

**CARLSTADT BOARD OF EDUCATION
CARLSTADT, NJ
September 1, 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 President at 5:00 pm

ROLL CALL: Present:	Walter Beese	Maria McNeill
	Robert Biamonte	Leslie Molnar
	Frank Ficetola	Lori Nunziato
	Jose Figueroa	
	Jeffrey Hagen	

Not Present: Massimo Offreda

ATTENDANCE

Allison Evans, Superintendent
Megan Slamb, Business Administrator
Jeff Merlino, Esq. Counsel
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: Mrs. Jessica Lapa Comprehensive Health Education Overview

Jessica Lapa, Supervisor of Curriculum, presented information about the new comprehensive health standards and curriculum, including the adopted curriculum resource, The Great Body Shop. The presentation can be found under the Families tab of the Carlstadt.org website.

Public Comment Related to Curriculum Presentation only

- Ann Annitti of 613 Central Avenue – Mrs. Annitti complimented Mrs. Lapa on an excellent presentation. She noted that the curriculum content made her uncomfortable and concerned. Mrs. Annitti thanked the board for allowing her and others in the community an opportunity to speak publicly about their concerns. She noted that she had spoken to many parents regarding the sexual health curriculum being introduced into our country's schools. She feels the speech is alarming and confusing, and many parents agree. She supports all groups and their rights to choose but believes that no one group or individual should have their views overrun. Mrs. Annitti feels that the content covered in this curriculum is private and personal matter and should be left to the individual and their loved ones. Such conversations as gender identity, etc. are discussions that are sensitive and controversial and should remain in the home. She supports and acknowledges that we are teaching our children to be kind and nonjudgmental, and stated that there is far more love in the Carlstadt community than hate. Mrs. Annitti noted that she has seen letters from neighboring communities regarding opt-out, and was looking for guidance on that option, which she felt Mrs. Lapa clarified. She questioned the frequency of the content discussion and whether or not parents will know what will be discussed in advance each week. Mrs. Lapa addressed the questions. Finally Mrs. Annitti shared concerns that schools are not considering the thought process of their teachers, and that each person will have their own views therefore she is concerned that Teachers will not be able to remain unbiased.
- 1. Kim Pangaro - 600 10th Street
 - a. Mrs. Pangaro asked for clarification regarding the piloting of the Body Shop Curriculum (noted in Mrs. Lapa's presentation) and what content was piloted in which grade levels. She also questioned why parents weren't informed.- Mrs. Lapa and Ms. Evans addressed the questions
 - b. Mrs. Pangaro questioned why this curriculum wasn't discussed and reviewed with parents sooner and expressed her opinion that parents should have been included in the discussion earlier in the process. - Ms. Evans responded
 - c. Ms. Pangaro asked if there will be more discussion on this curriculum and its associated impacts- Ms. Evans confirmed that it will be reviewed during Back to School Night.
- 2. Bill Pangaro - 600 10th Street
 - a. Mr. Pangaro asked if the presentation and standards for the curriculum would be posted online - Ms Evans and Mrs. Lapa responded
 - b. Mr. Pangaro asked for clarification as to what repercussions there would be, if any, if a teacher were to "go off script" - Ms. Evans responded and stated that matters related to personnel cannot be discussed during public session.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MINUTES: August 18, 2022 Special Meeting

Moved: Mr. Beese		Second: Mrs. Molnar		
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.

- Today was our first day for our staff members. The day went smoothly and there was a lot of positive energy and excitement for the start of this school year. A team of teachers and staff members spent some time decorating the building to welcome our students back this year. The students start on Tuesday, September 6 for a full session day. If you are here on Tuesday for our opening day, look out for a special guest appearance from Carl the Cougar!
- There are 520 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 33 students enrolled for the Pre-Kindergarten program. These numbers are not inclusive of the pre-school disabled students. There are 52 students registered for Kindergarten.
- The custodians and their assistants did a fantastic job getting the building ready for the opening of school. The teachers were excited to see their classrooms clean, disinfected, and ready for the start of school.
- At our next Board meeting, we will discuss our 2021-2022 district goals.
- The date for Back to School night for the elementary school students is scheduled for Wednesday, September 14. The middle school back-to-school night is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21. There may be a limit on the number of visitors in attendance for these sessions as we need to make sure social distancing is being practiced in the classrooms. More information will be sent out prior to the evenings.
- 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 zero incidents investigated since the last Board of Education meeting.

Mr. Ficetola, so ends my report.

