

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

MINUTES

**PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING
APRIL 17, 2017
FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
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 Mr. Papavasiliou.

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 April 12, 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 6:51 p.m.*), Mrs. Esther Han Silver, Mrs. Holly Morell, Mr. Michael Osso, Mr. Anthony Papavasiliou, Mrs. Candace Romba, Mr. Michael Rubino, Mr. Joseph Surace, Mr. David Sarnoff

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mr. Papavasiliou, 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 7:14 p.m.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Rota reported that there were five HIB Reports and two were founded.

School Performance Reports were recently released. Dr. Amato and Mr. Brennan presented 2016 PARCC scores. Dr. Amato and Mr. Brennan stated that Fort Lee students consistently

meet or exceed expectations at a higher rate than the State in ELA. There was a high rate of participation in all schools. We have much to be proud of.

Fire & Security Drills were conducted for March 2017.

The following student winter athletes/teams were recognized:

- Girls Winter Track – 2017 Big North American League Champions
- Boys Winter Track – 2017 Big North American League Champions
- Boys Winter Track Coach Daniel Cirone - North Jersey Coach of the Year
- Student Tahj Martin – 1st Team All County for Winter Track
- Bowling – 2017 Big North American League Champions
- Student David Grant – 1st Team All County and 3rd Team for Bowling
- Boys Basketball Coach James Puliatte - 2017 Big North American Coach of the Year
- Girls Basketball Coach Anastasia Findanis - 2017 Big North American Coach of the 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. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Colbath, at 8:02 p.m., to open the floor to the public.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 9-0.

Mr. Howard Lipoff, Mr. Kevin Oliver, Ms. Cean Spahn, Ms. Erin Powers and Mr. Adrian Rodriguez spoke on behalf of FLEA requesting that the FLBOE settle their expired contract.

Mr. George Porto, resident, shared his perspective on the 2017-2018 budget as it relates to settling the FLEA contract.

Mr. Alex Floratos, resident, inquired about monies budgeted for employees who subsequently retire.

Student Representative Joon Shin spoke about the upcoming Spring Concert in May; the last rehearsal is this week. Junior Class is planning Open MIC Night and Car Wash fundraiser. AP students are prepping for the upcoming AP exams. Sophomores and Juniors are getting ready for upcoming NHS induction ceremony.

MOTION by Mrs. Colbath, seconded by Mrs. Morell, at 8:45 p.m., to close the floor to the public.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 9-0.

RESOLUTIONS

BOARD

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

Public Business Meeting Minutes
Private Executive Meeting Minutes

April 3, 2017
April 3, 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. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Romba, that the Board of Education approve items #1B & #2B.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 9-0.

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 7](#)

2CUR THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **following out-of-district placements for the 2016-2017 school year**.

Student	Placement	Dates	Tuition/Costs
#20060075	Transfer from Sage Day to Shepard Preparatory High School, Morristown, NJ	4/4/17 – June 2017	Annual tuition cost of \$50,691 (\$277 per diem for 49 days) prorated to \$13,573. Transportation costs @ \$168 per diem for 49 days totaling \$8,232.
#19100027	Holmstead School Ridgewood, NJ	4/6/17 – 6/21/17	Annual tuition cost of \$51,219 (\$284.55 per diem for 46 days) prorated to \$13,089.30. Transportation costs @ \$58.00 per diem for 46 days totaling \$2,668.

3CUR THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, authorizes **Sally Macaluso, Special Education Preschool Teacher at School No. 2, to conduct a research study** for her thesis for her Masters of Education in Curriculum & Learning, Early Childhood Concentration at William

Paterson University entitled *"How Yoga and Aromatherapy Practices Support Self-Regulation in Preschool Students in Self-Contained Classroom."*

4CUR THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **establishment of a Special Education Program for a 7th Grade Learning and Language Disabilities (LLD) Class** at Fort Lee Public Schools for the 2017-2018 school year for submission to the Bergen County Supervisor of Child Study.

5CUR THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **reclassification of a Special Education Program from a Middle School Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) to a Middle School Multiply Disabled (MD) Program** at Fort Lee Public Schools for the 2017-2018 school year for submission to the Bergen County Supervisor of Child Study.

6CUR THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **amended 2017-2018 District Calendar** as per the attached. This resolution supersedes Resolution No. 28273 dated March 6, 2017. [See Appendix Page TBD](#)

MOTION by Mrs. Romba, seconded by Mr. Rubino, that the Board of Education approves items #1CUR through #5CUR. Item #6CUR was **TABLED** for further discussion.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 9-0, for items #1CUR, #2CUR, #4CUR & #5CUR. MOTION carried upon roll call vote, 8-0-1, for item #3CUR; Mr. Surace abstained.

FINANCE

1F 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 \$884,812.03** for April 2017 checks. [See Appendix Page 8](#)

2F THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, authorizes the **participation in a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Federal Government General Services Administration (GSA)**, Contract Number GS-35F-0220R, for the purchase of goods and services with Boards of Educations to utilize administrative purchasing services and facilities to effect substantial economies in the purchase of work, materials and supplies.

3F WHEREAS, Federal Government General Services Administration (GSA) is a cooperative purchasing organization under Contract Number GS-35F-0220R that has competitively bid a contract with Millennium Communications Group Inc., for the installation of Video Surveillance Equipment at the Lewis F. Cole Middle School; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, authorizes to procure **all labor, materials and licensing for the installation of Video Surveillance Equipment at Lewis F. Cole Middle School from Millennium Communication Group, Inc., at a cost not to exceed \$45,900.**

MOTION by Mr. Surace, seconded by Mrs. Morell, that the Board of Education approves items #1F through #3F.

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 9-0, with exception on #1F. Mr. Osso abstained on one name.

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 20](#)
- 2P THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts, with regret, the **retirement of Francesca Manente as an Aide at School No. 2**, after dedicating 13 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 Pamela Angelini as a School Nurse at School No. 2**, after dedicating 7 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 return of** Employee #6122, effective April 21, 2017.
- 5P 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
Angela	Angelidis	3rd Grade Teacher	3	Medical	Amended	3/22/17 - 4/18/17	N/A	N/A	4/19/17
Gabrielle	Bernardo	Italian	HS	Medical	Amended	2/24/17- 3/28/17	3/30/17- 4/28/17	NA	5/1/17
Tahreen	Chowdhury	Physics	HS	Maternity	New	6/20/17- 6/26/17 & 9/1/17	9/2/17- 12/31/17	N/A	1/2/18

- 6P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the appointment of leave replacements during the 2016-2017 school year, as outlined below:

LEAVE REPLACEMENTS						
FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	GRADE/ SUBJECT	SCHOOL	Salary	Effective Dates	Reason for opening
Annmarie	Tarabola	Kindergarten	S1	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	(Additional assignment) Work days: 4/21/17 – 6/30/17	Maternity Leave for Karen Simone-Osso
Brunella	Brunetti-Colatruglio	Italian	HS	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: 3/27/17 - 5/2/17	Amended Medical Leave for Gabrielle Bernardo

- 7P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the **transfer of a Staff Member for the 2016-2017 school year**, effective April 21, 2017, as outlined below:

Name	Transfer From		Transfer To	
Kathleen Pastena	1:1 Aide	Lewis F. Cole Middle School	1:1 Aide	School No. 4

- 8P **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 2016-2017 school year:

Margaret Ahn	Maritza McConneghey
Maibel Botros	Saba Rahwar
Anice Cornejo	Arlettis Rosa
Nicole Diakomihalis	Yana Ruban
Caitlin Feeney	Luljeta Sapunxhiu
Darae Kim	Sunny Son
Pooja Kothari	Saloni Varaiya

- 9P **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fort Lee Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the appointment of **Jaime Cangialosi-urphy as the Affirmative Action Officer** for the 2017-2018 school year.

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

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 9-0, with exception on items #5P & #6P. Mr. Osso abstained on one name.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Rota discussed the two drafts of the 2017-2018 calendar. Both drafts include a full day off. Draft #1 includes a full day off on October 9th for Columbus Day with the last day of instruction/school being Tuesday, June 26th. Draft #2 includes a half-day session for students/staff on October 9th for Columbus Day with the last day of instruction/school being Friday,

June 22nd. Mr. Surace has a problem with draft #2 because of the half-day on Columbus Day. Discussion ensued. After discussion of the calendar, Mr. Papavasiliou made a motion to approve Draft #2 (6CUR).

2017-2018 CALENDAR

MOTION by Mr. Papavasiliou, seconded by Mrs. Morell, that the Fort Lee Board of Education approves the amended 2017-2018 District Calendar draft #2. This resolution supersedes Resolution No. 28273 dated March 6, 2017.

MOTION carried upon roll call vote, 6-3. Mrs. Romba, Mr. Surace and Mr. Sarnoff voted no.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Morell inquired about restoring the index page for the agenda. Mrs. Morell doesn't feel that it is an easy read currently. Mr. Rota shared that the business office has worked to streamline the agenda process.

Mr. Rota emailed an invitation to the Little League Opening Day. Please come out and support the team.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Papavasiliou, seconded by Mrs. Romba, to adjourn, 9:06 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 9-0.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Haquisha Q. Taylor

HAQUISHA Q. TAYLOR
SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

HQT/haa
04-19-2017