

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

MINUTES

**PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING
NOVEMBER 9, 2015
FLHS MEDIA CENTER
7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mr. David Sarnoff.

FLAG SALUTE

The Flag Salute was given by Mr. Quraishi.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure 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 by having the date, time, and place thereof 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.

During the course of the board meeting, the Fort Lee Board of Education offers members of the public an opportunity to address issues regarding the operation of the Fort Lee Public Schools. The Board reminds those individuals who take this opportunity to identify themselves by name and address and to limit their comments to items listed on the agenda and/or items directly related to the operation of the School District. Issues raised by members of the public may or may not be responded to by the Board. All comments will be considered and a response will be forthcoming if and when appropriate. The Board asks all members of the public to be courteous and mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Specifically, comments regarding students and employees of the Board are discouraged and will not be responded to by the Board. Students and employees have specific legal rights afforded by the laws of New Jersey. The Board bears no responsibility nor will it be liable for any comments made by members of the public. Members of the public should consider their comment in light of the legal rights of those affected or identified in their comments and be aware that they are legally responsible and liable for their comments.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mrs. Paula Colbath, Mrs. Esther Han Silver, Mrs. Holly Morell,
Mr. Michael Osso, Mr. Ammad Quraishi, Mrs. Candace Romba,
Mr. Joseph Surace, Mr. Jeff Weinberg, Mr. David Sarnoff

Also Present: Mr. Kenneth Rota, Dr. Sharon Amato; Mr. H. Ronald Smith, Mr. Dennis McKeever,
Board Attorney

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Mrs. Romba, seconded by Mr. Weinberg, 7:02 p.m. to move into Executive Session as per item #1B.

1B	APPROVE PRIVATE EXECUTIVE SESSION
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MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 9-0.

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mr. Quraishi, at 7:40 p.m., to reconvene into public meeting.

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

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Rota spoke about the Recognition of Staff Member, Observance of Respect and School Violence Awareness, Election Results and Review of Board Self-Evaluation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No Committee Reports but the Board members gave a summary of their attendance at the New Jersey School Boards Workshop in Atlantic City.

PUBLIC WORK SESSION

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Han Silver, to go into Public Work Session.

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

Mr. Osso suggested that the Board be proactive in establishing liaisons with community groups. Mr. Rota will suggest groups.

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Romba, to close Public Work Session.

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

NJSBA – BOARD SELF-EVALUATION PRESENTATION

Mr. Al Annuziata, of NJSBA, outlined the process of the Board Self-Evaluation and reported section by section the results of the Board members responses. The Board was asked to review the evaluation and develop Board goals based on the evaluation.

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. Han Silver, seconded by Mrs. Romba, to open the floor to the public, 8:34 p.m.

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

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Mr. Alex Floratos spoke about concerns of the new construction in town and its impact on the school population.

Mrs. Ada Garcia spoke about her concerns that the Academy of Finance Board was losing members. Three of the nine members just resigned.

Mr. Howard Pearl spoke about his concern of the (in his opinion) excessive homework that is assigned to students. The testing schedule needs to be adjusted. There are too many tests in the same day.

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mr. Weinberg, to close the floor to the public, 8:46 p.m.

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

ALL RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

BOARD COMMITTEE

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Han Silver, that the Board of Education approves items #2B and #3B.

2B	RESOLUTION REGARDING SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT OF INCIDENTS OF HARASSMENT/INTIMIDATION/BULLYING
3B	ATTENDANCE AND TRAVEL FOR BOARD MEMBER WORKSHOP

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 9-0, for item #2B. MOTION carried upon roll call vote, 8-0-1, for item #3B; Mrs. Morell abstained.

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE (Mrs. Romba, Chairperson)

MOTION by Mrs. Romba, seconded by Mr. Quraishi, that the Board of Education approves items #1CUR through #4CUR.

1CUR	APPROVAL OF CLASS TRIPS AT A COST TO THE DISTRICT NOT TO EXCEED \$552.50
2CUR	APPROVAL OF CENTER FOR APPLIED LINGUISTICS (CAL) PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES ON THE SHELTERED INSTRUCTION OBSERVATION PROTOCOL (SIOP) FOR TEACHERS
3CUR	APPROVAL OF RUTGERS CENTER FOR MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE, AND COMPUTER EDUCATION (CMSCE) PROPOSAL FOR STEAM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE
4CUR	APPROVAL OF PATRICIA VITALE-REILLY CONSULTING PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR LITERACY TRAINING FOR ELEMENTARY TEACHERS

MOTION carried upon roll call vote, 8-0-1, for item #1CUR; Mr. Osso abstained on one name (EO). MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 9-0, for items #2CUR through #4CUR.