REPORT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

- We had a very successful first day back with our staff. Thank you to the custodial department for their hard work in making sure the teachers had everything they needed. Job well done!
- We are wrapping up the final elements of our Boiler Room Project, and are moving to the punchlists for final completion.
- The Siteworks project has faced delays due to COVID 19's supply chain impact, and as such our timeline for the project has changed. ML Inc has been working hard to create the pathway and stairs leading into the Gym B Lobby in order to allow students entry on that side of the building. At this time, we anticipated full use of the stairs and walkway for the first day of school. Should that change in any way, Ms. Evans and Mr. Foy have a plan B for student drop off and pick up. The project is expected to wrap up sometime at the end of October. Gym B is also expected to be open sometime in October as it is directly related to this project.
- Our STEAM Lab Project has also faced supply chain issues and we are anticipating a project completion sometime at the end of the year, with anticipated access to the lab in January. Those teachers who would have been utilizing the space have been relocated, and Mr. Foy has done a wonderful job adjusting the schedules as needed to accommodate the changes.
- We are excited to announce the addition of new water bottle filling stations on all floors of the building. This is a great new addition to our building and ties into our district goal for health and wellness.
- Finally, as my resignation is noted on tonight's agenda, I would like to take a moment to thank the district administration, the board of education, our staff, and the community, for allowing me to be part of the Carlstadt family these past five years. This district has been my home away from home, and has made me a better administrator. I will truly cherish the memories I've made here, and I will miss you all greatly. Thank you.

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.

- Ann Annitti – 613 Central Avenue - Mrs. Annitti of 613 Central Avenue asked a question regarding the district's site work project and how the new drainage may affect the community and homes around the school. She questioned whether it would have an adverse effect on the surrounding homes and their drainage during storms.
Mrs. Slamb addressed her questions.
- Kim Pangaro- 600 10th Street - Mrs. Pangaro asked a question regarding the SPO Agreement with Carlstadt Borough and Police Department and asked which officers would be assigned and how that assignment will work. Mrs. Pangaro also asked if there was any concern about a rotation of officers vs. having one dedicated officer.
Ms. Evans responded.

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 Megan Slamb, Business Administrator/Board Secretary effective on or about October 21, 2022.
2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves to grant tenure to Anita Alfonso, teacher, effective the first day of her attendance after September 1, 2022.
3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves to grant tenure to Toniann Teller, teacher, effective the first day of her attendance after September 1, 2022.
4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves to grant tenure to Theresa Hetzel, teacher, effective the first day of her attendance after September 1, 2022.
5. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves to grant tenure to Caitlin Gold, teacher, effective the first day of her attendance after September 1, 2022.
6. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves to grant tenure to Jaclynne Huster, teacher, effective the first day of her attendance after September 1, 2022.
7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves Mary Dulny as LDTC intern for the 2022-2023 school year.
8. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves Allison Carella as Guidance intern for the 2022-2023 school year.
9. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the advancement on the salary guide to Toniann Teller, from MA, Step H to MA+15, Step H, effective September 1, 2022.
10. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves Nathaly Fernandez as a substitute teacher aide for the 2022-2023 school year, pending completion of all paperwork.
11. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the adoption and implementation of the all content curricula for grades Kindergarten -8th as aligned to the New Jersey Standards (NJSLs).

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Moved: Mrs. Molnar

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			

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY COMMITTEE: (Walter Beese) None

BUILDING/ GROUNDS/HISTORICAL COMMITTEE: (Robert Biamonte)

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the request from Carlstadt Boy Scout Troop 1 for their use of the Gym on Tuesdays, September 2022 through June 2023, from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm for meetings.
2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the request from CER Wildcats Competition Cheering for their use of the Gym on September 11, 2022, September 17, 2022 and September 18, 2022, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm for practice.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Moved: Mr. Biamonte		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			

FINANCE COMMITTEE: (Frank Ficetola)

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the current bills for August 2022 as presented.
2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs with the additional funds needed for Homecare Therapies, LLC for nurse support for transportation for the 2022-2023 ESY school year not to exceed \$5,600 for student #23425.
3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the payment #1 of \$53,900.00 to ML Inc. for the Site Drainage Improvement project.

