

The business meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of New Providence was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on February 27, 2020, at the New Providence High School/Middle School Media Center, 35 Pioneer Drive, by the Board Vice President, Mr. Dinerman.

Present on roll call were Rebecca Coniglio, Rob Dinerman, Mary Misiukiewicz, Adam Smith and Joseph Walsh. Also present were Dr. David Miceli, Superintendent of Schools; Scott Hough, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services; James E. Testa, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary; John Richter, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Supervision; and sixty seven members of the public.

Mr. Dinerman led in the salute to the flag.

Mr. Dinerman read the following statement:

This is a public meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of New Providence. Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with PL 1975, Chapter 231, in that an annual notice was made in conformance with Section 13 of the Act.

Whenever the business of the Board requires it to convene to Closed Session, the session will begin no later than 10:00 p.m. At the conclusion of the need for Closed Session, the Board will reconvene to the public portion of the meeting. At that time the Board will complete any other business that may be before it and the public will then be given an opportunity to be heard before the meeting is adjourned.

Comments

Mr. Dinerman, welcomed everyone and handed the meeting to Dr. Miceli.

Dr. Miceli commented that he is looking forward to this evening. It is a full agenda, much to be proud of and much to celebrate in the district.

Superintendent's Report

1. Dr. Miceli reported on the enrollment. He commented that as of the end of January we were up to a total of 11 students. Our current enrollments are: 641 at the high school, 398 at the middle school, 709 at Allen W. Roberts School, 655 at Salt Brook School, and 35 out of district, totaling 2,438 students. Additionally, we are monitoring our incoming kindergarten enrollment as well as first grade. Currently at AWR, we have 42 students registered for kindergarten and an additional 24 students registered at first grade. At Salt Brook School, we have 45 students enrolled for kindergarten and 12 additional students for first grade.
2. Dr. Miceli commented that every year we like to recognize our teachers of the year from each school. We will celebrate them at the March 26th meeting. He thanked Mr. Richter for spearheading the committee. The following are the 2019-2020 school year Teachers of the Year:

Mr. Michael Niedziejko	High School
Mr. Scott Murphy	Middle School
Mr. Nhan Ngo	Allen W. Roberts School
Mrs. Maureen Bulger	Salt Brook School

We look forward to recognizing them at the March 26th Board meeting.

3. Dr. Miceli commented on the remaining Strategic Planning Sessions for this year. On March 5th, we will have the Finance/Facilities/Security session, and on March 27th, Enrollment and Demographic Studies session. These are the last two sessions for this year. We will have the students' focus groups in April and in May and finally we will begin the conversation on our district's goals for the next five years.

4. Dr. Miceli commented on the coronavirus. We are spending quite a bit of time trying to study as much as we can and gathering as much information as we can from the NJ Department of Health and the local office in Westfield. Due to the coronavirus, we had to cancel our international trips that were scheduled in April, one going to Japan and the other to France and Spain. The families of the students have been notified and they have been coordinating with Mr. Tracey and the high school administration on cancellation of those trips. Hopefully, by the time we get to next spring, we will be able to offer those trips again.

Dr. Miceli commented that there have been announcements by the CDC and the local Department of Health that the virus will more than likely be headed to the US and at some point to New Jersey. He commented that the district has a Pandemic Preparedness Plan. In 2009, we dealt with the swine flu, H1N1. We addressed this at the time, which was ten years ago. The local health officer, Meghan Avallone, at the Westfield office, communicated that this coronavirus is a similar agent to the H1N1 virus. Many of the procedures and protocols that we will likely receive from the Department of Health will be comparable to that, ten years ago. They are anticipating disseminating the information next week. As soon as we receive any additional guidance from them, we will disseminate that to all of our staff, students and the community. At this point, we have a number of things posted on the website and that is the guidance we have thus far. Another piece of information that was shared is that the federal government tracks and monitors all flights in and out of the country, and that information is then disseminated to the state health officers. Anyone who has been flying back from China, are being advised to go into a 14 day voluntary quarantine. As the state receives that information, the local health agencies are then in contact with those families. More information will come in the future.

5. Dr. Miceli commented on the Board Meeting Calendar and what will be presented at each of the meetings, they are:
 - March 12 - Presentation on Communications, specifically our new district App
 - March 26 - Teacher of the Year presentations
 - Think Tank 2.0 internal research outcomes:
 - Social Emotional Learning
 - Curriculum
 - April 26 - 20/21 Budget Presentation

- Think Tank 2.0 Committee outcomes:
 - Structural Strategies and Data
 - Decision Making

- May 7 - Think Tank 2.0 Committee outcomes:
 - Classroom Environment
 - Technology Tools
- May 26 - Dialogue with the Board on the District's Five-year plan

Dr. Miceli welcomed Kylie Burton to report on student activities.

Student Report- Kylie Burton

Kylie reported on student activities. She commented as Winter is coming to an end, and Spring is starting, the school is filled with lots of excitement. As always more and more seniors are deciding where they want to go to college. All decisions will be released by the end of April giving students until May 1st to make their final choice.

Kyle commented that a lot of the winter sports are coming to an end and Spring sports will be starting soon.

- The girls and boys basketball teams are both moving to state tournaments.
- One wrestler will go to the state championship tournament in Atlantic City. It happens to be a girl, so that's especially exciting.
- Several of the track participants are moving on to groups
- Boys swim ended a great season with a win at the sectionals.

