

**CARLSTADT BOARD OF EDUCATION  
CARLSTADT, NJ  
January 10, 2022 MINUTES  
Virtual Zoom Meeting**

**Important Notice:** This meeting was held via Zoom in compliance with the OPMA due to the Covid-19 Virus Pandemic.

**NOTE:** Be advised that the Board may recess into executive session at any time during the meeting.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order by President at 6:53 pm

ROLL CALL: Present:	Walter Beese Robert Biamonte Frank Ficetola Jose Figueroa Jeffrey Hagen	Maria McNeill Leslie Molnar Lori Nunziato Massimo Offreda
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Not Present:

**ATTENDANCE**

Allison Evans, Superintendent  
Megan Slamb, Business Administrator  
Jeff Merlino, Esq. Counsel  
Denise Henke, Administrative Assistant

**OPENING STATEMENT**

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of 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 this Act, the Carlstadt Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be announced by having the time, date, and location and, to the extent known, the agenda of the meeting thereof, posted on the official bulletin board of this public body more than 48 hours prior to said meeting.

Further action was taken by forwarding a copy of said meeting notice more than 48 hours in advance to the following persons or newspapers:

**Office of Carlstadt Borough Clerk  
Business office of The Record, Star Ledger and The South Bergenite**

**PRESENTATIONS:**                      **None**

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:**                      **December 6, 2021                      Regular Meeting**

Moved: Mr. Beese

Second: Mrs. McNeill

MEMBER	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mr. Beese	x			
Mr. Biamonte	x			
Mr. Figueroa			x	
Mr. Hagen			x	
Mrs. McNeill	x			

Mrs. Molnar	x			
Mrs. Nunziato			x	
Mr. Offreda	x			
Mr. Ficetola	x			

**REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT**

Good evening. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome those of you in attendance at today’s board of education meeting.

- I would like to congratulate and welcome our new Board members and welcome back those who were re-elected!
- There are 532 students registered in our Pre-K through Grade 8 programs as of today. We are still below the capacity of this building should a large number of students ever register in the near future.
- As of today, we have 30 students enrolled in the Pre-Kindergarten program. These numbers are not inclusive of the pre-school disabled students. As of this point, Pre-Kindergarten has reached its maximum capacity. There are 61 students registered for Kindergarten.
- One of our goals this year is to include multi-cultural events and awareness. We have some exciting events coming up in the next couple of months. We will be celebrating the Chinese New Year next week and we have a special visit planned by the Lion Dancer Assembly on the 21st!
- We will be restarting our parent series next month which Dr. Moore from Rutgers University will be sharing ways to talk to our children about social justice. I will share the dates once they are finalized. We’ve had great participation in our parent series in the past and we are excited to host the next round of the series.
- As you are aware, the number of cases has increased in the past several weeks. We are currently able to staff the building and offer a virtual program to those students who are quarantined due to a positive test or close contact. Mrs. Polifronio and I monitor this situation daily and continue to modify and adjust when necessary.
- Under the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Law, I as Superintendent am required to report to the Board of Education no later than the date of the next Board meeting results of investigations regarding HIB when those investigations have been completed. We had four incidents investigated since the last Board of Education meeting. Two cases were deemed HIB and two cases were not HIB.

Mr. President, so ends my report.

**REPORT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY**

- I am very pleased to announce that we have wrapped up the restoration of Gym A and both music rooms, which were damaged by the flooding during Hurricane IDA. Final cleanup of those locations took place today, and the All Risk Team is now moving to the demolition of Gym B. The contrast between the two gym floors is truly amazing. The new floor in Gym A is absolutely stunning and really modernizes the space. For any board members who would like to arrive a few minutes early to our next meeting, I would be happy to bring you over and show you the space. Our music teachers are thrilled to be back in their rooms and are also very pleased with the improvements from the repairs.
- As in years past, there are some delays in the release of data from the State of NJ which funnels directly into our annual audit. This delays the release of our official audit, but does not affect our bottom line numbers. Therefore, I will still be scheduling the audit presentation to take place at our next meeting on January 18<sup>th</sup>, and we will review the financial position at the close of 2021. Based on the conversations I have had with our audit firm; we remain in a very healthy financial position.
- Finally, I would like to commend Mr. Agudelo, Mr. Znutas, and the custodial staff on their efforts on behalf of the district. Between COVID, the projects resulting from Hurricane IDA, and the recent snow and winter weather, it has been a challenge. However, they have been working hard to keep things running as close to normal as possible, and Mr. Agudelo has managed staffing shortages and schedules changes in such a way that the administration and staff don’t feel the impact. Well done all.