4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the payment #2 of \$97,020.00 to ML Inc. for the Site Drainage Improvement project.
5. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the payment #2 of \$200,753.00 to Cypreco Industries, Inc. for the Alterations to New Steam Lab Project.
6. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the service agreement with Supreme Consultants to perform translation services for eligibility meetings for the 2022-2023 school year not to exceed \$800.
7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the agreement with South Bergen Jointure to provide Physical, Speech, and Occupational Therapy, evaluations for the 2022-2023 extended school year.
1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs with the agreement with Hillmar for Bilingual BDI and Speech evaluation for the 2022-2023 school year, not to exceed \$1,100 for student #23507.
8. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs with the agreement with The Felician School for Exceptional Children for the 2022-2023 ESY school year for tuition not to exceed \$6,476.15.
9. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the agreement with The Felician School for Exceptional Children for the 2022-2023 school year for tuition not to exceed \$62,375.55.
10. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs with the agreement with South Bergen Jointure Commission for Physical Therapy evaluation for 2022-2023 school year, not to exceed \$300 for student #22947.
11. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concur with the contract with the Windsor Learning Center for the 2022-2023 school year in the amount of \$60,300 for student #22424.
12. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the agreement with Frontline Technology for IEP document translations for school year 2022-2023 not to exceed \$4,500.
13. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the agreement with Hillmar, LLC to perform Bilingual/Mono-Lingual/Translation evaluations for the 2022-2023 school year not to exceed \$11,000.
14. Upon the recommendation of the superintendent of schools, the board approves the agreement with CBH Care and the Carlstadt Board of Education for School clearances for 7 sessions not to exceed \$3,150 for the 2022-2023 school year.
15. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the agreement with Dr. Fridman for Psychiatric evaluations for the School year 2022-2023 not to exceed \$5,850.

16. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the service contract with the Carlstadt Public School and the Care Plus New Jersey Inc. for the 2021-2022 for School Clearance Assessments not to exceed \$2,450.
17. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs with the tuition contract with the South Bergen Jointure Commission for the 2022-2023 extended school year in the amount not to exceed \$4,050 for student # 23483.
18. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs with the agreement with Frontline Technology for IEP document translations for school year 2022-2023 not to exceed \$125.70 for student #23257.
19. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs with the agreement with Frontline Technology for IEP document translations for school year 2022-2023 not to exceed \$160.95 for student #23258.
20. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the contract with the Ridgefield Board of Education for Occupational Therapy for the 2022-2023 Extended school year in the amount not exceed \$800 for student #22619.
21. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the contract with Bergen County Special Services and the Carlstadt Public School District for Home/Hospital services for the 2022-2023 school year in the amount of \$65.00/per hour.
22. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the contact with Bergen County Special Services and the Carlstadt Public School District for SAP services for the 2022-2023 school year in the amount not to exceed \$750.
23. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the agreement with Bergen County Special Services for Teacher of Deaf services with the Carlstadt Public School District at a rate not to exceed \$14,140 for the 2022-2023 school year for student #22940.
24. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the service agreement with South Bergen Jointure and the Carlstadt Public School to provide Physical Therapy services for the 2022-2023 school year not to exceed \$13,000 for students #23276, 23355, 23153, 23432.
25. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs with the agreement with Frontline Technology for IEP translations for school year 2022-2023 not to exceed \$68.70 for student #223425.
26. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs with the agreement with Frontline Technology for IEP translations for school year 2022-2023 not to exceed \$180.90 for student #22638.

- 27. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the contract with the Department of Human Services, Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired to provide vision services not to exceed \$2,200 for the 2022-2023 school year for student #23035.
- 28. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board concurs with the approval of service agreement between the Carlstadt Board of Education and OMNI Financial Group, Inc. to serve as third party administrator for the district’s 403 (b) and 475 (b) for the 2022-2023.
- 29. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the agreement with Diligent Services and Pricing for the subscription for Board Docs LT for the 2022-2023 school year not to exceed \$3,700.

Addendum

- 1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the Shared Services Agreement between Carlstadt Public School District Board of Education and the Carlstadt Borough Police Department for the employment of a School Patrol Officer (SPO) for the 2022-2023 School Year at a cost of \$25,000.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board approves one subsequent automatically renewing term for the 2023-2024 school year at a cost of \$54,900.
- 2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the Parent Teacher Transportation Agreement to transport (child) student ID #22953 on a daily basis to and from Felician School for Exceptional Children for the 2022-2023 School Year. Reimbursement is not to exceed \$9,000.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Moved: Mr. Ficetola		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			

** Mr. Beese noted that he is not in favor of the SPO Agreement with the Carlstadt Borough and Police Department and feels that a class 3 officer would be better suited for the district.

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:

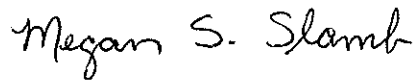
Motion to adjourn meeting at 5:49 pm

MOVED: Mr. Beese

SECOND: Mrs. Molnar

ALL IN FAVOR: Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,



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