

LONG BEACH ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION
Long Beach Island, New Jersey
REGULAR MEETING
January 26, 2021
Long Beach Island Grade School Media Center
Executive (Closed) Session 6:00 PM – Regular (Public) Session 7:00 PM

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Board of Education of the Long Beach Island School District, Ocean County, met in the Media Center of the Long Beach Island Grade School, 201 20th Street, Ship Bottom, New Jersey on January 26, 2021.

Board President, Colette Southwick, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and read the following statement:

"This is to advise those present at this meeting of the Board of Education of the Long Beach Island Consolidated School District, in the County of Ocean, that adequate and electronic notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. The notice has been posted in the Board of Education Office, Ethel A. Jacobsen School building and Long Beach Island Grade School building and on the district website. The notice was also mailed to *The Press of Atlantic City*, *Asbury Park Press*, and *The Sandpaper*, and filed with the Municipal Clerks of Barnegat Light, Harvey Cedars, Surf City, Ship Bottom and Long Beach Township."

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL**
- | | | |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Mrs. Bowker | Mrs. Hoffacker | Mrs. Wasilewski |
| Dr. Chung | Mrs. Linkewich | Mrs. Southwick |
| Ms. Hagler | Mrs. Raber | |

PRESENT REMOTELY: Mr. Schragger (joined at 7:17 p.m.)

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT:

Dr. Peter Kopack, Superintendent
Mr. Frank Birney, Principal
Ms. Chris Kelly, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Ms. Meghan Lee, Assistant BA
Mr. Anthony Sciarillo, Esq. (arrived at 7:01 p.m.)
Ms. Shelley Smith, Tech Coordinator
Mr. Steven Siegel, Architect, Spiezle Architectural (Virtual)
Mr. Jim Repka, Project Manager, Spiezle Architectural

4. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Dr. Kopack, Ms. Kelly, and Ms. Lee gave a PowerPoint presentation on "The Way Forward" which included the following:

- District revenue
- Enrollment
- Expenses
- Contracts
- Utilities
- Previous referendums
- Single Site

- Anticipated savings
- Building Repair costs - EJ and LBI Schools
- Timeline for sale of property, permit process, architectural designs, and construction
- Consolidation in September while the new addition is constructed
- District financial recap
- Propose selling LBI Grade School - motion on agenda for sale of LBI School

Mr. Siegel and Mr. Repka from Spieze Architectural Group gave a PowerPoint presentation on the following: (This presentation was presented to the public at the July 21, 2020, Board of Education meeting.)

- Assessment of Facilities - Condition of existing facilities
- Site features and amenities
- Building envelope
- Building interior
- Sustainability
- Mechanical
- Electrical
- Plumbing
- Program needs
- Program options
- Existing and conceptual plans for EJ and LBI Schools
- Costs to renovate and consolidate
- Financial information - Cost of renovations for EJ and LBI Schools

Ms. Kelly noted that the architect's presentation was a recap from the July meeting. Dr. Kopack thanked Spieze Architectural Group, Chris Kelly and Meghan Lee for their presentations. He reported that the presentation will be available on the district website under "The Way Forward" tab. Ms. Southwick opened the meeting to Board discussion. There were no questions.

5. **REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:** Dr. Kopack thanked everyone for attending the meeting, reported on the return to in-person instruction after transitioning to virtual instruction around the holidays, and thanked the teachers for the hard work they put into lesson planning and helping families. He recognized that this has been a challenging time for everyone and thanked everyone for their support.
6. **REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL:** Mr. Birney reported that it is nice to return to in-person learning, thanked parents and staff for hard work during the transition, and he reported that the EJ Garden received a grant from American Heart Association. EJ was one of 40 schools nationwide, and one of two schools on the east coast to receive this grant. He thanked Bianica Aniski, staff, and students for the hard work that goes into the success of the garden.
7. **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT:** Mrs. Southwick thanked Board Members for trusting in her and Mrs. Wasilewski as President and Vice President. She thanked the teachers for their hard work and support as the second marking period comes to a close.
8. **PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:** Members of the public commented, asked questions on the following topics:
 - Funding appropriation for addition
 - Staff reduction due to consolidation
 - Combining of grade levels due to consolidation
 - District enrollment
 - Continue with current teacher/pupil ratio
 - Safety of consolidation during the Pandemic
 - Possibility of maintaining both schools

