

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

MINUTES

**PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING
PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING
APRIL 25, 2016
FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
6:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 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 April 21, 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 (*arrived at 6:45 p.m.*), Mrs. Esther Han Silver,
Mrs. Holly Morell, Mr. Michael Osso, Mr. Ammad Quraishi,
Mrs. Candace Romba, Mr. Joseph Surace, Mr. David Sarnoff

Absent: Mr. Jeff Weinberg

Also Present: Mr. Kenneth Rota, Mr. James Mallen, Dennis McKeever, Esq.

Absent: Dr. Sharon Amato

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Romba, at 6:33 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.

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REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Rota spoke about the following:

- ♦ HIB Report;
- ♦ Fire & Security Drills for March 2016; and
- ♦ 2016/2017 Final Budget.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustee Candace Romba provided a report as a liaison to the Fort Lee Education Foundation and spoke positively of their efforts.

MINUTES

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

Public Business Meeting Minutes	March 21, 2016
Private Executive Meeting Minutes	March 21, 2016
Special Public Meeting Minutes	April 18, 2016
Private Executive Meeting Minutes	April 18, 2016

MOTION carried upon roll call vote, 7-0-1, on March 21, 2016 Public Business and Private Executive Meeting Minutes; Mrs. Han Silver abstained. MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0, for April 18, 2016 Special Public and Private Executive Meeting Minutes.

BOARD SECRETARY REPORT AND TREASURER'S REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2016

MOTION by Mr. Surace, seconded by Mrs. Romba, that the Board of Education approves the following:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2. 11(c) (4), we certify that as of February 29, 2016, the board secretary's and treasurer's monthly financial reports did not reflect any overexpenditure in any of the major accounts or funds in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2. 11(b), and based on the appropriation balances reflected on the reports and the advice of district officials, we have no reason to doubt that the district has sufficient funds available to meet its financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year and accepts the financial reports of the Board Secretary.

That the Board of Education accepts the financial reports of the Treasurer of School Monies for February, 2016.

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

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY BUDGET STATUS CERTIFICATION – FEBRUARY 2016

MOTION BY Mr. Surace, seconded by Mrs. Romba, that the Board of Education approves the Monthly Budget Status Certification for February, 2016.

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

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PUBLIC WORK SESSION

Trustee Paula Colbath had a positive comment for Ms. Nancy Sanders, who is retiring as Guidance Counselor at School No. 4. Trustee Holly Morell concurred with Trustee Colbath.

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. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Romba, to open the floor to the public, 7:44 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

Resident, Dr. Levinson, asked questions about any new staff being added next year. Superintendent Rota responded with the specifics for next year's staff.

Resident, Patty DiCostanzo, thanked the Board for its positive acknowledgement of her sister who is retiring from the district. She then discussed the Board property adjacent to her home.

Resident, Diane Sicheri, expressed concerns about the safety of students on her dead-end street.

Resident, Hugh Gillenson, high school field neighbor, asked for consideration for access by residents to the high school field. Brief discussion ensued.

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MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Romba, to close the floor to the public, 8:01 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

ALL RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

BOARD COMMITTEE

MOTION by Mrs. Romba, seconded by Mr. Quraishi, that the Board of Education approves items #1B and #2B.

1B	RESOLUTION REGARDING SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT OF INCIDENTS OF HARASSMENT/INTIMIDATION/BULLYING
2B	ATTENDANCE AND TRAVEL FOR BOARD MEMBER WORKSHOPS

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0, for item #1B. MOTION carried upon roll call vote, 5-0-3, for item #2B; Mrs. Colbath, Mrs. Morell and Mrs. Romba abstained on their respective names.

B&G COMMITTEE

MOTION by Mrs. Colbath, seconded by Mr. Surace, that the Board of Education approves items #1B&G through #3B&G.

1B&G	APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH ENERNOC, INC. FOR ENERGY CURTAILMENT PROGRAM
2B&G	APPROVAL OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
3B&G	APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER

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

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE (Mrs. Romba, Chairperson)

MOTION by Mrs. Romba, seconded by Mr. Quraishi, that the Board of Education approves items #1CUR through #7CUR and #9CUR. Item #8CUR was tabled.

1CUR	APPROVAL OF CLASS TRIPS AT A TOTAL COST TO THE DISTRICT NOT TO EXCEED \$4,030.00
2CUR	PAYMENT OF HOME AND BEDSIDE INSTRUCTION SERVICES
3CUR	APPROVAL OF BERGEN COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICES FOR NON-PUBLIC 192/193 SERVICE AGREEMENT
4CUR	APPROVAL OF MORRIS PSYCHOLOGICAL GROUP, PA, AS ADDITIONAL RELATED SERVICE PROVIDER FOR 2015-2016
5CUR	APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL OUT-OF-DISTRICT PLACEMENT FOR 2015-2016

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6CUR	APPROVAL - SUMMER 2016 MATH ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL
7CUR	APPROVAL OF EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAM (ESY) FOR SUMMER 2016
8CUR TABLED	APPROVAL TO AMEND DISTRICT CALENDAR FOR 2015-2016
9CUR	APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL TEACHER PARTICIPATION IN THE TITLE I PARENT LITERACY NIGHTS AT SCHOOL NO. 2

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0, for item #1CUR, with exception. Mr. Osso abstained on one name. MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0, for items #2CUR through #7CUR and #9CUR. Item #8CUR was tabled.

FINANCE COMMITTEE (Mr. Surace, Chairperson)

MOTION by Mr. Surace, seconded by Mrs. Morell, that the Board of Education approves items #1F through #10F.

1F	APPROVAL – CURRENT BILLS LIST TOTALING \$2,429,770.69
2F	APPROVAL – CAFETERIA CLAIMS FOR MARCH 2016 TOTALING \$143,396.85
3F	APPROVAL – LINE ITEM TRANSFERS FOR FEBRUARY 2016
4F	APPROVAL – PAYMENT TO FIELDTURF USA, INC.
5F	APPROVAL OF FOOD SERVICE PROVIDER CONTRACT AND MEAL PRICING FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR
6F	PARENT TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT FOR 2016-2017
7F	ADOPTION OF FINAL BUDGET FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR
8F	APPROVAL OF PERFORMERS FOR HIGH SCHOOL SPRING MUSICAL
9F	APPROVAL OF JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE, INC. (JFS) AGREEMENT FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR
10F	ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0, for item #1F, with exception. Mr. Osso abstained on one name and Mr. Surace abstained on one name. MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0, for items #2F through #10F.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (Mrs. Morell, Chairperson)

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Romba, that the Board of Education approves items #1P through #22P.

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1P*	APPROVAL - STAFF TRIPS AND CONFERENCES TOTALING \$2,817.95
2P*	APPROVAL OF JOB DESCRIPTIONS FOR MAINTENANCE FACILITIES REPAIR AND CUSTODIAN
3P	RESIGNATION OF MONICA CHAVARRIA-PIEDRAHITA AS A 1:1 AIDE AT SCHOOL NO. 3
4P	RESCIND RESOLUTION NO. 27561 FOR THE RETIREMENT OF FRANCESCA MANENTE AS OUT-OF-DISTRICT AIDE
5P	APPROVAL OF LEAVE REPLACEMENTS DURING 2015-2016 AND 2016-2017
6P	RETIREMENT OF NANCY SANDERS AS A GUIDANCE COUNSELOR AT SCHOOL NO. 4
7P	RETIREMENT OF MARIANNE NUGENT AS A SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL
8P	AMENDED MATERNITY LEAVE FOR ANDRIA FUSCO AS A GUIDANCE COUNSELOR AT FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL
9P	AMENDED MATERNITY LEAVE FOR CHRISTINA MURPHY AS A MATHEMATICS TEACHER AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL
10P	MATERNITY LEAVE FOR COURTNEY BAIARDI AS A SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER AT SCHOOL NO. 2
11P	MEDICAL LEAVE FOR GEORGIA SERVOS AS CONFIDENTIAL ASSISTANT TO THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY AT CENTRAL OFFICE
12P	MEDICAL LEAVE FOR PETER SGANGA AS CUSTODIAN AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL
13P	VOLUNTARY TRANSFER OF MIGUEL MKCULLOK AS CUSTODIAN FROM SCHOOL NO. 2 TO LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL
14P	APPROVAL OF LISANDRO PEREZ AS CUSTODIAN AT SCHOOL NO. 2
15P	APPOINTMENT OF ALEXANDRA MOTOLA AS ELEMENTARY TEACHER AT SCHOOL NO. 3 FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR
16P	APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL AIDES FOR 2015-2016
17P*	UNUSED VACATION DAY PAYOUT FOR ANA FLORES
18P	APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL CO-CURRICULAR PERSONNEL FOR 2015-2016
19P	APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL HOME INSTRUCTOR FOR 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR
20P	APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL SUBSTITUTES FOR 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR
21P	APPOINTMENT OF HAQUISHA Q. TAYLOR AS BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/ BOARD SECRETARY FOR 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR AND SUBMITTAL OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT

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22P	VOLUNTARY SHIFT CHANGE FOR ROBERT REYES AS CUSTODIAN AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL
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MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0, for item #1P, with exception. Mr. Osso abstained on one name. MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0, for items #2P through #5P, #7P through #15P and #17P through #22P. MOTION carried upon roll call vote, 7-0-1, for item #6P; Mr. Surace abstained. MOTION carried upon roll call vote, 7-1, for item #16P; Mrs. Morell voted no.

GENERAL BUSINESS – The Board discussed the proposed moving of unused snow days from Memorial Day weekend to the end of the school year. Board discussion ensued. The Board agreed to table this discussion for further review.

OLD BUSINESS – Mrs. Romba commented positively on the high school play. Mrs. Romba also stated that fundraiser for Briana, School No. 3 student, was well-attended and very successful.

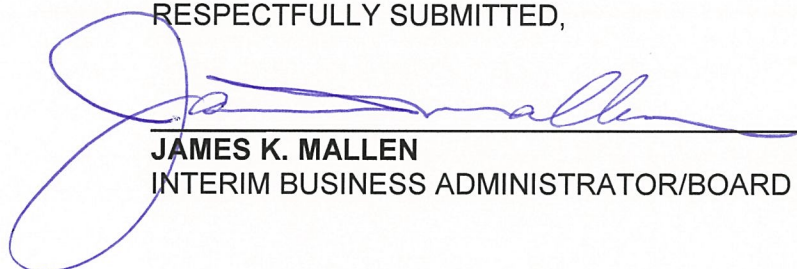
NEW BUSINESS – None.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mr. Surace, to adjourn, 8:13 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 8-0.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



JAMES K. MALLEN
INTERIM BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

JKM/haa
04-26-16