

The business meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of New Providence was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on January 5, 2023, at the New Providence High School/Middle School Media Center, 35 Pioneer Drive, by Mr. James Testa, School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary.

Present on roll call were Rebecca Coniglio, Bernadette Cuccaro, Stacey Gunderman, Amanda Marano, Mary Misiukiewicz, and Joe Walsh. Also present were Dr. David Miceli, Superintendent of Schools, Lauren Zirpoli, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, James E. Testa, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Jon Keaney, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Supervision, and 5 members of the public.

Mr. Testa led in the salute to the flag. After he stated that prior to the new board president being elected, he would be conducting the meeting.

Mr. Testa 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 9:30 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.

Mr. Testa then asked Mrs. Cuccaro and Mr. Walsh to come up and be sworn in. The new elected board members then repeated the following oath after Mr. Testa:

“I, state your name, do solemnly swear, that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, and that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same, and to the Governments established in the United States and this State, under the authority of the people.

I, state your name, do solemnly swear, that I possess the qualifications prescribed by law, for the office of member of a Board of Education, am not disqualified as a voter, am not disqualified due to conviction of a crime or offense as per statute, and that I will faithfully, impartially, and justly, perform all the duties of that office, according to the best of my ability.”

Roll call vote:

<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Coniglio
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Cuccaro
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Gunderman
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Killea
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Marano
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Misiukiewicz
<u>Yea</u>	Mr. Walsh

Mr. Testa then began to read the official election results of November 8, 2022, members elected for three-year terms, Bernadette Cuccaro: 2,727 votes, Kristen Empson-Hayden: 2,195 votes, Brian Gardner: 1,206 votes, and Joe Walsh: 2,271 votes. There were 36 write in votes. On proposal question number of yes votes 3,650, number of no votes 1421; total votes cast of 5,764 and the total number of registered voters is 10,088.

Next, Mr. Testa opened the nomination for the office of president of the Board of Education.

Mr. Walsh nominate Mary Misiukiewicz for the office of the president.

Mrs. Coniglio seconded the nomination.

Seeing no other notations Mr. Testa did a roll call vote:

Roll call vote:

<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Coniglio
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Cuccaro
<u>Abstain</u>	Mrs. Gunderman
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Killea
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Marano
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Misiukiewicz
<u>Yea</u>	Mr. Walsh

Mr. Testa then congratulated Mrs. Misiukiewicz.

### **COMMENTS**

Mrs. Misiukiewicz then wanted to say a few words, her comment is as follows:

“Thank you for the nomination Mr. Walsh and thank you for your support. I am honored to serve the students of New Providence. I am heading into my ninth year as a board of education member and my third year as president. I know many of you may know this, but I have to say it anyway, New Providence has been my home for fifty-five years, definitely qualifies me to say I am a lifelong Pioneer and my blood is green. New Providence has also been a special place to raise my children as my fathers’ family was one of the original settlers here in Turkey town. I am grateful and fortunate to not only have raised my children here but to educate my children through the New Providence school district. Sitting on Lieder Field for High School graduation year after year, I have witnessed this Boards mission statement, in combination with the K-12 experience, we prepare our students for life after New Providence. As I said, I am proud and honored to serve the students of New Providence and be a part of this school community dedicated to excellence but more importantly, always comes together for the benefit of each and every child. The most recent example of our greater community coming together for the benefit of our students was the successful passing of the 2022 Bond Referendum. As a Board, we have so much to look forward to in 2023. During the summer of ‘23 several of the approved projects will be underway and when the students arrive at their respective schools after summer vacation, there will be major improvements in all of our instructional spaces. We are grateful for this communities’ support and trust in us. I look forward to continuing the work of the Board as well as working alongside Dr. Miceli, Mr. Testa, Mrs. Zirpoli, Mr. Keaney and the entire Administrative team. We all share the same passion for education and the passion for maintaining the unique, supportive culture here in New Providence which benefits the welfare of all our students. Thank you for this opportunity. Before we continue the agenda, I want to say good evening and welcome to our reorganization meeting. Congratulations to Mr. Walsh and Mrs. Cuccaro for their re-election to the Board. I hope everyone’s holidays proved to be restful and a chance to re-charge. I personally wish all of you a wonderful New Year and wish our students a year full of success in and outside of the classroom. I look forward to supporting all the extra and co- curricular activities over the next six months!”