Kylie commented that the basketball teams had their annual inclusive fundraiser this past weekend. They raised money for the Stars Program. The event was very successful and everyone had a lot of fun. The Spring musical *Little Shop of Horrors* is in full swing. The cast and crew have been working long hours to make sure everything is perfect for the performances on March 13th and March 14th. The prom fashion show is coming up on April 4.

This year's theme is the Met Gala. Seniors get a chance to model tuxes and dresses, and there will be lots of raffle baskets to win. This is a huge fundraiser and it is always fun for students, staff and parents. Everyone is looking forward to this event.

The National Art Honor Society is working on a series of six murals for the Morristown National Historical Park and the Thomas Edison Historic Park. They have also been painting windows at the Prestige Diner. It is really nice to see the town getting so involved with school organizations.

The Graphic Design classes are working on making wooden blocks that will be added to a large mural in the Borough Recreation Center. It is supposed to represent the individuals of New Providence coming together. Keep an eye out for more details about the mural and how you can get involved.

Kylie thanked the administration and the board for allowing her to report.

Dr. Miceli thanked Kylie for her report.

Impact Teacher- Brandee Conover

Dr. Miceli invited Mrs. Hansen and Mrs. Brandee Conover, Media Specialist at Allen W. Roberts Elementary School to come up with him.

Dr. Miceli commented that the Impact Teacher program was created a year ago to recognize staff members who do above and beyond for our community. He commented that for those who don't know Mrs. Conover, she is not only an amazing teacher, but a very committed staff member to the district. He commented that you will find her in anything happening in the evening for parents. She comes to all of our Strategic planning sessions, always engaged in the community, always contributing, and always for the goodness for our students. If you walk into her media center, at Allen W. Roberts, there are always tons of students enjoying the environment and always being nurtured by Mrs. Conover. He commented that he cannot say enough about Mrs. Conover in the years he has known her, and he appreciated everything she has done.

Mrs. Hanson commented, Mrs. Conover is an extraordinary educator who for many years has had a positive influence on students in her care. She is someone students, colleagues, and community members can count on to assist them with a problem or in their quest for knowledge. This year, Mrs. Conover should be recognized for the impact her evening program, "Parent Tools for Student Success" had on the AWR community.

Mrs. Conover coordinated an evening of presentations designed to provide parents with ways to support their child both academically and socially for daily success in school. Parents received not only information but were shown how to use tools provided by the district to be a collaborative force in their child's educational journey.

The planning and preparation that was required to envision and execute this evening revealed Mrs. Conover's organizational skills. She first shared her program idea with the administration and once she received the green light, immediately began to share that vision with her colleagues and the community. She reached out to many staff and community members to get feedback related to the needs of the students and parents. She analyzed the feedback and identified the presentations that would have the greatest impact on student achievement. Mrs. Conover's enthusiasm for the project was contagious. She demonstrated her leadership skills by recruiting a team of teachers and a PTA parent to assist her in making the program a reality.

On October 10, 2019, AWR hosted its first "Parent Tools for Student Success" night. The parents were able to choose two out of the nine topics covered that evening which included Sora (Overdrive), Reading Resources (K-2 & 3-6), PowerSchool, Go Math, Google Classroom, Mindfulness, Online Databases, Keyboarding, and Coding. This evening had a positive impact on the approximately 100 parents who attended that night and in turn their children that benefited as a result.

Mrs. Conover, on behalf of the Board of Education and administration, we recognize you as a New Providence Impact Teacher and thank you for all that you have done and continue to do for the students of New Providence.

Mrs. Conover thanked Mrs. Hansen and Dr. Miceli for the honor. She commented that she is

blessed to work in New Providence. It's been a long journey, but she loved every moment. She thanked the support of the administration and the staff at Allen W. Roberts. She thanked the parents and most importantly her students. This is a wonderful community to grow and learn.

New Providence Education Foundation Presentation - 2019/2020 Grants

Mr. Dinerman welcomed Mrs. Botvinis and Mr. Naughton, both from the New Providence Education Foundation. Mr. Dinerman commented that the NPEF has provided so much support to the District.

Mrs. Suzanne Botvinis, Grant Chair of the NPEF, and Mr. Chris Naughton, Treasurer, of the New Providence Educational Foundation, presented the District a check for \$74,164.10 for the 2019-2020 school year.

Mrs. Botvinis thanked everyone who supported the foundation's Gala which raised over \$33,000.00, putting the foundation to over \$1 million to date raised. This year they had a lot of grants that were submitted. She commented that a typical year awarded is between \$70,000 to \$80,000 in grants to the District. This year's grant is a little over \$74,000.00.

Mr. Smith commented that we should send a thank you note to Mrs. Inzano who was the District's superintendent at the time, and Mrs. Grapel, a board member, as both were instrumental in getting the foundation started. He commented that it would be nice to update them of the accomplishment of raising \$1 million to date.

Dr. Miceli thanked Mrs. Botvinis and Mr. Naughton for the generous check from the foundation, to the District.

Presentation – District Curriculum Report - Mr. Jay Richter

Mr. Richter commented that he is pleased to present the 2019-2020 Curriculum Report. He thanked the Board and the community for coming out to see the presentation by some of our students, who are in the audience, who have helped some aspects of the presentation and be a part of it during the presentation. The presentation will provide some highlights from the written report that the department heads and administrations have worked on. There will be highlights of the curriculum and some of the new courses that are happening in New Providence School District.

He commented that they set out this year with two big goals throughout the entire district, to learn about Generation Z, and Social Emotional Learning. We engaged in research and professional development days, faculty meetings, and sub committee meetings, to learn about those two aspects of what's happening with our students. We are trying to find out about Generation Z, what makes them unique and the best ways we can motivate them. We are also trying to learn about our student's Social Emotional Learning needs and Social Emotional Competencies so we can see how best to address those needs in our classrooms. In addition to all our own research, the students were also involved in their own research.

During the 2018-2019 school year, middle school students benefited from the use of full classroom sets of iPads. During the second half of the school year, the students and teachers

engaged in a pilot program where students used the same iPad throughout the school day rather than a different one in each of their classes. During the 2019-2020 school year, the program expanded to allow students to have their own iPad that would be used both in and outside of the classroom and school day. Allowing the students to have their own iPad has helped personalize learning for the students, similar to the high school's initiative. Student's organization of class with one another and with teachers has also improved. Students are using applications and online tools to both assist and demonstrate their learning. Google Classroom and other Google applications have also helped to streamline the learning process. With the full use of the iPad, students also have more opportunities to transfer their learning to new tasks such as multimedia presentations and projects through iMovie. Teachers and students will continue to see enhancements in learning outcomes with implementation of this personalized learning tool.

Mr. Richter introduced Ms. Katie Blanco, department head of Language Arts K-6.

Mrs. Blanco talked about one of the changes in the 6th grade Language Arts Mod. This is an inquiry based unit on health that integrates what's learned during the readers and writers workshop. In this unit, students think critically about ideas pertaining to health, they make research based arguments, and base ideas on multiple perspectives. She commented that she observed students at Salt Brook School having discussions about the pros and cons of students of a later start time at the middle and high school, and being future middle schoolers next year, this was a relevant topic for them. A video of several Salt Brook students was presented discussing the pros and cons of having a later start time.

Ms. Blanco commented that the video showed a very healthy debate. The students were taking the research that they had done and forming their opinions from that. It was a great experience across the board. She commented that she was surprised to see that across the district, there was no one opinion. Some kids thought we should have a later start time, while others thought a later time would not be the best. For the duration of the year during this course, students are going to take what they have learned in debate and research and they are going to be choosing the health topic of their choice and taking their research even further. We look forward to continued success with this unit.

Mr. Richter commented on integrating technology at the elementary schools. Beginning this September, we increased access to technology for students in grades five and six. Students have been assigned an individual iPad to use throughout the school day for all subject areas and lessons as needed. This has also proved a useful tool in all academic areas. Students now keep their data, images, and projects on an individual iPad which has eliminated the sign in and sign out process between classes. Teachers in the upper elementary grades are now using Google Classroom to manage assignments and materials to quickly and easily share files and collect completed work. Fifth and sixth grade students have also had experience using Notability to complete science reports, take notes in math class, and mark up writing assignments. This program has worked very well. They do not go home with them, but they do have them the full day.

Mr. Richter commented with regards to a couple of new programs at the middle school. Algebra I was new this year for eighth graders. The Math Committee got together to analyze student data what's best needed to support student's needs. They came to find that students that took Algebra I in eighth grade, who eventually progressed and took Calculus before the end of high

school, were very prepared in college, and made themselves attractive to college programs. They were able to show themselves as achieving very high in mathematics. As a result, the committee came out to propose and implement Algebra I this year. It has done very well thus far with thirty eight students in two sections.

Mr. Tracey and the World Language department worked a lot last year to see if they could create more opportunities for students. We were excited to bring back French A for seven graders. Curriculum and resources were put together over the summer last year so that students could take that opportunity and they have enjoyed it thus far. Teachers are already planning for the French B curriculum to be implemented next year for the eighth graders and for some subsequent changes that will have impact at the high school.

Mr. Richter commented that these two programs showed the work of the department heads, teachers along with student's input and data, to come up with new programs that give our students new opportunities.

Mr. Goldstein commented at the eighth grade language arts program. He commented, to carry on at what Ms. Blanco talked about, eighth grade has gone through some significant changes in this curriculum. The eight graders are working on a composition paper on what was seen on that debate, but a little bit higher level, as expected. The important thing is to learn how to use a counter argument. To listen to what the other side is saying and to politely disagree with it using evidence. In our society right now, it is something we all need to do. He showed a video of some of the students using evidence in a debate.

Mr. Goldstein commented that this past summer two new high school curriculums were dramatically reimagined. Investigative Journalism is now offered as an exciting elective. The digital newspaper, the *Providential*, is intertwined with the work accomplished in this course and is becoming a more viable source of news and entertainment for our students and community. The *Providential* is continually updated and students receive periodic email reminders; further, the newspaper is now lined at the New Providence TAPinto. Site analytics reveal the number of readers of the paper have increased during the year. This summer, the curriculum will be written to include Advanced Investigative strands. Building young editors will help shape our online paper for years to come.

Emi Goswami and Franklin Markel, staff writers of *The Providential*, talked about how Investigative Journalism had a positive impact in their writing, as staff writers of *The Providential*. Emi explained how to navigate *The Providential* and talked about her own profile, articles that she had written, and the response she has had of those articles from their peers. Franklin commented that the elective, Investigative Journalism, has given three ideals to the writers and gave them an opportunity to work on:

- Organization; organizing your article, taking notes, outlining the article.
- Interviewing Skills; learning techniques
- Collaboration; with other writers, pure editing, partnering with other writers

Franklin commented that these three factors were crucial in getting his articles published. He has gotten better and better using these tools. Investigative Journalism is positively beneficial to everyone.

Mr. Goldstein commented that this past summer the Creative Writing curriculum was also revised, and it reflects the principles of Teachers College Reading and Writing Project. An

emphasis on teaching a variety of skills provides our students a larger toolkit of writing techniques, themes and genres. He highlighted a video journal that Sophie McTigue had done in Creative Writing about a resident in town, parallel to a book that they had read in class.