9. **BOARD CORRESPONDENCE:** None

10. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Marilyn Wasilewski, second by Kristy Raber to approve the following:

RESOLVED, THAT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:

December 15, 2020:	Regular and Closed Session
January 5, 2021:	Regular Session
January 20, 2021:	Closed Session

Mr. Schragger questioned the confidentiality of minutes from the January 20th meeting and asked if they will be made available to the public. Mr. Sciarillo reported that the minutes were only shared with the Board and not included with the agenda that was published. Mr. Sciarillo reported that the closed session minutes will be released to the public when they are no longer deemed confidential.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

December 15, 2020 Meetings

Ayes(5): Mrs. Bowker, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Raber, Mrs. Wasilewski, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain: Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Linkewich, Mr. Schragger

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

January 5 and January 20, 2021 Meetings

Ayes(8): Mrs. Bowker, Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber, Mrs. Wasilewski, Mrs. Southwick

Nays:

Abstain: Mr. Schragger

11. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Negotiations: No report
- Personnel: No report
- Policy: No report
- Building/Grounds/Transportation/Finance: No report
- Curriculum: Dr. Kopack reported that a meeting is scheduled tomorrow.
- Public Relations/Strategic Plan: No report
- PTA Liaison: No report

12. **School Board Recognition Month in New Jersey**

Motion by Brielle Hoffacker, second by Eileen Bowker to approve the following:

WHEREAS, The New Jersey School Boards Association has declared January 2021 to be School Board Recognition Month, a time when all residents can acknowledge the contributions made by our local school board members; and

WHEREAS, The Long Beach Island Board of Education is one of 580 local school boards in New Jersey, which sets policies and oversees operations for public school districts; and

WHEREAS, The Long Beach Island Board of Education embraces the goal of high-quality education for all New Jersey public school students; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's local school boards help determine the educational goals for approximately 1.4 million children in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's 5,000 local school board members, who receive no remuneration for their services, act as advocates for public school students as they work with administrators, teachers and parents for the betterment of public education; and

WHEREAS, School boards strive to provide the resources necessary to meet the needs of all students, including those with special needs; and

WHEREAS, Boards of education provide accountability to the public; they communicate the needs of the school district to the public; and they convey to school administrators the public's expectations for the schools; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey can take pride in its schools, which rank among the nation's best in key achievement indicators such as the National Assessment of Educational Progress scores, and the preparation for college through advanced placement offerings and SAT assessments; Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Long Beach Island Board of Education, does hereby recognize the services of local school board members throughout New Jersey as we join communities statewide in observing January 2021 as SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Long Beach Island Board of Education urges all New Jersey citizens to work with their local boards of education and public school staffs toward the advancement of our children's education.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(9): Mrs. Bowker, Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber,
Mr. Schragger, Mrs. Wasilewski, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

13. **PERSONNEL**

Motion by Brielle Hoffacker, second by Eileen Bowker to approve the following:

A. School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Contract

The Board, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, rescinds the Contract of Employment between the Board and Christine Kelly for the position of School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, for the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 as approved by the Executive County Superintendent for Ocean County on 8/10/20. (This Contract of Employment was initially approved by the Board on 8/18/20).

B. Approval of Contract

The Board, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the Contract of Employment between the Board and Christine Kelly for the position of School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, for the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 as approved by the Executive County Superintendent for Ocean County on September 30, 2020.

