

LONG BEACH ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION
Long Beach Island, New Jersey
REGULAR MEETING
January 16, 2024
Ethel A. Jacobsen School Media Center
Executive (Closed) Session 5:30 PM – Regular (Public) Session 6:30 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 Ethel A. Jacobsen School, 200 South Barnegat Avenue, Surf City, New Jersey on January 16, 2024.

Board President, Colette Southwick, called the meeting to order at 6:30 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**
- | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Dr. Chung | Mr. Schragger | Mrs. Southwick |
| Ms. Hagler | Mr. Wright | |
| Mrs. Raber (arrived @6:34) | Mrs. Hoffacker | |

ABSENT: Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Wasilewski

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Peter Kopack, Superintendent
Mr. Frank Birney, Principal
Ms. Meghan Lee, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Mr. Dennis McKeever, Esq.
Ms. Jennifer Edwards, Acacia Financial
Ms. Olivia Cashman, Spiezle Architectural Group
Mr. Steven Siegel, Spiezle Architectural Group (virtual)
Mr. Anthony Solomini, Bond Counsel (virtual)

4. **REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:** Dr. Kopack thanked everyone for attending the meeting and reported on the following: 6th Grade Career Day on January 12th, TECHSPO '24 student presentation "Finch Robots" on January 26th, and the next PTA meeting will be February 8th @ 6:30 in the LBI Media Center.
5. **REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL:** Mr. Birney reported on the following: PreK is working on dramatic play-ski resort; Kindergarten is working on vocabulary, addition and Martin Luther King Day; First Grade is working on phonics skills and earth surface; and Second Grade is working on informational paragraphs, facts, details and transition words and phrases. He reported on and thanked all for attending the Holiday Program, Kindergarten Rotary Luncheon, and SRHS Holiday Show (1st grade students attended).
6. **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT:** Mrs. Southwick reported on 6th Grade Career Day and thanked the teachers for all they do for the students and read a response to the recent article in *The Sandpaper*.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:** Members of the public commented, asked questions on the following topics:

- 2024-2025 School Calendar
- Item 16D on Agenda - Acacia Financial Agreement

8. **BOARD CORRESPONDENCE:** None

9. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Brielle Hoffacker, second by Danielle Hagler to approve the following:

As per the recommendation of the Superintendent:

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

December 12, 2023: Regular and Closed Session
January 2, 2024: Reorganization (Public) Session

Minutes of the closed session meeting will be released to the public when the reasons for nondisclosure no longer exist.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

December 12:

Ayes(5): Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Schragger, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain(2): Dr. Chung, Mrs. Hoffacker

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

January 2:

Ayes(6): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain(1): Mr. Schragger

10. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- PTA Liaison: Stephanie Chung reported that the PTA Auction made \$10,345, upcoming assemblies (Cedar Run Wildlife and STEAM), and reported that there will be another Book Fair in March during conferences.
- Building/Grounds/Transportation/Finance: Consolidation Presentation by Meghan Lee, School Business Administrator, representatives from Spiegle Architectural Group, Bond Counsel, and Acacia Financial. The presentation covered the following topics:
 - EJ Addition - updated plan/construction phases
 - Project Cost for this phase
 - Addition Financing: Capital Reserve/Equipment Lease-Purchase Agreement
 - Timeline
 - DOE Approval of Plans

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

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

WHEREAS, The New Jersey School Boards Association has declared January 2024 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 581 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 2024 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 staff toward the advancement of our children's education.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(7): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Schragger, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Hoffacker,
Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

12. **PERSONNEL**

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

As per the recommendation of the Superintendent:

A. **Leave of Absence**

Motion to approve a leave of absence for employee #4501 beginning January 23, 2024 through February 20, 2024. Employee will use paid leave.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(7): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Schragger, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Hoffacker,
Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Addendum Items:

