m.

**BOARD NOMINATION**

MOTION by Mrs. Colbath, seconded by Mr. Weinberg, to open to nominations.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

Mr. Sarnoff called for nominations to fill the vacancy.

Mrs. Colbath nominated Mr. Liapes. Mrs. Morell seconded the nomination.

Mr. Weinberg nominated Mr. Rubino, Mr. Osso seconded the nomination.

The voting on the nominations was as follows:

Mr. Liapes – Yes - Mrs. Colbath, Mrs. Morell, Mr. Surace

Mr. Rubino – Yes - Mrs. Han Silver, Mr. Osso, Mrs. Romba, Mr. Weinberg, Mr. Sarnoff

The voting was 5-3 in favor of Mr. Rubino.

Mr. Sarnoff announced the decision and asked Mr. Rubino to come forward to be sworn in. Mr. Rubino was administered the Oath of Office by Ms. Taylor, Board Secretary.

**PUBLIC WORK SESSION**

Committee Reports – Policy Committee may meet to review Eligibility of Resident/Non-Resident Students Policy.

**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. Han Silver, to open the floor to the public, 8:19 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

None.

MOTION by Mrs. Colbath, seconded by Mr. Weinberg, to close the floor to the public, 8:19 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

**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.

<b>1B</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF AUGUST 22, 2016 BOARD MEETING MINUTES – PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING AND PRIVATE MEETING MINUTES</b>
<b>2B</b>	<b>EDUCATIONAL PLACEMENT SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT FOR STUDENT ID #20060081</b>
<b>3B Walk-In</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT OF BOARD MEMBER TO FILL VACANCY</b>

MOTION carried upon roll call vote, 5-0-3, for item #1B; Mrs. Colbath, Mrs. Romba and Mr. Weinberg abstained. MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0, for item #2B. MOTION carried upon roll call vote, 7-1, for item #3B; Mrs. Morell voted no.

**B&G COMMITTEE (Mr. Osso, Chairperson)**

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Han Silver, that the Board of Education approves items #1B&G and #2B&G.

<b>1B&amp;G</b>	<b>INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR 2016-2017</b>
<b>2B&amp;G</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT OF ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR FOR 2016-2017</b>

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (Mr. Sarnoff, Chairperson)**

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

<b>1CW</b>	<b>SUBMISSION OF SELF-ASSESSMENT FOR DETERMINING GRADES UNDER THE ANTI-BULLYING BILL OF RIGHTS ACT</b>
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MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0.

**CURRICULUM COMMITTEE (Mrs. Romba, Chairperson)**

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Han Silver, that the Board of Education approves items #1CUR through #7CUR.

<b>1CUR</b>	<b>PAYMENT OF HOME INSTRUCTION SERVICES</b>
<b>2CUR</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM</b>
<b>3CUR</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF BERGEN COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICES IDEA CONTRACT FOR 2016-2017 (as amended)</b>
<b>4CUR</b>	<b>PROPOSAL FROM PATRICIA VITALE-REILLY CONSULTING FOR LITERACY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING FOR K-3 TEACHERS FOR 2016-2017</b>
<b>5CUR</b>	<b>PROPOSAL FROM PATRICIA VITALE-REILLY CONSULTING FOR LITERACY TRAINING FOR ADMINISTRATORS, BSI READING TEACHERS AND GRADE 3 CLASSROOM TEACHERS FOR 2016-2017</b>
<b>6CUR</b>	<b>TPRS PUBLISHING, INC. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORLD LANGUAGE TRAINING FOR 2016-2017</b>
<b>7CUR</b>	<b>PROPOSAL FROM CENTER FOR APPLIED LINGUISTICS (CAL) FOR SHELTERED INSTRUCTION OBSERVATION PROTOCOL (SIOP) TRAINING FOR TEACHERS FOR 2016-2017</b>

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE (Mr. Surace, Chairperson)**

MOTION by Mr. Surace, seconded by Mrs. Morell, that the Board of Education approves items #1F through #7F.

<b>1F</b>	<b>APPROVAL – CURRENT BILLS LIST TOTALING \$3,817,904.83</b>
<b>2F</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF CLIFFSIDE PARK TRANSPORTATION CONTRACTS FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR</b>
<b>3F</b>	<b>TLC/THE LEARNING CENTER FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN TRANSPORTATION CONTRACTS FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR</b>
<b>4F</b>	<b>ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS</b>
<b>5F</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT OF MR. ANTHONY PANICO AS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISOR FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR</b>
<b>6F</b>	<b>ACCEPTANCE OF 2015-2016 NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION FUNDING</b>
<b>7F</b>	<b>ACCEPTANCE OF NON-PUBLIC FUNDS FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR</b>

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0.

**FINANCE - Walk-In**

MOTION by Mrs. Colbath, seconded by Mr. Weinberg, that the Board of Education approves item #8F.

<b>8F Walk-In</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF NON-RESIDENT TUITION-STUDENT AGREEMENT FOR TJN FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR</b>
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MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (Mrs. Morell, Chairperson)**

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Han Silver, that the Board of Education approves items #1P through #7P. Item #8P was PULLED.

<b>1P*</b>	<b>APPROVAL - STAFF TRIPS AND CONFERENCES TOTALING \$345.61</b>
<b>2P</b>	<b>RESIGNATION OF MARK NERSESIAN AS PART-TIME PHYSICAL EDUCATION AIDE AT SCHOOL NO. 3</b>
<b>3P</b>	<b>RESIGNATION OF CASEY BYRON AS AIDE AT SCHOOL NO. 2</b>
<b>4P</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT OF SOO MEE MA AS SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER AT FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL</b>
<b>5P</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL AIDES FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR</b>
<b>6P</b>	<b>AMENDED MATERNITY LEAVE FOR JENNIFER LEYTON AS AN ART TEACHER AT SCHOOL NO. 3</b>
<b>7P</b>	<b>MATERNITY LEAVE FOR KRISTEN GAUGER AS A PART-TIME BSI MATH TEACHER AT SCHOOL NO. 3</b>

<b>8P PULLED</b>	<b>ALLOCATION OF 6TH PERIOD STIPEND FOR GABRIELLA BERNARDO FOR WORLD LANGUAGE AT FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL</b>
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MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0, for items #1P through #7P.

MOTION by Mrs. Colbath, seconded by Mr. Weinberg, that the Board of Education approves items #9P through #14P.

<b>9P</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF LEADERSHIP INTERNSHIP DURING THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR</b>
<b>10P</b>	<b>SALARY ADJUSTMENTS FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR</b>
<b>11P*</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT OF CO-CURRICULAR PERSONNEL FOR 2016-2017</b>
<b>12P</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL SUBSTITUTES FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR</b>
<b>13P</b>	<b>RESIGNATION OF KRIS DEBLASIO AS PART-TIME SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL</b>
<b>14P</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT OF DONALD PICINICH AS PART-TIME 3/5<sup>th</sup> SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL</b>

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0, for items #9P, #10P and #12P through #14P.

MOTION carried upon roll call vote, 7-1, for item #11P, with exception. Mr. Osso abstained on one name. Mrs. Morell voted no.

**OLD BUSINESS** – None.

**NEW BUSINESS** – Mr. Rota gave updates on student enrollment and construction.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Mr. Surace, seconded by Mrs. Colbath, to adjourn, 9:13 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

  
**HAQUISHA Q. TAYLOR**  
 SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

HQT/haa  
 09-09-16