Mr. Schragger asked if the Board was awarding a new contract to the business administrator and asked if the contract was reviewed by the new Board members. Mr. Sciarillo reported that the contract was approved by the County Superintendent. Ms. Kelly reported that a public hearing on her contract was advertised for tonight's meeting. Mr. Sciarillo noted there were few comments on agenda items and discussion on Ms. Kelly's contract was opened up to the public by Mrs. Southwick. Mrs. Bowker asked if Ms. Kelly was in favor of her contract, and Ms. Kelly responded, "Yes." There were no comments or questions, therefore, public comment was closed. Mr. Sciarillo recommended a separate vote on items A and B. Mrs. Southwick proceeded with the vote as recommended by Mr. Sciarillo.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(8): Mrs. Bowker, Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber,
Mrs. Wasilewski, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain: Mr. Schragger

Motion by Kristy Raber, second by Eileen Bowker to approve the following:

C. Substitute Personnel

Motion to approve the employment of substitute personnel for the 2020-2021 school year as listed below pending receipt of required paperwork and completion of required substitute orientation:

Gerald Simonelli	Teacher
Bria Kazmierski	Teacher/Classroom Aide
Robin Tilton	Teacher (currently employed in the district)

D. Leave of Absence

Motion to approve an unpaid leave of absence for employee #4491 on February 1 and 2, 2021.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(9): Mrs. Bowker, Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber,
Mr. Schragger, Mrs. Wasilewski, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

14. **FINANCE**

A. Audit 2019/2020

Motion by Eileen Bowker, second by Marilyn Wasilewski to approve the following:

1. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LONG BEACH ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION that it acknowledges receipt of the 2019/2020 school year audit, that a copy of the Summary of Audit Report is available for public inspection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Long Beach Island Board of Education acknowledges that there are no audit recommendations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Long Beach Island Board of Education accepts the 2019/2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(8): Mrs. Bowker, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber,
Mr. Schragger, Mrs. Wasilewski, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain: Dr. Chung,

B. Financial Reports

Motion by Kristy Raber, second by Brielle Hoffacker to approve the following:

1. Financial Reports of the Secretary to the Board of Education

Motion to approve financial reports for the month of December 2020.

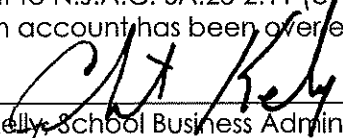
- a. Report of the Secretary dated December 31, 2020
- b. Report of the Treasurer dated December 31, 2020

2. Statement of Cash Balances

Motion to accept the Statement of Cash Balances for the month of December 2020 which are reconciled with the Board Secretary's Reports by fund for that month.

3. SBA Certification

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 (c) 4, I certify that as of December 2020 no budgetary line item account has been overexpended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 (b).


Chris Kelly, School Business Administrator

2/24/2021

C. Transfers

Motion to approve the December 2020 transfer report.

D. Bills List

Motion to approve the January 22, 202, Bills List, totaling \$278,448.59

E. Travel and Training

Motion to approve the following travel/training expenses.

Date	Name	Position	Workshop	Location	Cost
1/20/21 - 1/22/21	Lisa Boyd	Teacher	IMSE Orton Introductory Training	Virtual	\$1,000
2/23/21	Chris Kelly	SBA/Board Secretary	Understanding School Ethics	Virtual	\$25
3/16/21			Purchasing Update & Best Practices & NJ State Contract Purchasing	Virtual	\$50

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(9): Mrs. Bowker, Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber,
Mr. Schragger, Mrs. Wasilewski, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

15. **EDUCATIONAL**

Motion by Kristy Raber, second by Brielle Hoffacker to approve the following:

- A. HIB Report
Motion to accept the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying report as presented in Executive Session.