Ms. Bromley commented on the new electives in Science. Introduced this year are eight electives in Science and STEM. She highlighted three of the eight courses. Three seniors that are currently taking those classes spoke about their experiences in those courses.

Michelle Schmitz, a student in Forensic Science talked about what they have learned using techniques and tests that they used to solve a crime. She commented on how to use evidence to figure out the perpetrator. Fingerprinting, Blood typing, and hair analysis are the three techniques that are used to analyze evidence.

Charlotte Lin, senior at NPHS, talked about a project she worked on. She commented that the course, Research I, allowed students to conduct a small scale research project that combined elements from STEM education to produce a cohesive science experiment. She commented that along with her partner Alex, the research they completed was a project relating to the cultivation of Algae. With the need of environmental fuel sources, the efficient cultivation of algae has become an increasingly important topic. She went on to explain how the research was concluded.

Kathryn Hearn talked about her experience in Dynamics in Healthcare in Society class. She commented that in the class they did in depth research in all of the careers in the medical field. She commented that for students interested in medicine it is great to have a teacher who had the experience of going to medical school. Mr. Dougher gave them so much guidance. Kate commented that she had always wanted to be a doctor, but with research in this class, she decided to go in the Physician Assistant course. At the end of the semester, the class took an online exam at Rutgers University, which they all passed, and received college credits. She commented she recommends this course to anyone interested in the medical field.

Ms. Bromley thanked the students for their presentations she thanked all the teachers who worked on getting these courses up and running. It takes hard work and the first years are always a challenge.

Mr. Richter thanked all the teachers, department heads and especially the students who are amazing in preparing the presentations and on how amazing they speak and carry themselves in their presentations.

Mr. Richter commented that we have had a big program in the elementary schools this year in Inclusion and Co-Teaching K-6. In the interest of time, this program is still going underway. We look forward to sharing those results later in the year and continuing the implementation of it next year. We have done a lot in social emotional learning this year with ourselves as educators and our students. This work will continue until next year as well. Finally, our entire staff has been involved in research with various committees. Each of those sub-committees will present at our future meetings, in March and April, which will help and lead to our long term strategic plan.

Mr. Richter thanked everyone for coming and commented that the written report will be posted on our website.

Mr. Dinerman thanked Mr. Richter for his presentation. He commented that he has done a fair amount of research in curriculum nationwide. It is really hard to find that comes close to what was just presented this evening.

Mr. Smith wanted to echo Mr. Richter on the presentation of all the students. It was very impressive. It is a testament to our staff.

Mr. Smith asked if there were any problems with the iPad initiative at the middle school.

Mr. Richter commented that any issues in the middle school are a distraction in the classroom, whether they have an iPad or not. Because they have been using iPads since last year, there is no different this year.

Mrs. Zirpoli commented that she agreed with Mr. Richter. She and Mr. Keaney, the new administration having so much experience at the high school, of the use of iPads on a one to one, they are looking forward to working with the middle school teachers to use it as a resource and a tool for instruction in the classroom. The difference is that they are taking them home with them. as the new administration, we are eager to continue and get to know how to utilize them for middle school students and continue to work with them.

Mr. Dinerman opened the meeting for public comments on specific agenda items at 8:57 p.m.

There were no comments from the public.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Smith moved to approve the Board Meeting Minutes as follows.

Regular/Reorganization Meeting	January 2, 2020
Closed Session	January 2, 2020

Seconded by: Mr. Walsh
Roll Call Vote:

☐ Yea ☐ Mrs. Coniglio	☐ Absent ☐ Mr. Krauss
☐ Absent ☐ Mrs. Cuccaro	☐ Yea ☐ Mrs. Misiukiewicz
☐ Yea ☐ Mr. Dinerman	☐ Yea ☐ Mr. Smith
☐ Yea ☐ Mr. Walsh	

Mrs. Misiukiewicz moved to approve the Board Meeting Minutes as follows.

Regular
Closed Session

January 23, 2020
January 23, 2020

Seconded by: Mrs. Coniglio
Roll Call Vote:

☐ Yea ☐ Mrs. Coniglio	☐ Absent ☐ Mr. Krauss
☐ Absent ☐ Mrs. Cuccaro	☐ Yea ☐ Mrs. Misiukiewicz
☐ Yea ☐ Mr. Dinerman	☐ Yea ☐ Mr. Smith
☐ Yea ☐ Mr. Walsh	

ACTION ITEMS
FINANCE ACTION

Mr. Walsh, Committee Chairperson, moved to approve Items 1 through 8 as listed below:

Board Secretary and Treasurer Reports Accepted

1. After review, we hereby accept the Board Secretary and Treasurer reports for January, 2020. There is no major account or fund which has been overexpended in violation of financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

February 2020 Bills List Approved

2. Approve the payment of bills listed for February, 2019, in the amount of \$3,937,350.06.

Certified Costs Per Pupil for the 2018/2019 School Year Approved

3. Approve state certified costs per pupil for the 2018/2019 school year as follows:

Preschool/Kindergarten	\$10,958.00
Grades 1 - 5	\$13,412.00
Grades 6 - 8	\$13,416.00
Grades 9 - 12	\$15,439.00
Learning/Lang. Disabilities	\$22,879.00
Preschool Dis. - Full Time	\$28,483.00
Preschool Dis. - Part Time	\$22,307.00

Middle School Assistant Principal as a Signatory Resolution Approved

4. Approve the following resolution:

Designate the Middle School Assistant Principal as a signatory for the New Providence Middle School Student Activities Account for the remainder of the 2019/2020 school year.