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

- B. Leave of Absence
Motion to approve the revised leave of absence for employee #4274, beginning December 6, 2023 through January 26, 2024. Employee will use paid leave.
- C. Leave of Absence Extension
Motion to approve an unpaid leave of absence extension for employee #4274, beginning January 27, 2024 through March 5, 2024.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(7): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Schragger, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

13. BUILDING/GROUNDS/TRANSPORTATION/FINANCE

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

As per the recommendation of the Superintendent:

A. Financial Reports

1. Financial Reports of the Secretary to the Board of Education
Motion to approve financial reports for the month of December 2023.
 - a. Report of the Secretary dated December 31, 2023
 - b. Report of the Treasurer dated December 31, 2023
2. Statement of Cash Balances
Motion to accept the Statement of Cash Balances for the month of December 2023 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 2023 no budgetary line item account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 (b).



Meghan Lee, School Business Administrator

2/21, 2024

- B. Transfers
Motion to approve the December 2023 transfer report.
- C. Bills List
Motion to approve the January 2024 Bills List, totaling \$372,645.95.
- D. Travel and Training
Motion to approve the following travel/training expenses.

Date	Name	Position	Workshop	Location	Cost
2/6/24	Denise Lake Bianca Aniski	School Nurse	AtlantiCare School Nurse Lecture: Management of Children with Joint Hypermobility in School	Virtual	\$25 each registration
1/10/24	Karen Beetel	Teacher	AlantiCare Wellness Grant Workshop	Virtual	None
12/15/23	Julie Oldham	Counselor	NJDOE Threat Assessment & Management Training	Virtual	None
5/16/24	Denise Lake	School Nurse	NJDOE Threat Assessment & Management Training	Virtual	None
2/9/24	Julie Oldham	Counselor	CIACC Workshop (Children's Interagency Coordinating Councils)	OCC	Mileage

E. Use of Facilities

Motion to approve use of facilities as follows, pending receipt of certificate of insurance:

1. Eyes on the Ball Tennis, LBI Grade School, July 8-11, July 22-26 and August 12-15, 2024, (8:30-11:15 a.m.) at a fee of \$60/day.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Items A, B, D, E:

Ayes(7): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Schragger, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Item C:

Ayes(6): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Southwick

Nays(1): Mr. Schragger

Abstain: 0

14. ANNUAL APPROVALS/CONTRACTS

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

As per the recommendation of the Superintendent:

A. Uniform Memorandum of Agreement

Motion to approve the revised 2023/2024 Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement between Education and Law Enforcement Officials as presented.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(7): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Schragger, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Hoffacker,
Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

15. **EDUCATIONAL**

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

As per the recommendation of the Superintendent:

A. **HIB Report**

Motion to accept the Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying report as presented in Executive Session.

B. **Preschool Tuition**

Motion to establish Preschool tuition rates for the 2024-2025 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. **2024-2025 Choice Students (As Amended)**

Motion to approve 42 Choice students for the 2024-2025 school year.

D. **2024-2025 School Calendar (As Amended)**

Motion to approve the 2024-2025 school calendar as presented.

E. **School Calendar Revision 2023-2024**

Motion to approve adjusting the 2023-2024 school calendar due to the flood day on January 10, 2024. February 16th will now become an early dismissal for students and remain a full day for staff.

The Board had a brief discussion about the 2024-2025 School Calendar.

A motion was made by Kristy Raber, second by Danielle Hagler to amend the 2024/2025 School Calendar to make the first three days of school early dismissal days (September 4-6).

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Amendment of 2024-2025 Calendar

Ayes(7): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Schragger, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Hoffacker,
Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Item A

Ayes(6): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Southwick

Nays(1): Mr. Schragger

Abstain: 0

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried (As Amended):

Items B-E

Ayes(7): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Schragger, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Hoffacker,
Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

16. **UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS**

As per the recommendation of the Superintendent:

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

A. Board Committees

Motion to approve the 2024 Board Committees as presented.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(6): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Southwick

Nays(1): Mr. Schragger

Abstain: 0

Motion by Brielle Hoffacker, second by William Wright to approve the following:

B. **ESTABLISHMENT OF ANNUAL MEETING CALENDAR**

Resolved to establish the revised 2024 Annual Meeting Calendar. All public meetings will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Media Center of the Ethel A. Jacobsen School, 200 South Barnegat Avenue, Surf City, NJ unless otherwise noted. Executive (closed) sessions will be held prior to the public meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. The Long Beach Island Board of Education reserves the right to cancel, postpone, or change the meeting dates, times and places with proper notice according to law.

Month	Meeting	Comment
January	January 16, 2024	
February	February 20, 2024	
March	March 19, 2024	(Preliminary Budget Review)
April	April 30, 2024	(Public Budget Hearing)
May	May 28, 2024	
June	June 18, 2024	
July	July 16, 2024	
August	August 20, 2024	
September	September 17, 2024	
October	October 15, 2024	
November	November 19, 2024	
December	December 10, 2024	
January 2025	January 2, 2025	(Reorganization)

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(7): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Schragger, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Hoffacker,
Mrs. Southwick
Nays: 0
Abstain: 0

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

C. Grant Acceptance

Motion to accept the following grants. There will be no financial impact to the Board of Education from these grants:

- EJ School: Resiliency Grant in the amount of \$1,500 through AtlantiCare Healthy Schools, Healthy Children as a "One Book, One School" reading program within our school.
- LBI School: Physical Enhancement Grant in the amount of \$1,000 through AtlantiCare Healthy Schools, Healthy Children for a Walking Classroom initiative which will enable us to initiate or sustain ongoing wellness activities within the school setting.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(7): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Schragger, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Hoffacker,
Mrs. Southwick
Nays: 0
Abstain: 0

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

D. Acacia Financial Agreement

Motion to approve a contract with Acacia Financial Group, Inc. for Financial Advisor Services to the Long Beach Island Board of Education in accordance with the terms set forth in the cost proposal in the amount of \$4,000.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(7): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Schragger, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Hoffacker,
Mrs. Southwick
Nays: 0
Abstain: 0

17. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. Dates to Remember

Jan. - Feb.: After School Academy continues at EJ and LBI Schools
January 18: PTA Assembly, "Cedar Run Wildlife" at EJ and LBI Schools
January 24: PTA Author Visit, Kathy Nissivocci at EJ and LBI Schools
February 2: End of the 2nd MP
February 5: 3rd MP Begins
February 8: PTA Meeting, LBI Grade School, 6:30 p.m.
February 13: STEAM Assembly at EJ School
February 16: Early dismissal/Staff Inservice
February 19: School Closed - Presidents Day
February 20: Board of Education Meeting, EJ School, 6:30 p.m.

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

- Funds for EJ Addition
- Student Demographics
- Tidelands - Impact on Ship Bottom

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

As per the recommendation of the Superintendent:

RESOLUTION: Resolved that the Board of Education will open its next scheduled meeting on February 20, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Media Center of the Ethel A. Jacobsen School, 200 South Barnegat Avenue, Surf City, 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 6:30 p.m. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., as amended by P.L.2020, c.11, and Section 8, c. 34 (N.J.S.A. 52:27D-18.11) the Board may conduct a public meeting remotely by electronic means during a state of emergency so long as reasonable public notice and provision for public input is made under the circumstances.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(7): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Schragger, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Hoffacker,
Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

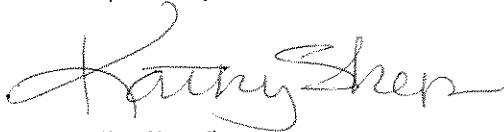
Abstain: 0

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

21. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:12 p.m., a motion was made by Brielle Hoffacker, second by Kristy Raber to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kathy Sheplin
Assistant to the Board Secretary