Dr. Kopack reported that there were no incidents.
- B. Preschool Tuition
Motion to establish Preschool tuition rates for the 2021-2022 school year as follows:

Full-Day PreK: \$4,000 (Transportation may be provided for resident students only.)
Half-Day PreK: \$3,000 (Transportation is not provided.)
- C. 2021-2022 Choice Students
Motion to approve 40 Choice students for the 2021-2022 school year.
- D. School Calendar Revision 2020 - 2021
Motion to approve adjusting the 2020-2021 school calendar due the flood day on December 17, 2020. February 12, 2021 will become an early dismissal day for students and a full day for staff which includes a ½ day p.m. professional day.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(8): Mrs. Bowker, Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber,
Mrs. Wasilewski, Mrs. Southwick
Nays: 0
Abstain: Mr. Schragger

16. **UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Grant Acceptance

Motion by Marilyn Wasilewski, second by Eileen Bowker to approve the following:

Motion to accept the grant (Ready, Set, Teaching Gardens Grow) from the American Heart Association (AHA) Teaching Gardens Network Grant Program in the amount of \$2,000. Grant funds may be used for direct expenses associated with your school's or community's garden project that will help children engage or access fresh fruits and vegetables, such as: garden beds, tools, plants, compost bins, irrigation, water collection, storage sheds, bags or boxes, single-use gloves, plates, and utensils. Gardens funds are to be used by December 31, 2021. There will be no financial impact to the Board of Education from the acceptance of this grant.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(9): Mrs. Bowker, Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber,
Mr. Schragger, Mrs. Wasilewski, Mrs. Southwick
Nays: 0
Abstain: 0

B. Abolishment of Board Committees

Motion by Eileen Bowker, second by Kristy Raber to approve the following:

Motion to abolish the following Board Committees:

- Building/Grounds/Transportation Committee
- Finance Committee

Mr. Schragger asked why the committees were being merged. Ms. Kelly responded that finance and facilities require two meetings for each discussion, and combining them would eliminate the need for two meetings.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(7): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber,
Mrs. Wasilewski, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: Mrs. Bowker, Mr. Schragger

Abstain: 0

C. Establishment of Board Committee

Motion by Marilyn Wasilewski, second by Brielle Hoffacker to approve the following:

Motion to establish the following Board Committee:

- Building/Grounds/Transportation/Finance Committee

Mr. Schragger asked why he was not put on the building, grounds, and finance committee this year. Mrs. Southwick responded that she rotated members to familiarize new board members with what the board is working on. Mrs. Bowker asked if it was possible to include more board members on the committee. Mrs. Southwick noted that she views committees as a smaller level of what is going on, and the purpose of combining the committees was to streamline the meetings. She reported that all information discussed in committee will be shared with the full board.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(7): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber,
Mrs. Wasilewski, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: Mrs. Bowker, Mr. Schragger

Abstain: 0

D. Board Committees

Motion by Brielle Hoffacker, second by Kristy Raber to approve the following:

Motion, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve 2021 Board Committees as presented.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(8): Mrs. Bowker, Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber,
Mrs. Wasilewski, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain: Mr. Schragger

Motion by Brielle Hoffacker, second by Kristy Raber to approve the following (Items E-I):

E. Disposal of Property

RESOLVED, the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, authorizes the law firm of Sciarillo, Cornell, Merlino, McKeever & Osborne, LLC, to be in the process of obtaining New Jersey Department of Education approval that the Long Beach Island Grade School is no longer necessary for school purposes and further, to begin the process of disposal of the Long Beach Island Grade School and the property appurtenant to it.

F. Consolidation of Students to the Ethel Jacobsen School

RESOLVED, the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, authorizes the consolidation of the students enrolled in the Long Beach Island Grade School and the Ethel Jacobsen Elementary School into the Ethel Jacobsen Elementary School, effective at a date to be determined by the Board.

G. Long Range Facility Plan Amendment

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Long Beach Island Board of Education to approve the amendment of the 2016 Long Range Facilities Plan to address the five-year reporting requirements and to be consistent with proposed school facilities projects. Further, the Board authorizes Spiegle Architectural Group Inc, to make the submission to the Department of Education on behalf of the district.