**HEARING OF CITIZENS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

Any citizen present who wishes to be heard on agenda items only, should raise his/her hand to be recognized, state name and address, and limit remarks to five minutes in accordance with board policy. Another Hearing will be conducted after new business for any other matter. The hearing of citizens shall not exceed one hour.

President closes hearing of citizens.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

**INSTRUCTIONAL/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: ( )**

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves the proposed Board of Education schedule of meeting calendar for the year 2022.
2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the 2021-2022 State of Assurance Regarding the Use of Paraprofessional Staff.
3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the extension of an unpaid leave of absence for employee #0843 through on or about March 11, 2022.
4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **the Board approves the amendment to previous motion # 9 on October 12, 2021:** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves Latasha Miller as long term leave Guidance Counselor from November 17, 2021 through June 30, 2022, MA, Step D, at \$62,260 pro-rated as per the negotiated contract.
5. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the contract extension for Cheryl Mallen, Interim Director of Special Services, through on or about March 11, 2022.
6. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves Latasha Miller as the Middle School Anti-Bullying Specialist for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.
7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the attendance of José Agudelo at the NJSBGA Annual Conference in Atlantic City, NJ, March 20-23, 2022, with a registration cost of \$300 and approval for two night stay at Harrah’s at a cost of \$69 per night, plus \$23 resort fee and \$3 occupancy fee, for a total of \$97 per night plus travel and meals.
8. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves Caitlin Gold as advisor of the Grades 5-6 Art Club, after school beginning January 2022 through June 2022, with a minimum of 25 and a maximum of 50 sessions, at the contractual rate of \$56 per session.
9. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves Caitlin Gold as advisor of the Grades 7-8 Art Club, after school beginning January 2022 through June 2022, with a minimum of 25 and a maximum of 50 sessions, at the contractual rate of \$56 per session.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

	Moved: Mrs. Molnar		Second: Mr. Beese	
MEMBER	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mr. Beese	x		#2	
Mr. Biamonte	x	#4	#6	
Mr. Figueroa	x			

Mr. Hagen	x			
Mrs. McNeill	x			
Mrs. Molnar	x			
Mrs. Nunziato	x			
Mr. Offreda	x			
Mr. Ficetola	x			

**LEGISLATIVE/POLICY COMMITTEE: ( ) None**

**BUILDING/ GROUND/HISTORICAL COMMITTEE: ( ) None**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE: ( )**

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the current bills for December and January 2021 as presented.
2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the service agreement with Supreme Consultants to perform translation services for eligibility meeting for the 2021-2022 school year not to exceed \$94 for student #22468.
3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the service agreement with Supreme Consultants to perform translation for Social History services for the 2021-2022 school year not to exceed \$94 for student #22468.
4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs with the Service Agreement with South Bergen Jointure Commission and the Carlstadt Public School to provide Speech evaluation for the 2021-22 school year not to exceed \$300 for student #22860.
5. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs with the Service Agreement with South Bergen Jointure Commission and the Carlstadt Public School to provide Speech evaluation for the 2021-22 school year not to exceed \$300 for student #22537.
6. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the agreement with Frontline Technology for translation of IEP documents not to exceed \$331.95 for 2021-2022 school year for student #22374.
7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board authorizes the submission of the 2020-2024 American Rescue Plan - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund application and acceptance of the funds as follows:
  - a. ESSER : \$664,466
  - b. Accelerated Learning Coaching and Educator Support Grant: \$50,000
  - c. Evidence-Based Summer Learning and Enrichment Activities Grant: \$40,000
  - d. Evidence-Based Comprehensive Beyond the School Day Activities Grant: \$40,000
  - e. NJTSS Mental Health Support Staffing Grant: \$45,000

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Moved: Mrs. McNeill

Second: Mr. Beese

MEMBER	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mr. Beese	x			
Mr. Biamonte	x			

Mr. Figueroa	x			
Mr. Hagen	x			
Mrs. McNeill	x			
Mrs. Molnar	x			
Mrs. Nunziato	x			
Mr. Offreda	x			
Mr. Ficetola	x			

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**HEARING OF CITIZENS:**

Any citizen present, who wishes to be heard, should raise his/her hand to be recognized, state name and address, and limit remarks to five minutes in accordance with board policy. Matters of a personal nature must first have been exhausted through the proper channels. The hearing of citizens shall not exceed one hour.

President closes hearing of citizens.

**ANY ACTION ARISING FROM HEARING OF CITIZENS**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

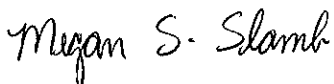
Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:09 pm

**MOVED: Mr. Beese**

**SECOND: Mr. Biamonte**

**ALL IN FAVOR: Unanimous**

Respectfully Submitted,



Mrs. Megan S. Slamb  
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary