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The following items are contained in the November 15, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes:

1. Call to Order
2. Swearing in of New Board Member Nicolas Palmisano
3. Roll Call
4. Public Comment
5. Activity Calendar
6. Fire Drill & Security Drill Report
7. Superintendent's Report & Principals' Updates
8. MEF Report
9. MEA Report
10. General Board Discussion
11. Personnel Matters
12. Field Trips
13. Workshops
14. Approval of Minutes: October 11, 2023 Regular & Executive Session
15. Board Secretary's Financial Reports for September 2023
16. Board of Education Certification as of September 2023
17. Bills and Payrolls
18. Transfer of Funds
19. Report of Receipts and Disbursements for September 2023
20. Cash Report for September 2023
21. Unfinished Business

22. New Business

23. Other Matters

24. Public Comment

25. Adjournment

The Regular Meeting of the Margate City Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 P.M. on November 15, 2023 by Board President, Mr. Joseph Pepe, at the Eugene A. Tighe Media Center.

Certification of Notice:

Melina Skwarek, Board Secretary, announced that adequate notice of this meeting had been provided and read the following Certification Notice:

On May 20, 2023, a notice of this meeting was posted on the district website, the bulletin board in the Board of Education Administration Office, the Eugene A. Tighe School, and the William H. Ross III School and emailed to the City Clerk and Downbeach.com, and advertised in “The Press.”

Swearing in of New Board Member:

Mr. Nicholas Palmisano read and signed the required oaths for School Board Members pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:12-2.1 and R.S. 41:1-1 and 1-3.

<u>Roll Call</u> - Members Present:	Mr. Joseph Pepe; Mr. Jack Sorensen; Mr. Jim Swift; Mrs. Amy Brog; Mrs. Shannon Wray-Norris; Mrs. Danielle Gomes-Chapman; Mr. Nicholas Palmisano; Mr. Clete Schwegman
Members Absent:	None
Others Present:	Mrs. Audrey Becker, Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Melina Skwarek, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator; Mrs. Bonnie Marino, Principal; Mr. Ryan Gaskill, Principal; Mr. Eric Goldstein, Solicitor

Public Comment:

Dave Jacobs thanked Mrs. Becker for her engagement in conversations surrounding preschool expansion in Margate schools. He recognized that the Margate City School District is superior in education. He added that all other districts in the county have applied for the Preschool Expansion Aid Grant available through the New Jersey Department of Education, besides Margate. He posed the question of any existing barriers that could have supported this decision, such as inadequate facility space to meet the program requirements. He commented that he had contacted other local districts to see what their barriers to implementation may have been, and adequate facilities seemed to be a commonality. He asked the Board to consider further discussion about the decision of the District not to initiate the Preschool Expansion Program in Margate.

Janet McCarron introduced herself as the owner of Playgroups Plus Preschool in Margate. She has been the owner of the school for over twenty-five years. She added that the Preschool Expansion Aid Grants were designed for low performing communities. She commented on the successes of the Margate City School District. She expressed extreme disappointment in the idea of Margate considering an application for this program. She added that she had never experienced any families claiming to be upset that they were required to pay tuition to attend the preschools in Margate. The current programs are exceptional.

Activity Calendar:

Mrs. Becker distributed the Activity Calendar for November 2023.

Fire Drill & Security Drill Report:

Mrs. Becker distributed the Fire and Security Drill Reports for Eugene A. Tighe School & William H. Ross School for the month of October 2023 attached as Exhibit # 1, pages 28,919-28,920.

Superintendent's Report & Principals' Updates:

Mrs. Becker assured the Board and community that we are well aware of the PEA Grant. The program is not completely free to the District and there is no certainty as to how long the grant will be provided for. Mrs. Becker acknowledged that both the Ross and Tighe Schools were once again recognized by the US News and World Report as high performing schools in New Jersey. She shared that the Ross School HVAC project partially funded by the ROD Grant was moving forward. The District was in receipt of the Final Eligible Costs (FEC) letter and was waiting to receive the acceptance paperwork from the New Jersey Schools Development Authority (NJ SDA). She mentioned that the District was reviewing the English and Language Arts curriculum this year. The Administrators and staff have already started the budgeting process and are working to obtain preliminary budget requests for the 2024-2025 school year. We would like to have a more clear understanding of the District's needs as we move through December. She shared that the Annual Toy Drive was going to be held on December 8, 2023 from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm. The event coordinators ask that you bring an unwrapped toy for donation when you join the community for the festivities.

Mrs. Debby Sterling assisted Mrs. Becker in demonstrating the new district website for the Board and the community members present. The timeline for switching to the new site live is within the next week. The new platform is more user friendly and provides new technologies embedded in the website pages. There are three individual websites that will be converted, one for the District and one for each school building. One of the main goals for this project was to ensure a consistent template across all three sites that also mimicked the old site. This was designed to assist the staff users and the community stakeholders with the transition.

- Mrs. Bonnie Marino shared information on current activities at Ross School.
- Mr. Ryan Gaskill shared information on current activities at Tighe School.

Mrs. Audrey Becker shared the following:

- On tonight's agenda is the Nursing Services Plan created by the two school nurses. It is an annual requirement which helps to highlight all the services our school nurses provide for the children.
- There is also an approval for the Performing Arts and the Holocaust Awareness curricula. She added that Holocaust learning has a strong focus on tolerance. District's must be creative in teaching this material in age appropriate ways. The importance of this curriculum and education for the students is emphasized by the implementation of the No Place for Hate Program this year.

MEF Report:

Liz Navlan commented on the recent Boo Fest event. She shared that there were 390 tickets sold and they profited just below \$10,000 for the event. It was a great success and they are looking to make it bigger and better next year. She shared that the Spaghetti Dinner would be held on November 16, 2023. Orders will be accepted up until 7:00 pm. They are anticipating a beautiful evening and are encouraging walk-up patrons. The MEF will be sponsoring a table at the Toy Drive where they will be giving away temporary tattoos and fairy hair. Please stop by to show your support. The next Teacher Appreciation luncheon will be held on December 20, 2023, which will be sponsored by Jalapenos. She added that MEF teacher requests have well exceeded the dollar threshold for this time of year when compared with last year. The MEF is exciting to see the teachers reaching out and asking for funding.

MEA Report:

Mrs. Crawford congratulated the girls' cross country team as the overall winner of their division. She congratulated the boys' team on their third place win and Nevin Millstein on his individual win for the boys' cross country team. She acknowledged Mrs. Becker's retirement which was on the agenda for approval effective June 2023. Mrs. Crawford shared that this was a bittersweet moment for her since she was hired by Mrs. Becker. She thanked her for her guidance and support during her time at Margate and added that she was saving her heartfelt speech for June. Congratulations to Mrs. Becker.

Board Discussion:

Mr. Pepe thanked Mr. Palmisano and welcomed him to the Board. He shared that he was looking forward to working with him. He added that he was pleased to see Mrs. Sterling back at Tighe School this evening. She volunteered her time to come here tonight, after her retirement, to help demonstrate the new website. Thank you to Mrs. Sterling and Mrs. Hughes as the website looks awesome.

Mr. Sorensen commented that in Margate, you see a transgression of values. You see the grandparents passing on values to the parents, who in turn pass those values down to their children. This is the culture of Margate and can be clearly represented at the Ross School Grandfriends Day. This is something within the community that should be celebrated.

Personnel Matters:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to approve the following personnel matters:

1. Approve to accept the retirement of Audrey Becker as of July 1, 2024.
2. Approve to post internally for the Superintendent of Schools position effective July 1, 2024.
3. Approve the introductory fieldwork placement of Stockton student Alex Brennan with Chelsi Crompton for the spring semester January-May 2024.
4. Approve the introductory fieldwork placement of Stockton student Olivia Macanka with Michelle Cossaboon for the spring semester January-May 2024.

Personnel Matters (Continued):

5. Approve the Functional Capacity Examination and paid leave for a staff member until the School Physician can review the results.
6. Approve to postpone indefinitely the application of Lorraine Mascino as a Substitute Teacher, which was tabled at the October meeting.
7. Approve increasing Lucky Kids Aides and Lunch Aides wages to \$15.13 per hour effective January 1, 2024 to align with New Jersey Minimum Wage Law increases.
8. Approve Popi Kounis, Carol Reilert, and Patty Holland to cover the office and work additional time from 7:30am-8:00am and 3:00pm-3:30pm on days when the office needs coverage. Costs: MEA Rate \$18.51 for the hour.
9. Approve Jim Hiltner as the boys Basketball coach for the 2023-2024 school year pending completion of required paperwork. Costs: \$2,400.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Schwegman, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Swift, Mr. Sorensen, and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Field Trips:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to approve the following field trips:

1. Approve the following Preschool Community activities and events for the 2023-2024 school year:
 - Pumpkin painting at True Value (date TBD)
 - Margate Fire Visit (date TBD)
 - Cookie decorating at Cafe 7311 (date TBD)
 - Gingerbread decorating (with special guests of preschools in to help-date TBD)
 - Winter activity at True Value (date TBD)
 - Visit to the Margate Police Dept.(date TBD)
 - Planting seeds and painting pots at True Value (date TBD)
 - Tighe Spring Play (date TBD)
 - Pizza making at Bocca (date TBD)
 - Visit to City Hall (date TBD)
 - Donuts with dad or other special dudes (date TBD)
 - Pancakes with Pals (date TBD)Staff: Chrissy Campbell and Carol Reilert Costs: None
2. Update the Approval of the Singsations Trip to Dorney Park and Wildwater Kingdom on May 29, 2024. Staff: Tracy Jones replacing Jacque Jones Costs: 1 Substitute \$125. Total \$9,825.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Schwegman, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Swift, Mr. Sorensen, and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Workshops:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to approve the following workshop matters:

1. Approve Kaitlin Roselli to attend the Cape May Co. school Social Workers meeting at Ocean City High School Costs: N/A.
2. Approve Margate's participation in the "New Jersey Consortia for Excellence through Equity" during the 2023-2024 school year to provide professional development services to the Margate City School District. Cost: \$ 578.51.
3. Approve Dr. Jacque Jones and Mark Winterbottom to attend "Using the Patterns of Strengths and Weaknesses(PSW) Model to Identify Specific Learning Disabilities" on December 6, 2023 at Rutgers University from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Costs: Workshop \$175 x 2 = \$350 plus travel.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Schwegman, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Swift, Mr. Sorensen, and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Swift, the board unanimously agreed to accept the October 11, 2023 Regular Meeting and Executive Session Minutes.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Schwegman, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Swift, Mr. Sorensen, and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Financial Reports:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Swift, to accept the Secretary's Financial Reports for the month of September 2023 as attached to these minutes and certifying that no budgetary account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.12(a). See Exhibit # 2, pages 28,921 - 28,944. The Secretary's Report agrees with the Report of Receipts and Disbursements.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Schwegman, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Swift, Mr. Sorensen, and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Board of Education Certification:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11, the Margate City Board of Education certifies that as of September 30, 2023 after review of the Secretary's Monthly Financial Reports (Revenue and Appropriation Sections) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials that to the best of our knowledge there have been no changes in anticipated revenue sources and/or amounts and no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)2-3 so that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Schwegman, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Swift, Mr. Sorensen, and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Bills and Payrolls:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to approve the payment of bills and payrolls, as listed on Exhibit # 3, pages 28,945 - 28,961.

Motion passed by the following roll call:

Ayes: Mr. Schwegman, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Swift, Mr. Sorensen, and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Transfer of Funds:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to approve the following Transfer of Funds:

Transfer of Funds within the General Current Expense Account

Ratified Budget Transfers for 2023-2024

To:	11-000-261-420-00-04	WHR VFD SERVICES	\$5,000.00
	20-231-100-600-00-00-010	MATH CURRICULUM	\$2,634.00
	20-250-100-300-00-00-025	STUDENT SERVICES	\$4,000.00
	20-487-400-732-00-00-010	EAT HVAC	\$16,286.00
		TOTAL	\$27,920.00
FROM:	11-000-261-420-00-04	WHR VFD SERVICES	\$5,000.00
	20-231-100-600-00-00-025	MATH CURRICULUM	\$2,634.00
	20-250-100-300-00-00-010	STUDENT SERVICES	\$4,000.00
	20-487-400-732-00-00-025	EAT HVAC	\$16,286.00
		TOTAL	\$27,920.00

Motion passed by the following roll call:

Ayes: Mr. Schwegman, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Swift, Mr. Sorensen, and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Report of Receipts and Disbursements:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to accept the Report of Receipts and Disbursements for the month of September 2023, attached as Exhibit # 4, pages 28,962 – 28,972.

Motion passed by the following roll call:

Ayes: Mr. Schwegman, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Swift, Mr. Sorensen, and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Cash Report:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to accept the Cash Report for the month of September 2023, attached as Exhibit # 5, page 28,973.

Motion passed by the following roll call:

Ayes: Mr. Schwegman, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Swift, Mr. Sorensen, and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Unfinished Business:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mrs. Wray-Norris, to approve the following unfinished business:

A) Approval and adoption of the following policies:

- 4151.1/4251.1 Personal Illness and Injury/Health and Hardship policy
- 5131.1 Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying policy
- 5131.1R Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying regulation
- 5131.5 Vandalism/Violence policy
- 6142.2 English as a Second Language: Bilingual Programs policy

Motion passed by the following roll call:

Ayes: Mr. Schwegman, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Swift, Mr. Sorensen, and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

New Business:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mrs. Wray-Norris, to approve the following new business:

A. Approve the Nursing Services Plan for 2023-2024.

B. Motion to approve the following resolution for the disposal of surplus property:

WHEREAS, the Margate City Board of Education is the owner of certain surplus property which is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Margate City Board of Education is desirous of selling said surplus property in an “as is” condition without express or implied warranties.

NOW THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED by the Margate City BOARD OF EDUCATION in the City of Margate, County of Atlantic, as follows:

(1) The sale of the surplus property shall be conducted through GovDeals in accordance with the terms and conditions of the cooperative purchasing contract 041316-GDI through Sourcwell. The terms and conditions of the agreement entered into with GovDeals are available online at govdeals.com and also available from the Business Office of the Margate City Board of Education.

(2) The sale will be conducted online and the address of the auction site is govdeals.com.

(3) The sale is being conducted pursuant to Local Finance Notice 2008-9.

(4) A list of the surplus property to be sold is as follows:

- i. Lot A: Switches, printers, routers, computers, & UPS units
- ii. Lot B: Smartboards, projectors & bulbs
- iii. Lot C: Scanners, computers, projectors, cameras, & monitor

New Business (Continued):

- (5) The surplus property as identified shall be sold in an “as-is” condition without express or implied warranties with the successful bidder required to execute a Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreement concerning use of said surplus property.
- (6) The Margate City Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any bid submitted.
- C. Approve the resubmission of the ESEA 2024 Grant application to include the following carryover amounts:
- Title I \$ 11,465
 - Title IIA \$ 5,335
 - Title IV \$ 3,832
- D. Approve the District Performing Arts Curriculum for K-8.
- E. Approve the integrated District Holocaust Awareness Curriculum for K-8.
- F. Approve the first reading of the following board policies:
- Policy 2415 - Every Student Succeeds Act
 - Policy 2415.02 - Title 1 Fiscal Responsibilities
 - Policy 2415.04 - Title 1 District-wide Parental Involvement
 - Policy 2415.50 - Title 1 School Parent and Family Engagement
 - Policy 2415.05 - Student Surveys, Analysis, Evaluations, Examinations, Testing or Treatment
- G. Approve the submission of an application for the Eugene A. Tighe School to the New Jersey Department of Education, for review and Department approval of a “school facilities project” as indicated on the long-range facilities plan. The Board authorizes Spiezle Architectural Group Inc, to make the submission to the Department of Education on behalf of the District for the roofing systems project.
- H. Approve the submission of the application to the Schools Development Authority (SDA) for FY23 Capital Maintenance and Emergent Projects Funding in the amount of \$8,363.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Schwegman, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Swift, Mr. Sorensen, and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Other Matters:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to approve the following other matters:

1. Approve Ross Choir to perform at the Lite Rock radio station for their Christmas Caroling morning show on November 30, 2023. Staff: Lindsey Evans and Kaitlin Roselli. Costs: Bus and substitute driver.
2. Approve Ross Choir to perform at the Lite Rock radio station for their Christmas Caroling morning show on November 30, 2023. Staff: Lindsey Evans and Kaitlin Roselli. Costs: Bus and substitute driver.
3. Approve Anthony Perfetti as a Volunteer Assistant Coach for the Girls Basketball team.
4. Approve a Medical Leave for Jozef Pitynski from November 1, to November 12, 2023.
5. Approve Brian Pasternak to complete 40 clinical observation hours, with Nastasa Coughlin during his prep period for courses, SPED 08360 and SPED 08307.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Schwegman, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Swift, Mr. Sorensen, and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Public Comment:

No members of the community commented.

Adjournment:

Upon motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, the board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 6:41 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Melina Skwarek
Board Secretary/School Business Administrator