H. School Facilities Project

Whereas, The Board of Education of the Long Beach Island School District in the County of Ocean, New Jersey (the "Board"), desires to proceed with a school facilities project consisting of:

Addition and Renovations at Ethel A. Jacobsen Elementary School to the New Jersey Department of Education, DOE State Project #29-2760-020-21-1000

Renovations at Ethel A. Jacobsen Elementary School to the New Jersey Department of Education, DOE State Project #29-2760-020-21-2000

Whereas, the Board now seeks to take the initial steps in order to proceed with the Project:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE LONG BEACH ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, as follows:

Section 1. In accordance with the requirements of Section 6A:26-3 of the New Jersey Administrative Code, the Board hereby approves the Schematic Plans prepared in connection with the Projects and the Board further authorizes the submission of same to the Ocean County Superintendent of Schools and the New Jersey Department of Education for approval.

Section 2. The Board hereby authorizes the amendment to its Long-Range Facilities Plan in order to reflect the proposed Projects.

Section 3. The School Administration and such other officers and agents of the Board as are necessary, including the Board attorney, bond counsel and architect, are hereby authorized to perform such other acts, to execute such other documents and to do such other things as are necessary to implement the determinations of the Board set forth in this resolution. The Board further authorizes Spiegle Architectural Group Inc, to make the project submissions to the Department of Education on behalf of the district.

Section 4. This project is being funded as an "other capital project" and will not require state funding and the District is not seeking a Grant.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

I. Appropriation of Capital Reserve Funds

RESOLVED: Upon recommendation of the Superintendent and in accordance with N.J.A.C. 23A:14.1 *et seq.*, the Board of Education hereby appropriates \$1,000,000.00 of the capital reserve balance to be used towards the following:

Addition and Renovations at Ethel A. Jacobsen Elementary School to the New Jersey Department of Education, DOE State Project #29-2760-020-21-1000

Renovations at Ethel A. Jacobsen Elementary School to the New Jersey Department of Education, DOE State Project #29-2760-020-21-2000

Explanation: Funds need to be used for the above mentioned purpose; unused funds MUST be returned to the Capital Reserve Account

Ms. Hagler asked about H, section 4., and whether this would prevent the board from applying for a sustainability grant in the future. Mr. Sciarillo responded, "No." Mr. Schragger asked about forming a separate committee to look into open space, Green Acres, possible purchase of building by Ship Bottom, how to sell the property, Tidelands Claim, negotiations of sale of property, etc. Mrs. Southwick reminded Mr. Schragger that topics of his comments were discussed in closed session. Mrs. Wasilewski said that the county was contacted last time the building was for sale, and the board received no response.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(8): Mrs. Bowker, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Schragger, Mrs. Wasilewski, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain: Dr. Chung

17. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. Dates to Remember

January 31:	End of 2nd Marking Period
February 1:	3rd Marking Period begins
February 12:	Early dismissal (EJ-1:00 / LBI-1:10)
February 15:	School Closed, President's Day
February 23-24:	Parent/Teacher Conferences, Early dismissal (EJ-1:00 / LBI-1:10)
February 23:	Board of Education Meeting, LBI Grade School (virtual for public), 7 p.m.

18. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Members of the public commented, asked questions on the following topics:

- Encourage creativity in sale of property--open space, etc.
- Possibility of solar panels included in EJ renovation
- Sale of property
- Benefits to taxpayers

19. **Motion by Eileen Bowker, second by Brielle Hoffacker to approve the following:**

RESOLUTION: Resolved that the Board of Education will open its next scheduled meeting on February 23, 2021, at 6 p.m. in the Media Center of the Long Beach Island Grade School, 201 20th Street, Ship Bottom, NJ in Executive Session for matters of Attorney/Client Privilege, Negotiations, Student Issues, and Personnel and will suspend opening activities, including the Pledge of Allegiance and reading of Adequate Notice of Meeting, until the Board opens in Public Session at 7 p.m. This meeting will be virtual for members of the public.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(9): Mrs. Bowker, Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber,
Mr. Schragger, Mrs. Wasilewski, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

20. **EXECUTIVE SESSION #2 (If Needed):** The Board did not return to Executive Session.

21. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:57 p.m., a motion was made by Eileen Bowker, second by Kristy Raber to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kathy Sheplin
Assistant to the Board Secretary