Generous Donation of State/County Championship Banners from the NP Athletic Booster Club Approved

5. Approve to accept the generous donation of 49 State/County Championship Banners from the New Providence Athletic Booster Club, valued at \$3,675.00.

Generous Donation to the John R. O'Neill Memorial Scholarship Fund from Mr. and Mrs. James Prunesti Approved

6. Approve to accept the generous donation to the John R. O'Neill Memorial Scholarship Fund from Mr. and Mrs. James Prunesti in the amount of \$50.00.

National Cooperative Purchasing Groups Resolution for the Remainder for the 2019/2020 School Year Approved

7. Approve the following resolution for the remainder for the 2019/2020 school year:

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 52:34-6.2 authorizes New Jersey public entities, including local school districts, to participate in National Cooperative Purchasing groups, which Educational and Institutional (E&I) Cooperative Services is a National Cooperative Purchasing group from New York, and

WHEREAS, E&I Cooperative Services has offered voluntary participation in cooperative purchasing group for the purchase of goods and services, which was accepted by the State of New Jersey, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the New Providence Board of Education will participate and be a member of E&I Cooperative Services, effective February 27, 2020 until the end of the 2019/2020 school year.

2019/2020 Grant Awards from the New Providence Education Foundation Approved

8. Approve to accept the 2019/2020 Grant Awards from the New Providence Education Foundation in the amount of \$74,164.10.

Seconded by: Mr. Smith

Roll Call Vote:

Yea Mrs. Coniglio

Absent Mr. Krauss

Absent Mrs. Cuccaro

Yea Mrs. Misiukiewicz

Yea Mr. Dinerman

Yea Mr. Smith

Yea Mr. Walsh

FACILITIES ACTION

Mr. Walsh, Committee Chairperson, moved to approve Items 1 and 2 listed below:

Disposal and Donation of Traveler Man Lift Approved

1. Approve the disposal and donation to the New Providence Borough Department of Public Works of one (1) Traveler man Lift, NP ID# 001620, which is outdated and no longer deemed necessary for school use.

Disposal of Textbooks Which Are No Longer Part of the Art Curricula and Are Outdated Approved

2. Approve the disposal of the following textbooks which are no longer part of the art curricula and are outdated:
 - a. Three Centuries of American Art, 1966, twenty-seven (27) texts
 - b. Art in Focus 4th Edition, 2000, one (1) text
 - c. Art in Focus 5th Edition, 2001, one (1) text
 - d. Art Today, 1969, four (4) texts
 - e. Art/Search and Self-Discovery, 1968, three (3) texts
 - f. A Concise History of Modern Sculpture, 1968, five (5) texts

Seconded by: Mrs. Misiukiewicz

Roll Call Vote:

Yea Mrs. Coniglio

Absent Mr. Krauss

Absent Mrs. Cuccaro

Yea Mrs. Misiukiewicz

Yea Mr. Dinerman

Yea Mr. Smith

Yea Mr. Walsh

EDUCATION ACTION

Mr. Dinerman, Committee Chairperson, moved to approve Items 1 through 6 as listed below:

2019/2020 HIB Investigations Approved

1. Per the 2011 Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, approve the recommendations of the Superintendent regarding the following 2018/2019 Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying investigations:

<u>School</u>	<u>Incident Report Number(s)</u>
High School:	6
Middle School:	9

Submission of a Request for Waiver for the New Providence School District from Participation in the Special Education-Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program Approved

2. In accordance with the requirement of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3, the Board of Education authorizes the submission of a request for waiver for the New Providence School District from participation in the Special Education-Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program. This waiver request is based on evidence estimating that the district will have fewer than 40 Medicaid-Eligible Special Education students for the 2020/2021 school year.

Continuation of the Cooperative Ice Hockey Program Approved

3. Approve the continuation of the cooperative ice hockey program with Governor Livingston High School. (Third cycle of the NJSIAA 2-year co-op contract)

2019/2020 School Resource Officer Approved

4. Approve the following 2019/2020 School Resource Officer that is employed by the Borough of New Providence, and who will be partially funded by the Board of Education:

Thomas Hoppe	New Providence High/Middle School (replacing Michael Carlino)
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Additional Field Trip Destination for the 2019/2020 School Year Approved

5. Approve the following additional field trip destination for the 2019/2020 school year in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.8:

Adventure Aquarium, Camden, New Jersey

Enrollment of an Out-of District Student for the 2019/2020 School Year Approved

6. Approve the enrollment of the following out-of-district student for the 2019/2020 school year, effective 3/1/2020, on a tuition basis of \$5,976.75.

(1) Grade 7

Seconded by: Mr. Walsh

Mr. Smith commented on the hockey program with Governor Livingston. He commented that he is happy that we are continuing the co-op program. One of our kids scored the game winning goal the last game, so Governor Livingston was happy. We are glad that we have a new two year contract, it is good for both districts.

Roll Call Vote:

Yea Mrs. Coniglio

Absent Mr. Krauss

Absent Mrs. Cuccaro

Yea Mrs. Misiukiewicz

Yea Mr. Dinerman

Yea Mr. Smith

Yea Mr. Walsh

PERSONNEL ACTION

Mrs. Misiukiewicz, Committee Chairperson, moved to approve Items 1 through 7 as listed below.