Mrs. Misiukiewicz then opened the nomination for the vice president of the board of education.

Mrs. Coniglio nominated Bernadette Cuccaro as vice president.

Mr. Walsh seconded the nomination.

No other nominations were made.

Roll call vote:

<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Coniglio
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Cuccaro
<u>Abstain</u>	Mrs. Gunderman
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Killea
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Marano
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Misiukiewicz
<u>Yea</u>	Mr. Walsh

Mrs. Misiukiewicz then continued to name the new committee assignments as follows:

Curriculum and Technology:

Chairperson: Mrs. Coniglio  
Committee Member: Mrs. Gunderman  
Committee member: Mrs. Marano

Finance, Facilities and Safety:

Chairperson: Mr. Walsh  
Committee Member: Mrs. Killea  
Committee member: Mrs. Marano

Personnel, Management and Communication:

Chairperson: Mrs. Cuccaro  
Committee Member: Mrs. Coniglio  
Committee member: Mr. Walsh

Union County School Board Association Liaison: Mrs. Cuccaro  
Union County Educational Services Commission Liaison: Mrs. Gunderman  
New Jersey School Boards Association Liaison: Mrs. Misiukiewicz  
Municipal Alliance Representative: Mrs. Coniglio  
Morris Union Jointure Commission Liaison: Dr. Miceli  
New Providence Education Foundation Liaison: Mrs. Killea  
New Providence Borough Council Liaison: Mrs. Marano  
Board Policy: Mrs. Killea

Mrs. Misiukiewicz opened the meeting to the public at 7:10 p.m.

There being no public comments, Mrs. Misiukiewicz declared the public portion of the meeting closed at 7:10p.m.

**ACTION ITEMS**  
**PERSONNEL ACTIONS**

Mrs. Cuccaro, Personnel Chairperson, moved to approve items 1 through 3 as listed below:

**2022/2023 APPOINTMENTS APPROVED**

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 2022/2023 school year:

- a. Heather Robbins, long term substitute teacher, \$16,675.00 (base \$64,133.00), effective 4/5/23 through 6/30/23 (subject to criminal history review procedures and issuance of certification)
- b. Heather Robbins, substitute teacher, teacher aide, and secretary (subject to criminal history review procedures and issuance of certification)
- c. Maria Jose Suarez, substitute teacher, teacher aide, and secretary
- d. Christina Piccirillo, LDT-C, \$44,098.00 (base \$79,455.00), effective 1/16/23 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
- e. Vadim Rud, occupational therapist, \$45,148.00 (base \$75,246/00), effective 1/1/23
- f. Danielle, Roglieri, school counselor, \$41,875.00 (base \$69,708.00), effective 1/1/23

### **2022/2023 ESSER APPOINTMENTS APPROVED**

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 2022/2023 school year. These teachers will be reimbursed through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Grant "ESSER" for the 2022/2023 school year:

