

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

MINUTES

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

CALL TO ORDER BY THE PRESIDENT

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Mr. Sarnoff.

FLAG SALUTE

The Flag Salute was led by Mrs. Morell.

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, 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 (formerly 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. Papavasiliou, Mrs. Candace Romba,
Mr. Michael Rubino (*arrived at 6:55 p.m.*), Mr. David Sarnoff

Absent: Mr. Joseph Surace

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION #1

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Romba, at 6:34 p.m., to move into Executive Session.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 7-0.

The Board reconvened into the Public Meeting at 7:35 p.m.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Rota reported on the following:

- HIB Report – 3 investigations, 1 founded
- EVVRS & HIB-ITP Quarterly Report
- Fire & Security Drills reported

Mr. Rota recognized students whose drawings were selected to be included in the County Calendar. Mr. Jay Berman, School No. 3 Principal, shared that the County had 20 finalists – three of which were selected from Fort Lee. Ms. Jen Leyton, School No. 3 Art Teacher, was thanked for her work assisting the students with their calendar drawing entries. Mr. Rota recognized the Athletic Booster Club for their generous donations including state-of-the-art equipment and for their overall support of Fort Lee Athletics

Mr. Sarnoff thanked Mr. Howard Pearl for his athletic booster club fundraising efforts.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Negotiation Committee - Mrs. Han Silver reported that Negotiation Committee met with FLEA and factfinder on 1/26/17 for. The next meeting is scheduled for 4/20/17.

BOARD COMMENTS ON AGENDA

Mrs. Candace Romba inquired about request for Board approval of November leave on the current agenda. Mr. Rota shared that the leave request is an amendment to a previously approved leave request.

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. Romba, seconded by Mrs. Morell, at 7:43 p.m., to open the floor to the public.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

Mr. Michael Sharp – commented that he and his wife are dissatisfied with their son's 4th grade teacher at School No. 4. He cited various reasons for their dissatisfaction.

Mrs. Sharp – commented that she and her husband are dissatisfied with their son's 4th grade teacher at School No. 4. She cited various reasons for their dissatisfaction.

Mr. Park – commented that he is dissatisfied with his son's 4th grade teacher at School No. 4. He cited various reasons for his dissatisfaction.

Mr. Uda – commented that he is dissatisfied with his daughter's 4th grade teacher at School No. 4. He cited various reasons for his dissatisfaction.

Mr. Sarnoff responded that Board is prohibited from commenting on personnel matters in public.

Mr. Pearl – if we want students to believe that it is a privilege and responsibility to vote, it must be taught to them while they are young. Please consider reinstalling election at School No. 1 with no interference from staff and/or administrators.

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Romba, to close the floor to the public, 8:07 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

PUBLIC WORK SESSION

RESOLUTIONS

<u>BOARD</u>					
1B	<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, approves the following minutes:</p> <table><tr><td>Public Business Meeting Minutes</td><td>January 17, 2017</td></tr><tr><td>Private Executive Meeting Minutes</td><td>January 17, 2017</td></tr></table>	Public Business Meeting Minutes	January 17, 2017	Private Executive Meeting Minutes	January 17, 2017
Public Business Meeting Minutes	January 17, 2017				
Private Executive Meeting Minutes	January 17, 2017				
2B	<p>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</p> <p>WHEREAS, the Board has had the opportunity to review the Superintendent's recommendations with respect to the incident(s) of HIB.</p> <p>NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board accepts the Superintendent's recommendations.</p> <p>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:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">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. <p>MOTION by Mrs. Romba, seconded by Mrs. Morell, that the Board of Education approves items #1B and #2B.</p> <p>MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0.</p>				
<u>CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION</u>					
1CUR	<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves class trips listed on the attached summary. See Appendix Page 8</p>				
2CUR	<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves Patricia Vitale-Reilly Consulting for 2 days of professional development training to provide teachers in Kindergarten through grade 2 with support in the teaching of reading for a total cost of \$3,200 for Spring 2017.</p> <p>MOTION by Mrs. Romba, seconded by Mrs. Han Silver, that the Board of Education approves items #1CUR through #4CUR.</p>				

	MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0, for items #1CUR through #4CUR.												
<u>FINANCE</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 of December 2016 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 9												
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 December 2016. 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 41												
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 \$7,049,159.30 for February 2017 checks. See Appendix Page 43												
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 \$112,557.48 for January 2017 checks.												
5F	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the contract with Fiesta Catering for the Fort Lee High School Academic Awards Dinner 2017 to be held on Tuesday, May 23, 2017 at a price of \$30.38 per person.												
6F	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the following donation: <table><tr><td>Item</td><td>Amount/ Estimated Value</td><td>Donor</td><td>On Behalf Of</td></tr><tr><td>Check</td><td>\$5,000</td><td>NJ Onnuri Community Church</td><td>Lewis F. Cole Middle School</td></tr><tr><td>TOTAL VALUE</td><td>\$5,000</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	Item	Amount/ Estimated Value	Donor	On Behalf Of	Check	\$5,000	NJ Onnuri Community Church	Lewis F. Cole Middle School	TOTAL VALUE	\$5,000		
Item	Amount/ Estimated Value	Donor	On Behalf Of										
Check	\$5,000	NJ Onnuri Community Church	Lewis F. Cole Middle School										
TOTAL VALUE	\$5,000												
7F	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to enter into a contract with Educational Data Services Inc., for the 2017-2018 school year as follows: <table><tr><td>2017-2018</td><td>Licensing and Maintenance Fee</td><td>\$8,080</td></tr><tr><td>2017-2018</td><td>Right to Know</td><td>\$5,880</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td></td><td>\$13,960</td></tr></table> <p>MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Romba, that the Board of Education approves items #1F through #7F.</p> <p>MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0, with one exception on #3F. Mr. Osso abstained on one name.</p>	2017-2018	Licensing and Maintenance Fee	\$8,080	2017-2018	Right to Know	\$5,880	Total		\$13,960			
2017-2018	Licensing and Maintenance Fee	\$8,080											
2017-2018	Right to Know	\$5,880											
Total		\$13,960											

<u>PERSONNEL</u>								
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 74							
2P	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts, with regret, the retirement of Robert Aughey as a Health/PE Teacher at Fort Lee High School, after dedicating 37 years of service to the district, effective July 1, 2017.							
3P	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts, with regret, the retirement of Barbara Pitocco, Social Worker for the Child Study Team, after dedicating 29 years of service to the district, effective July 1, 2017.							
4P	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the appointment of Chloe Bass as a Title I Mathematics Teacher at Fort Lee High School for the 2016-2017 school year, to be placed at Step 1, Class BA, on the 2015-2016 Teachers' Guide, at an annual salary \$56,030.00, to be prorated, pending negotiations, effective February 7, 2017, due to the transfer of Kevin Ware.							
5P	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the appointment of an additional Aide for the 2016-2017 school year, as follows:							
Appointment of Additional Aides for the 2016-2017 School Year (All Salaries are Prorated and Pending Negotiations)								
First Name	Last Name	Position	Loc	Step	Class	Annual Salary	Effective Date	Reason
Joanna	Papoulis	PT 1:1 Aide (.83)	S3	1	Degreed	\$21,019	2/7/17	IEP Need

6P	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following leaves:								
Employee First Name	Last Name	Position	Loc	Type	New or Amended	Paid Leave	Unpaid Leave with Benefits	Unpaid Leave No Benefits	Return Date
Helen	Altamura	Confidential Secretary	CO	Medical Leave	New	11/30/16-12/16/16	N/A	N/A	12/19/16
Christen	Cohn	K Teacher	S4	MLR	Amended	1/2/17-1/30/17	1/31/17-4/3/17	N/A	4/4/17
Rose	Cuccaro	School Nurse	S1	Medical Leave	New	2/13/17-3/10/17	N/A	N/A	3/13/17
Brandon	Eldridge	PT Paraprofessional	S4	Personal	New	N/A	N/A	1/23/17-6/30/17	9/1/17
Rachel	Healy	Special Ed Teacher	MS	MLR	Amended	12/19/16 - 1/31/17	2/1/17-4/4/17	N/A	4/5/17
Steffanie	Boonstra Honore	Paraprofessional	S2	MLR	New	3/31/17-4/24/17	4/25/17-6/30/17	N/A	9/1/17
Mark	Leonard	ESL Teacher	S4	Medical Leave	New	12/16/16 -1/27/17	N/A	N/A	1/30/17

	Raul	Sanchez	Maintenance	B&G	Medical Leave	Amended	9/12/16-2/10/17	N/A	N/A	2/13/17
	Randy	Schwartz	1st Grade Teacher	S4	Medical Leave	New	2/9/17 - 2/28/17	3/1/17-3/3/17	N/A	3/6/17
	Karen	Simone-Osso	K Teacher	S1	MLR	New	04/21/17-5/22/17	5/23/17-6/30/17	N/A	9/1/17