FINANCE COMMITTEE (Mr. Surace, Chairperson)

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

1F	APPROVAL – CURRENT BILLS LIST TOTALING \$1,062,531.52
2F	APPROVAL OF MAXIMUM REIMBURSEMENT OF TRAVEL EXPENDITURES FOR 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR
3F	ACCEPTANCE OF NON-PUBLIC SECURITY AID FUNDS FOR 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR
4F	ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 8-0-1, for item #1F; Mr. Osso abstained on one name (EO). MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 9-0, for items #2F through #4F.

HEALTH – WELFARE AND SAFETY

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

1HWS*	PAYMENT OF HOME INSTRUCTION SERVICES
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MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 9-0.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (Mrs. Morell, Chairperson)

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Han Silver, that the Board of Education approves items #1P through #12P.

1P*	APPROVAL - STAFF TRIPS AND CONFERENCES TOTALING \$73.94
2P	APPROVAL OF JOANNE CHACK AS BRAILLE TRANSLATOR FOR 2015-2016
3P	ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION OF THOMAS DEGREZIA AS 1:1 AIDE AT SCHOOL NO. 4
4P	APPROVAL OF LEAVE REPLACEMENT DURING 2015-2016
5P*	HORIZONTAL MOVEMENT ADJUSTMENT FOR CORRINE WEST
6P	APPOINTMENT OF JEFFREY ANGUS AS HOME INSTRUCTOR FOR 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR
7P	SATURDAY DETENTION MONITORS
8P	APPOINTMENT OF CHRISTINA CHANDRAS AS ADDITIONAL CURRICULUM WRITER FOR 2015-2016

9P*	ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW CLUBS
10P	APPROVAL OF REVISED SUBSTITUTE TEACHER DAILY RATE
11P	APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL SUBSTITUTES FOR 2015-2016
12P	APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL WINTER COACH FOR 2015-2016

MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 9-0, for items #1P through #11P. MOTION carried upon roll call vote, 7-2, for item #12P; Messrs. Osso and Weinberg voted no.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

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

1T	DISPOSAL OF TELEVISIONS/EQUIPMENT
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MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 9-0.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS - RFP Resolutions

Mr. Sarnoff proposed that the Board consider the possibility of doing Request for Proposals (RFP's) on the following professional services: Auditor, Architect, Engineer, Attorneys, Broker of Record, Health Insurance and General Insurance. There would be a separate motion presented on each of the six services. The motion would be to advertise the RFP. A "yes" vote indicated that a proposal would go forward. A "no" vote would be to retain the current vendor.

5F. Architect Services – MOTION by Mr. Surace, seconded by Mrs. Morell, to advertise RFP. MOTION carried upon roll call vote, 2-7. Mrs. Colbath, Mrs. Han Silver, Mr. Osso, Mr. Quraishi, Mrs. Romba, Mr. Weinberg and Mr. Sarnoff voted no. **MOTION fails – no RFP.**

6F. Engineering Services – MOTION by Mrs. Colbath, seconded by Mrs. Morell, to advertise RFP. MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 9-0.

7F. Attorney – MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mr. Surace, to advertise RFP. MOTION carried upon roll call vote, 4-5. Mrs. Han Silver, Mr. Osso, Mrs. Romba, Mr. Weinberg and Mr. Sarnoff voted no. **MOTION fails – no RFP.**

8F. Auditor – MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mr. Weinberg, to advertise RFP. MOTION carried upon roll call vote, 7-2. Messrs. Osso and Quraishi voted no.

9F. General Insurance Broker – MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Han Silver, to advertise RFP. MOTION carried unanimously upon roll call vote, 9-0.

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10F. Health Insurance Broker – MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Han Silver, to advertise RFP.

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

Summary

RFP's will be advertised for Engineering Services, Auditor, General Insurance Broker and Health Insurance Broker.

The Board will retain the services of the current Attorney and Architect.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mrs. Morell, seconded by Mrs. Romba, to adjourn, 9:33 p.m.

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

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



H. RONALD SMITH
INTERIM BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

HRS/haa
11-13-15