

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

**MINUTES**

**PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING  
JUNE 6, 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 Mrs. Colbath.

**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. David Sarnoff

**Absent:** Mr. Quraishi, Mr. Weinberg

**Also Present:** Mr. Kenneth Rota, Dr. Sharon Amato, Mr. James Mallen, Dennis McKeever, Esq.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

MOTION by Mrs. Colbath, seconded by Mrs. Morell, 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.

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

Mr. Rota spoke about the following:

- ♦ HIB Report; and

- ♦ Student Recognition (Athletics – Golf, Track, Tennis)  
Board President Sarnoff introduced the team members and acknowledged their accomplishments.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** – None.

**MINUTES**

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

|                                   |              |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Public Business Meeting Minutes   | May 23, 2016 |
| Private Executive Meeting Minutes | May 23, 2016 |

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

**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, 7:46 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 7-0.

None.

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mr. Surace, to close the floor to the public, 7:46 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 7-0.

### **ALL RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

Trustee Colbath asked for clarification on employees work hours changes for eligibility to receive employee benefits.

### **BOARD COMMITTEE**

MOTION by Mrs. Romba, seconded by Mrs. Morell, that the Board of Education approves item #1B.

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| <b>1B</b> | <b>RESOLUTION REGARDING SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT OF INCIDENTS OF HARASSMENT/INTIMIDATION/BULLYING</b> |
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MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 7-0.

### **B&G COMMITTEE**

MOTION by Mrs. Romba, seconded by Mrs. Han Silver, that the Board of Education approves items #1B&G and #3B&G. Item #2B&G was pulled.

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| <b>1B&amp;G</b>            | <b>AWARD BID FOR TOILET ROOM RENOVATION AT FORT LEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 4</b>  |
| <b>2B&amp;G<br/>PULLED</b> | <b>AWARD BID FOR MULTIPURPOSE ROOM HVAC UPGRADES AT FORT LEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 1 AND MULTIPURPOSE ROOM AND MEDIA CENTER UPGRADES AT FORT LEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 3</b> |
| <b>3B&amp;G</b>            | <b>AWARD BID FOR ROOF REPLACEMENT AT FORT LEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NO. 3</b>  |

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

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

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

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| <b>1CUR</b> | <b>APPROVAL OF CLASS TRIPS AT NO COST TO THE DISTRICT</b>                              |
| <b>2CUR</b> | <b>PAYMENT OF HOME INSTRUCTION SERVICES</b>  |
| <b>3CUR</b> | <b>APPOINTMENT OF CURRICULUM WRITERS FOR 2016-2017</b>                                 |
| <b>4CUR</b> | <b>OUT-OF-DISTRICT PLACEMENTS FOR 2016 EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR (ESY) PROGRAM</b>          |
| <b>5CUR</b> | <b>PLACEMENT OF OUT-OF-DISTRICT STUDENT FOR 2016-2017</b>                              |
| <b>6CUR</b> | <b>APPROVAL OF LIT-LIFE/PVR PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR K-2 TEACHERS</b> |

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 7-0, with exception. Mr. Osso abstained on one name for item #3CUR.

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

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

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| <b>1F</b> | <b>APPROVAL – CURRENT BILLS LIST TOTALING \$786,266.93</b>            |
| <b>2F</b> | <b>AGREEMENT/CONTRACT RENEWALS FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR</b>          |
| <b>3F</b> | <b>ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS</b>  |
| <b>4F</b> | <b>APPROVAL – CAFETERIA CLAIMS FOR MAY 2016 TOTALING \$179,570.83</b> |

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

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

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mr. Surace, that the Board of Education approves items #1P through #16P.

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| <b>1P*</b> | <b>APPROVAL - STAFF TRIPS AND CONFERENCES TOTALING \$44.26</b>   |
| <b>2P</b>  | <b>RESIGNATION OF JEFFREY ANGUS AS BIOLOGY TEACHER AT FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL</b>                                 |
| <b>3P</b>  | <b>MEDICAL LEAVE FOR GENEVIEVE CALLAHAN AS A SCIENCE TEACHER AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL</b>                |
| <b>4P</b>  | <b>MEDICAL LEAVE FOR MAUREEN TROPEA AS A CLASSROOM AIDE AT SCHOOL NO. 1</b>                                    |
| <b>5P</b>  | <b>APPROVAL OF LEAVE REPLACEMENT DURING 2015-2016</b>  |
| <b>6P</b>  | <b>APPOINTMENT OF KRISTINA MARQUEZ AS SCIENCE TEACHER AT LEWIS F. COLE MIDDLE SCHOOL</b>                       |
| <b>7P</b>  | <b>CORRECTION ON SUBSTITUTE TEACHER RATES FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTES FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR</b> |
| <b>8P</b>  | <b>SUMMER 2016 EMPLOYMENT OF CHILD STUDY TEAM</b>  |
| <b>9P</b>  | <b>APPOINTMENT OF EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR STAFF FOR SUMMER 2016</b>   |
| <b>10P</b> | <b>APPROVAL OF CHANGE IN MINIMUM HOURS FOR BENEFITS</b>  |
| <b>11P</b> | <b>APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL SUBSTITUTES FOR 2015-2016 AND 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEARS</b>                             |

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| <b>12P*</b> | <b>APPOINTMENT OF NON-UNION STAFF MEMBERS FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR</b>   |
| <b>13P*</b> | <b>APPOINTMENT OF AIDES FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR</b>   |
| <b>14P</b>  | <b>APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL CO-CURRICULAR PERSONNEL FOR 2015-2016</b>  |
| <b>15P</b>  | <b>REVISED SUMMER 2016 EMPLOYMENT FOR GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT</b>   |
| <b>16P</b>  | <b>APPOINTMENT OF HAQUISHA Q. TAYLOR AS BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/ BOARD SECRETARY FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR AND SUBMITTAL OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT</b> |

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 7-0, for items #1P through #8P, item #10P and items #14P through #16P. MOTION carried upon roll call vote, 6-0-1, for item #9P and items #11P through #13P. Mr. Surace abstained.

**POLICY** (Mrs. Colbath, Chairperson)

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

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| <b>1POL</b> | <b>SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF POLICIES/REGULATIONS UPDATES</b> |
| <b>2POL</b> | <b>FIRST READING OF POLICIES/REGULATIONS UPDATES</b>               |

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

Trustee Colbath offered her comments on the ability of home-schooled students to participate in co-curricular athletic activities. Board discussion ensued.

**NEW BUSINESS** – None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Mrs. Colbath, seconded by Mrs. Morell, to adjourn, 8:02 p.m.

MOTION carried unanimously upon voice vote, 7-0.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

  
JAMES K. MALLEN

INTERIM BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

JKM/haa  
06-07-16