7P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the completion of internships, as outlined below:**

Referring University	Name	Title	Subject Area	Duration	Location Placed	Cooperating Staff Member
Seton Hall University	Peter Crawley	Supervisor	Education Leadership (School Administrator)	150 hours during Spring 2017	Central Office	Dr. Sharon Amato
New Jersey City University	Brianne Baker	FLHS English Teacher	Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant (LDT-C)	Fall 2017	FLHS/ CST	Marilyn Lopez

8P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the appointment of the following as an additional certificated **Home Instructor** for the 2016-2017 school year at the rate of \$45.00 per hour:**

Shannon Johnson

9P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following document translators as outlined below:**

Name	Assignment	Rate/Hours	Total Not to Exceed
Stephen Dominguez & Suzanne Elkechen	Translation of the ELA Portfolio document page 1-24 in Spanish	\$45 an hour; maximum of 25 hours. (They will split the hours but it will not exceed 25.)	\$1,125
Suzanne Elkechen	Translation of 2 student answers each	\$45 an hour; maximum of 5 hours per student	\$450
Lisandra Hernandez	Translation of 2 student answers each	\$45 an hour; maximum of 5 hours per student	\$450
Silvana Fardos	Translation of the ELA Portfolio document page 1-24 in Arabic (\$45 an hour; max of 25 hours) and translation of the student answers	\$45 an hour; maximum of 25 hours	\$1,125
		\$45 an hour; maximum of 5 hours per student	\$225
TOTAL			\$3,375

11P

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the payment to the following mentors for the compensation of mentoring services with the funds previously payroll deducted from the mentees as outlined below:

Mentor	Mentee	Type	Mentor Period		Paid to Mentor
Michelle Mulliken	Marissa Hogan	CEAS	9/1/2016	12/31/2016	\$220.00
Philip Zappel	Brianna Mattessich	CEAS	9/1/2016	10/14/2016	\$82.50

12P

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following teachers as tutors for the EIS Homework Club, a program to assist "at-risk" students in Grades 3-6, during the 16-17 school year to be paid a stipend of \$45.00 per hour, to be funded by IDEA/EIS funding, for a total not to exceed \$22,400.

Location	Name
School No. 1	Genna Kornweiser Kaitlyn Skelley Maria Rivera Sabina Datwani
School No. 3	Kim Kellas Alycia Adams
School No. 4	Carrie Hodge Melanie Markarian Rachel Ventrella

13P

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the placement of the following Student Teachers and Student Practicum Candidates during the Spring 2017 semester:

Referring University	Student Name	Type of Placement	Subject Area	# Hours	Months From-To	School Placed	Cooperating Teacher
Montclair State University	Chelsea Clark	Fieldwork	Special Education	75 Hrs.	2/7 - 3/31/2017	School No. 4	J. LaRusso
Montclair State University	Jose Romero	Student Teaching	Music	12 Wks.	1/23 - 3/17/2017	High School {Location Revision}	L. Hernandez
Montclair State University	Jose Romero	Student Teaching	Music	7 Wks.	3/20 - 5/12/2017	School No. 1 {Location Revision}	Welte & Picone

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mr. Rubino, that the Board of Education approves items #1P through #13P.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0, with exception on #6P. Mr. Osso abstained on one name.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Osso stated that there should be means for students to view the inauguration for presidential elections. Mr. Osso stated that student government leaders should be elected as they have been in the past, by students and not appointed by staff, administrators or parents.

Mr. Papavasiliou shared that there were displays put up of one candidate and if any candidate is displayed, all candidates should be displayed.

Sunny Son shared that, in a Government class, Ms. Capalbo's students were required to watch the inauguration.

Mrs. Morell shared that AOF Shark Tank will be held on Thursday, February 16th. It tends to be interesting and informative.

Mr. Rota shared that Fort Lee Recreation has requested BOE provide a security guard for crowd control at Saturday games at the middle school. Board consensus is that we would be establishing a precedence to provide security at all recreation games. Therefore, the BOE cannot grant the request at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #2

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Han Silver, at 8:35 p.m., to move into Executive Session.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

The Board reconvened into the Public Meeting at 9:05 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Romba, to adjourn, 9:05 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Haquisha Q. Taylor

HAQUISHA Q. TAYLOR
SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

HQT/haa