Appointments Approved for the 2019/2020 School Year

1. Approve the appointment of the following people with the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools subject to the requirements of Chapter 116 of P.L. 1986 for the 2019/2020 school year:
 - a. Maureen Bearnarth, Data Analytics/Management Specialist (12 month; 8 hrs/day), \$20,000 (base \$80,000), effective 4/1/20 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - b. Colby Roebuck, behaviorist, \$27,201 (base \$73,516), effective 3/12/20 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - c. Zaida Hernandez, long-term substitute teacher, effective 3/16/20 thru 6/30/20, to be paid on a per diem basis of \$280.40 (prorated Step 1, Column I, base of \$56,079) (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - d. Heather Brito, secretary II (12 month; 7.5 hrs/day), \$10,034 (base \$38,938), effective 3/30/20 (subject to criminal history review procedures)

- e. Jeffrey Pierre, custodian (night), \$12,297 (base \$48,622 + \$565 night differential), effective 4/1/20 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
- f. David Aprill, long-term substitute teacher, effective 2/27/20 thru 6/30/20, \$22,992 (base \$56,079)
- g. Anthony Conzentino, boys lacrosse, second assistant, \$4,892
- h. Diana Efros- AWR 3rd Grade NJSLA After School Remediation Teacher (10 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- i. Dina Artale- AWR 3rd Grade NJSLA After School Remediation Teacher (10 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- j. Jennifer Limone- AWR 4th Grade NJSLA After School Remediation Teacher (10 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- k. Kathryn King- AWR 4th Grade NJSLA After School Remediation Teacher (10 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- l. Brittany Miller- AWR 5th Grade NJSLA After School Remediation Teacher (10 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- m. Tracy Aroneo- AWR 5th Grade NJSLA After School Remediation Teacher (10 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- n. Barbara Denike- SB 3rd Grade Math NJSLA After School Remediation Teacher (10 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- o. Rebecca Ratner- SB 3rd Grade Language Arts NJSLA After School Remediation Teacher (10 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- p. Kristen Hubert- SB 4th Grade Language Arts NJSLA After School Remediation Teacher (10 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- q. Doreen Peritore- SB 4th Grade Math NJSLA After School Remediation Teacher (10 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- r. Joanne Catlett- SB 5th Grade Language Arts NJSLA After School Remediation Teacher (10 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- s. Kathryn Press- SB 5th Grade Math NJSLA After School Remediation Teacher (10 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- t. Colleen Hasson- High School Title I Language Arts Teacher (21 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- u. David Goldstein- High School Title I Language Arts Teacher (21 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- v. Glen Robertson- High School Title I Language Arts Teacher (21 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- w. Kristina Berrios- High School Title I Language Arts Teacher (21 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- x. Charles Carell- High School Title I Mathematics Teacher (42 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- y. Peter Schaefer- High School Title I Mathematics Teacher (42 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- z. Leah Russo- Title I Language Arts Teacher, 7th Grade (5 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- aa. Alicia Hennessy- Title I Language Arts Teacher, 7th Grade (5 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)

- bb. Alessandra Finis- Title I Language Arts Teacher, 8th Grade (5 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- cc. Jenna Stickle- Title I Language Arts Teacher, 8th Grade (5 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- dd. Michael Giordano- Title I Mathematics Teacher, 7th Grade (5 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- ee. Gina Bellitti- Title I Mathematics Teacher, 7th Grade (5 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- ff. Holly Pizzonia- Title I Mathematics Teacher, 8th Grade (5 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- gg. Joan Rykus- Title I Mathematics Teacher, 8th Grade (5 hours @ \$54.87 per hour)
- hh. Laura De Nicola, home instructor

Appointments Approved for the 2020/2021 School Year

- 2. Approve the appointment of the following people with the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools subject to the requirements of Chapter 116 of P.L. 1986 for the 2020/2021 school year:
 - a. Robyn Greenwald, Principal (12 month), \$140,000, effective 7/1/20 (subject to criminal history review procedures)

Resignation Accepted

- 3. Accept the resignations of the following employees:
 - a. Sandra Andersen, teacher, effective 6/30/20, due to retirement

Revisions Approved

- 4. Approve the following revisions for the 2019/2020 school year:
 - a. Michael Criscitello, teacher, from Step 3, Column IV (\$63,015), to Step 3, Column V (\$65,182), effective 9/1/19, due to course credits
 - b. Benjamin Ruben-Schnirman, long-term substitute teacher, revise effective date from 9/1/19 thru 1/31/20 (\$28,040), to 9/1/19 thru 6/30/20 (\$56,079)

Request of Rosalie Mersinger, for an Extended Unpaid Child-Rearing Leave Approved

- 5. Approve the request of Rosalie Mersinger, teacher, (currently on maternity leave), for an extended unpaid child-rearing leave for the 2020/2021 school Year, effective 9/1/20 through 6/30/21.

Revised Job Descriptions Approved

6. Approve the following revised Job Descriptions, copies in the hands of each Board member.

<u>Job No.</u>	<u>Job Title</u>	
215	Data Processing Technician/Attendance Officer	Revised
221	Manager of Information Systems (MIS)	Revised
223	IT Support Specialist	Revised
224	Data Analytics/Management Specialist	Revised
226	District Communications Coordinator	Revised

Job Descriptions to Abolish Approved

7. Abolish the following Job Description:

<u>Job No.</u>	<u>Job Title</u>
147	Publisher of District Newsletter
148	Public Relations Coordinator

Seconded by: Mrs. Coniglio

Dr. Miceli welcomed the new hires that are at the meeting. Maureen Bearnarth will be our Data Analytics/Management Specialist. Maureen used to work for us and now she is back, welcome back. Colby Roebuck is our new behaviorist, Jeffrey Pierre is our new night custodian at AWR, and Heather Brito is the new secretary at the high school guidance office. We are looking forward to all your contributions to the district.

Dr. Miceli congratulated Mrs. Andersen on her retirement. She has been our department head of technology for a number of years and has been with us for twenty eight years. Mrs. Andersen has done a tremendous amount of work at the central office, and has helped us district wide, with communications on our website. She has pioneered a number of programs district wide. Dr. Miceli commented that she has helped him a great deal over the years, he can't thank her enough. Congratulations on your retirement.

Dr. Miceli congratulated Mrs. Hansen on her retirement. She was not at the last meeting when she was on the agenda. Mrs. Hansen has been in our district for twenty seven years and in education for forty years. Congratulations!.

Dr. Miceli welcomed Ms. Robyn Greenwald, the new Allen W. Roberts Principal. Dr. Miceli commented that Robyn went through an extensive search process, we had ninety candidates. A large committee interviewed eleven candidates and she persevered. Robyn has been a principal in the Roseland School District, pre-k to grade 6, for the past five years, so she's very familiar with the structure we have at AWR. Mrs. McGeechan is looking forward to the camaraderie of the new team at AWR. Congratulations, we look forward to your contribution to the District.

Roll Call Vote:

☐ Yea ☐ Mrs. Coniglio☐ Absent ☐ Mr. Krauss☐ Absent ☐ Mrs. Cuccaro☐ Yea ☐ Mrs. Misiukiewicz☐ Yea ☐ Mr. Dinerman☐ Yea ☐ Mr. Smith☐ Yea ☐ Mr. Walsh**BOARD POLICY**

There are no Board Policies for approval.

COMMITTEE REPORTSCurriculum, Instruction and Technology

Mrs. Coniglio commented that the committee has not met. There is nothing new to report.

Finance, Facilities and Safety/Security

Mr. Walsh commented that the committee met last week. The budget will be submitted to the county office after the meeting on March 12th.

Personnel, Management and Communication

Mrs. Misiukiewicz commented that the committee met a month ago, January 24th. They discussed new personnel and are part of the preliminary proposed budget. Once the budget gets approved, they will discuss it further.

OLD BUSINESS

There is no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Testa commented that each Board member received the code of ethics and presentation from School Boards. He asked that each Board member review it and then sign the acknowledgement of receipt that must be sent to the county office. Mr. Testa had received the acknowledgement from most of the Board members, but he needs it from everyone. The powerpoint provided goes over the act and gives scenarios as to when a Board member should and should not participate. If any Board member ever has a question, they can bring it to Mr. Testa and he can either go to the ethics board or call the board attorney. By law this must be put on the agenda and discussed each year.

Dr. Miceli commented on the Thanksgiving Day Football Game between New Providence and Berkeley Heights. He commented that there is a memo from Mr. Carangelo regarding the pros and cons of this game. Mr. Carangelo, Mrs. Zirpoli and himself met with the athletic director, high school principal and Superintendent of Berkeley Heights to talk about this community event that takes place every year. For many years, a number of alumni and community members have come to the game and have enjoyed many memories of that game. In modern times, the game has become a little more complex because of the state playoff structure. The state sectional championship game for a number of years will be the weekend following the thanksgiving game. For a number of years, as we competed in the playoffs, somehow in between we have the thanksgiving game so it became complicated because in some years, we lost some players to injury in that thanksgiving game. As the state continues to progress to the playoffs, they are looking to have a true champion, not just a sectional champion. There are four sections in the state, so they are looking for a true champion, to accomplish that, they will need two more games. There is potential that in the next couple of years, the championship game will be on that Saturday after Thanksgiving. Knowing that there is potential for this and knowing that there have been a number of schools that used to have Thanksgiving games, they have given that up, only a few still have this game. We have embraced it, but there have been complications in that our players, coaches, custodian staff are here all day long Thanksgiving day. Over the years, we have thought if there was some way to reconcile that in some ways so it's not impacting folk's holiday. As we talked with Berkeley Heights, we do want to continue this tradition because it's important, but we have to consider doing it in an alternative way. Being that we have lights, this coming year, we thought we could have it on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving day. This would be year one. The next year would be Berkeley Heights, they can bring in lights. We are proposing this two year plan because we are already locked in, so in year three, there may be changes. He commented that this is the consideration at this point and they wanted to share this to the community.

Mrs. Zirpoli commented that there may be different variables that could happen in the future. Mr. Carangelo and the Athletic Director of Berkeley Heights did a great job putting all the information together for us to be able to come to this discussion with our communities.

Dr. Miceli commented that if at some point in time, the state poses that structure, the thought process would be to maintain the game, and have it as week zero, the very first week, calling it the Kick Off Classic. The other benefit to having the game earlier in the year, from the perspective structure to the playoffs, it is more advantageous for us to play that game earlier in the year and acquire those points, as opposed to require at the end of the season, where those points are no longer applicable to our opportunity to enter into the playoffs. It is much more complicated to get in because the point structure has changed, and it has been more difficult to get into the playoffs.

Mrs. Zirpoli commented that Mr. Carangelo and the athletic director in Berkeley Heights had been in communication in creating more games that could be a friendly rivalry competition with both communities.

Dr. Miceli commented that this could engage all of our teams instead of just football. We wanted to engage in this conversation with the board tonight and get some feedback.