- a. Charles Carell, HS winter program teacher, not to exceed 67 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- b. David Goldstein, HS winter program teacher, not to exceed 41 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- c. Alicia Barbour, HS winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- d. Colleen Hasson, HS winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- e. Denise Thompson, HS winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- f. Alessandra Finis, MS winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- g. Alicia Hennessy, MS winter program teacher, not to exceed 54 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- h. Scott Rahner, MS winter program teacher, not to exceed 41 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- i. Gina Bellitti, MS winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- j. Rebecca DeCelestino, MS winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- k. Nicholas Webber, MS winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- l. Joan Rykus, MS winter program teacher, not to exceed 67 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- m. Leah Russo, MS winter program teacher, not to exceed 67 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- n. Jenna Stickle, MS winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- o. Holly Pizzonia, MS winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- p. Michele Picarelli, AWR winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- q. Kathryn King, AWR winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- r. Colleen Cortese, AWR winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- s. Jennifer McSweeney, AWR winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- t. Joanna Silva, AWR winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- u. Samantha Goodstein, AWR winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- v. Michelle Testa, AWR winter program teacher, not to exceed 15 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- w. Brandee Conover, AWR winter program teacher, not to exceed 15 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- x. Kathleen Joyce, AWR winter program teacher, not to exceed 15 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- y. Kimberly Wantz, AWR winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- z. Marla Malinauskas, AWR winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- aa. Jennifer Daly, AWR winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- bb. Tracey Aroneo, AWR winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- cc. Sharon Licari, AWR winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- dd. Susan Shallcross, AWR winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- ee. Stefania Forcella, AWR winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- ff. Darryl Petruzzo, AWR winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- gg. Jennifer Morra, AWR winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- hh. Jill Lepre, AWR winter program teacher, not to exceed 15 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- ii. Jennifer Limone, AWR winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- jj. Kristen Hubert, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.

- kk. Danielle McKenna, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- ll. Jennifer Minich, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- mm. Jennifer Powers, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- nn. Gwen Hermann, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- oo. Amy Kautzmann, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- pp. Kristin O'Brien, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 15 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- qq. Doreen Peritore, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- rr. Danielle DeKunchak SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- ss. Gianna Del Viscovo, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- tt. Michelle Demich, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- uu. Brittany Heaslip, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 15 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- vv. Janet Calvert, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- ww. Christine Demareski, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- xx. Vanessa Jebesen, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- yy. Sarah Niez, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- zz. Lucy Zheng, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- aaa. Shayna Ponzo, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- bbb. Kathryn Press, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- ccc. James Vopal, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- ddd. Joanne Catlett, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- eee. Jaclyn Kaufmann, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 28 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
- fff. Nicola Zipeto, SB winter program teacher, not to exceed 15 hours @ \$75.00/hr.

**2022/2023 RESIGNATIONS APPROVED**

3. Accept the resignation of the following employee:

- a. Deanne Stanisci, School Psychologist, effective 6/30/23, due to retirement.

Mrs. Zirpoli wanted to say a few words, she welcomed one of the new hires, Cristina Piccirello, who will be joining the child study team as an LDTC. She comes to us with eight years experience as a special education teacher as well as an instructional coordinator at the Sheppard school. Mrs. Zirpoli also commented on Dede Stanisci's retirement, Dede has been in the New Providence School District for 27 years and has been a school psychologist for the past 10 years at Allen W. Roberts. Mrs. Stanisci has been an amazing supporter of our students and her staff and she will definitely be missed, but we wish you the very best in retirement .

Roll call vote:

- Yea Mrs. Coniglio
- Yea Mrs. Cuccaro
- Yea Mrs. Gunderman
- Yea Mrs. Killea
- Yea Mrs. Marano
- Yea Mrs. Misiukiewicz
- Yea Mr. Walsh

Mrs. Misiukiewicz then asked Ms. Piccirillo to come up and be congratulated by the Board.

There being no public comments, Mrs. Misiukiewicz declared the public portion of the meeting closed at 7:13 p.m. and asked for a motion to move to closed session to discuss matters related to HIB.

**CLOSED SESSION**

This body shall on January 5, 2023 at 7:18 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

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. Marano seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

#### **RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

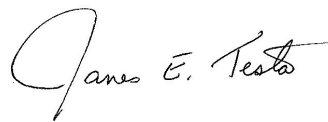
The Board reconvened to a public session at 7:28 p.m.

Mrs. Misiukiewicz called the Board to order.

Members present were Mrs. Coniglio, Mrs. Cuccaro, Mrs. Gunderman, Mrs. Killea, Mrs. Marano, Mrs. Misiukiewicz, and Mr. Walsh.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business before the Board, on a motion by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mrs. Marano, and carried unanimously, Mrs. Misiukiewicz declared the meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.



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James E. Testa, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary