

**CARLSTADT BOARD OF EDUCATION  
CARLSTADT, NJ  
January 25, 2022  
MINUTES**

**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 the Vice President at 6:30 pm

ROLL CALL: Present:	Walter Beese	Maria McNeill
	Robert Biamonte	Leslie Molnar
	Jose Figueroa	Massimo Offreda
	Jeffrey Hagen	

Not Present: Frank Ficetola, Lori Nunziato

**ATTENDANCE**

Allison Evans, Superintendent  
Denise Henke, Administrative Assistant

**FLAG SALUTE**

**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: Start Strong Assessment Ms. Rachael Carletto**

Start Strong Assessments are based on a subset of prioritized prior-year standards. They are designed to provide a data point on the level of support a student may need to engage in grade-level content. The assessment was built using released high-quality questions from the NJSLA item bank. Assessments were shortened and were administered within 45-60 minutes. CPS had a 100% participation rate in Grades 4-8 (ELA and Math) and Grade 6 (Science).

Support levels for each grade and content area for the district were presented. The support levels indicated, *more support needed, some support needed, & less support needed*. Reported subgroups included, Students with Disabilities (IEP), Student with Disabilities (504), Current EL, Former EL, and Economically Disadvantaged.

Based on the reported data, intervention strategies have been put in place and are monitored to ensure students learn new skills while scaffolding occurs to address learning gaps within prerequisite skills. Start Strong data is not used in isolation, the district also utilizes LinkIt, data, classroom grades/assessments, and teacher feedback to determine learning levels and needed interventions. Instructional staff can view the data as well as test questions and responses to better understand learning levels and appropriate instructional pathways.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MINUTES: January 10, 2022 Reorganization Meeting  
January 10, 2022 Special Meeting**

Moved: Mr. Biamonte		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

**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.

- There are 534 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 62 students registered for Kindergarten.
- We will be restarting our parent series next month in 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.

- At the next meeting, two board members from Becton will be here to discuss the referendum plans that are underway at Becton. Mr. Young and Mr. Anderson would like me to share they are available at any time if you have specific questions related to the project.
- 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 no incidents investigated since the last Board of Education meeting.

**REPORT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY (Was given by Ms. Evans)**

- Since we last met, we have come across an unfortunate delay in our renovation of Gym B. Water is still infiltrating the gym in certain areas which must be addressed before we continue with construction. The silver lining in this situation is that we were able to identify the source of the water, and with the gym currently demoed, there was no damage. We are in the process of planning a project for Summer 2022, which will address all of these concerns and safeguard the gym from any future damages. In addition I am pursuing funding through FEMA which has a category of grant that speaks to preventative measures after a catastrophic event. Hopefully we will be able to take advantage of that.
- We continue to make progress with the other construction projects we are planning for Summer 2022, and have been meeting frequently with the district architects. On February 15th prior to the Board Meeting we will be having a Building and Grounds Committee Meeting to discuss some of these projects in further detail.
- The business office is continuing with the preparation of the 2022-23 Budget. Given the delays this year has had at the state level, we are now receiving some of the key information we need which will ramp up the planning process.
- Please keep an eye out for emails regarding your SEC Financial Disclaimers which will be coming out in the next week or so. All members of the Board of Education are required to complete these filings. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me and I will be happy to assist. In addition, I will be registering each board members for their annual assigned trainings through the School Boards Association. When you are registered they will send an automated email with your instructions.
- Please note that our next Board Meeting will take place on February 15, 2022 at 6:30pm and will include the auditor's report that was rescheduled from this evening.
- Finally, I would like to congratulate Mr. Conley on his retirement, and I wish him well in this next chapter of his life. He will be missed.

Mrs. Molnar, so ends my report.