Mr. Smith commented that maybe from the tradition perspective, a Wednesday night would be a good idea, keeping it in the time frame. It would be a good idea in giving Thursday, Thanksgiving, back to everyone to celebrate with the family.

Mrs. Misiukiewicz agreed with Mr. Smith that Wednesday night would be a good idea.

Mr. Testa commented on the proposed budget that was reviewed and approved by the committee. The spending plan proposed is \$42,992,911. The expenditure spending increase is a little over 3% and the tax levy increase is a little over 2%. With the increase in ratables that we are going to see in 2020, the actual tax rate for the taxpayers are slightly going down. In the budget, we assumed some increases in the state aid. He commented that he did receive the state aid figures today and they are a little more than we anticipated. He commented that he will decrease the levy because the spending plan was approved by the committee. He will send out an updated budget next week, he asked everyone to look at it. He commented that if anyone has any questions, to contact anyone on the committee. The plan is that on March 12th, we have to approve the tentative budget to get approval to the county. If we get the approval, we advertise the budget, then the public presentation of the budget will be on April 29th.

Mr. Smith commented that Mr. Testa did not emphasize that the school budget part of the taxes will go down.

Mr. Testa commented, correct.

Public Comments

Mr. Dinerman opened the meeting to the public for comments at 8:51 p.m.

Stewart Sheeran, New Providence Resident

Stewart commented, in reference to the Thanksgiving Day game, being from the class of 1991, he played against both Summit and Berkeley Heights, a great tradition, he hates to see that go away. He commented that this year, we are celebrating New Providence's 300 years. He asked that it would be great if we can reference New Providence's anniversary with the Thanksgiving Day game, it would be great. He commented that he also appreciates the idea of the staff taking their time off and sharing with their families. He thanked everyone and appreciated all the work that they do.

Susan Botvinis, New Providence Resident

Mrs. Botvinis commented that she is a Summit graduate. She moved to New Providence for specific reasons. Coming from a deeply rooted town, with a lot of traditions, she would like the Board to consider, for the community, to consider keeping the Thanksgiving game tradition. She doesn't mind moving the game to Wednesday evening, versus getting rid of it altogether, most of the community would agree with that. She commented that if there could be a solution that would work for everyone and still maintain something, she thinks it is worth considering.

Maria DeLuca, New Providence Resident

Mrs. DeLuca commented on the curriculum, thank you for the French and the Algebra I. She liked that the District saw the gaps and requests and filled them in. She asked about the Thanksgiving game. When will we have to change the schedule? When will this come up for consideration.

Dr. Miceli commented that this coming Thanksgiving is year one, year two will be at Berkeley Heights, and then beyond that there is not a locked schedule by the state.

Mrs. DeLuca asked if this is just a discussion?

Dr. Miceli commented beyond the next two years, we will talk about it then.

Mr. Smith commented that beyond the two years, it may be dictated by the state. For years, in football, if they decide to go to a group championship, there will be two extra games, and that is when the pressure will be on that Thanksgiving day game.

Mrs. DeLuca asked when the decision on the time change for this year.

Dr. Miceli commented that in the next four to five weeks, we will have collectively talked with the community, and Berkeley Heights would have talked to their community about it.

Mrs. DeLuca commented that she was concerned about the drinking and driving if it became a night game.

Dr. Miceli commented that most of our home games are Friday nights. He hopes that everyone will be responsible, it's a five o'clock game. On the Thursday Thanksgiving game, most people leave at half time due to Thanksgiving, so having it on a Wednesday night, people will hopefully stay for the full game, so it will be more eventful for everyone.

Mary Hausel, New Providence Resident

Mrs. Hausel commented that there is a lot of chatter on Facebook's community and parent's forum on classroom size and kindergarten again. People want to see the survey that was put out several years ago. A lot of people have concerns and she wanted the Board to be aware that this is being discussed within the community. Many people are concerned about having 26 or 27 kids in each class, it's a concern especially with the affordable housing.

Mr. Smith commented that anything that is going to happen will happen no sooner than two years. Based on our live birth rate projections, which has been accurate in the last twenty five years, the student population is going down. It will depend on what the affordable housing will do, at this time, we don't know what will happen, when it does, we will have that conversation. We have had the conversation on full day kindergarten, there was no interest in the community.

There being no other public comments, Mr. Dinerman declared the meeting closed at 9:17 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Smith moved to adopt the following resolution:

This body shall on February 27, 2020 at p.m. in the New Providence High/Middle School Media Center, 35 Pioneer Drive, discuss in closed session, pursuant to Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act, specific matters which may generally be described as follows:

- Student matters related to HIB
- Personnel

The minutes of the discussion in closed session of the aforementioned matters may be disclosed to the public after final determination of action has been reached.

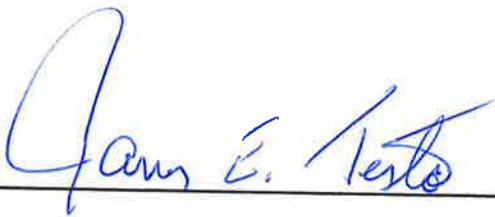
Mrs. Misiukiewicz seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Return to Public Session

The Board reconvened to a public session at 10:17 p.m. Mr. Dinerman called the Board to order. Members present were Mrs. Coniglio, Mr. Dinerman, Mrs. Misiukiewicz, Mr. Smith and Mr. Walsh.

Adjournment

There being no other business before the Board, on a motion by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mrs. Misiukiewicz, and carried unanimously, Mr. Dinerman declared the meeting adjourned at 10:18 p.m.



James E. Testa, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
2/27/20 Board Meeting