**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: (Leslie Molnar)**

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board accepts with regret, the resignation of Patrick Conley, custodian, effective June 30, 2022.
2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the attendance of Dawn Garrabrant at the "NJECC 2022 Annual Educational Technology Conference" sponsored by NJECC, on March 8 and March 9, 2022, with a registration fee of \$175, using entitlements.
3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the attendance of Jennifer Carlin at the "NJECC 2022 Annual Educational Technology Conference" sponsored by NJECC, on March 8 and March 9, 2022, with a registration fee of \$175, using entitlements.
4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves Kimberly Edone as a substitute lunchroom supervisor for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year, upon completion of all paperwork.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Moved: Mrs. Molnar		Second: Mr. Figueroa		
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

**LEGISLATIVE/POLICY COMMITTEE: (Walter Beese)**

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the English Language Learners Three-Year Program Plan for years 2021-2024.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Moved: Mr. Beese		Second: Mr. Figueroa		
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

**BUILDING/ GROUNDS/HISTORICAL COMMITTEE: (Robert Biamonte)**

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs with the request from the Golden Cats Elite Cheer for their use of the Gym on January 23, 2022 for practice/showcase from 3:00-6:30 pm.
2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs with the request from Carlstadt Recreation Basketball for their use of the Gym on Mondays and Wednesdays, January 5 through February 6, 2022 for practice and games from 5:00-9:00 pm.
3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs with the request from Girl Scout Troop #98124 for their use of room # 208 on January 24, 2022 for a meeting from 4:00-5:00 pm.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Moved: Mr. Biamonte

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

**FINANCE COMMITTEE: (Frank Ficetola)**

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the Board Secretary’s report for the month ending November 2021 as presented pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2:11(a), the Carlstadt Board of Education acknowledges receipt of the secretary’s certification, and after review of the monthly financial report (appropriations section) certifies that, to the best of knowledge, as of November 2021 no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2:11(b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the Cash Report of School Moneys for the month ending November 2021 as presented per N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)4.

3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the transfer of funds for the month ending November 2021 as presented in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1 and 18A:22-8.2 within the adopted 2021-2022 budget.
4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the current bills for January 2022 as presented.
5. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs with the contract with Search Learning Group for tuition for the 2021-2022 school year in the amount of \$70,950 prorated for student #23419.
6. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the agreement with Dr. Esther Fridman for a Psychiatric evaluation for 2021-2022 school year, not to exceed \$650 for student #23377.
7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the contract with Frontline Technology to perform document translation not to exceed \$360.15 for the 2021-2022 school year for student #22468.
8. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs with the agreement with Care Plus to provide clearance evaluations for the 2021-2022 school year not to exceed \$400 for students #23393, #22442.
9. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs with the agreement with Frontline Technology for translation of IEP not to exceed \$101.85 for 2020-2021 school year for student #23425.
10. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs the agreement with Dr. Esther Fridman for a Psychiatric evaluation for 2021-2022 school year, not to exceed \$625 for student #23112.
11. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs with the agreement with Care Plus to provide clearance assessment for the 2021-2022 school year not to exceed \$200 for students #23112.
12. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs the change order II in reference to previous approved motion (finance #15) on October 12, 2021 for the restoration of Gym A & B in relation to hurricane Ida damages at Carlstadt Public School, 550 Washington Street to be completed by All Risk 801 E Clements Bridge Road, Runnemede, NJ 08078 at an additional cost of \$2,593.20.

**Addendum**

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the amendment to the previous approved settlement agreement motion on December 6, 2021 Mtg. (finance motion #11) regarding student #23419.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Moved: Mr. Offreda

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**

**RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION (if needed)**

**WHEREAS,** the Open Public Meetings Act and Carlstadt board policy reserve the right within the constraints of state law to sit in executive session; and

**WHEREAS,** there now exists a need for this board to meet in an executive session; now, therefore, be it **RESOLVED,** that the Carlstadt Board of Education hold an executive session for the purpose of Building and Grounds issues and be it further

**RESOLVED,** that the public will be informed either later this evening after reconvening the public meeting; or at a future public meeting, said date is not predictable at the present time.

Motion to recess at 6:30 pm

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Moved: Mr. Beese

Second: Mr. Biamonte

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

Motion to reconvene at 6:45 pm

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

MEMBER	Moved: Mr. Beese		Second: Mrs. McNeill	
	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

**ADJOURNMENT:**

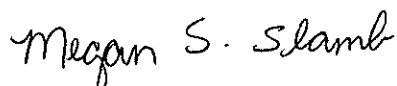
Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:27 pm

**MOVED: Mr. Beese**

**SECOND: Mr. Biamonte**

**ALL IN FAVOR: Unanimous**

Respectfully Submitted,



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