The business meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of New Providence was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on October 19, 2023, at the New Providence High School/Middle School Media Center, 35 Pioneer Drive, by the Board President, Mrs. Misiukiewicz.

Present on the roll call were Rebecca Coniglio, Bernadette Cuccaro, Stacey Gunderman, Jennifer Killea, Amanda Marano, Mary Misiukiewicz, and Joseph Walsh. Also present were Dr. David Miceli, Superintendent of Schools, James Testa, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary; Lauren Zirpoli, Assistant Superintendent; Jonathan Keaney, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Supervision; and twelve (24) members of the public.

Mrs. Misiukiewicz led in the salute to the flag.

Mrs. Misiukiewicz 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 a 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.

BOARD PRESIDENT COMMENTS

Mrs. Misiukiewicz began her comments by speaking about the tragic, horrific, current events taking place in Israel, Gaza, and the West Bank. During this time of tragedy and grief, our paramount priority is the safety and well-being of our students, their families, and our staff. It is our responsibility to ensure every student, regardless of background or beliefs, is safe, feels valued, and is protected when they walk into our buildings to learn.

Most of all, we want to ensure all our students are supported and are aware of our mental health and/or counseling services to provide any assistance that they may need. She wanted to remind everyone that the counseling department tab can be found on our school website. As we navigate through this heartbreaking and challenging period, we must remain unified, we must care for one another, and stay connected.

Mrs. Misiukiewicz took a minute to thank the administration for the character education program. The character education program is an integral component of our curriculum and has proven to be fundamental for all students as they journey from pre-k through high school and beyond. The skills that are learned through this program serve our students very well beyond their high

school years, this year's theme is "Now is the Time..." it is a nice reminder given the world new. Now is the time to build relationships, to show respect, to be grateful, to be generous, optimistic, to show kindness, empathetic, helpful, know how and when to ask for help, and to try something new.

Thank you to Mrs. Kwiatkowski for designing our logo and for any updates on our program. Take a look at our District Character Education page on the website, the YouTube videos, and photos are posted there.

I want to welcome Kevin Settembrino from Settembrino Architects to discuss the HVAC bids which were a large component of our Bond referendum.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Dr. Miceli thanked Mrs. Misiukiewicz and asked Alexa DeSeta, the school vice president, for her student report, in the absence of AJ Boyle. Her report is as follows:

Hi, my name is Alexa DeSeta and I am a senior here at New Providence High School. I am involved in many activities throughout the school. I am one of the varsity cheerleading captains, a co-president of Neer Nation, president of the Italian club, student council vice president, and an active member of peer leaders and the character education committee! I am also a PAL cheerleading coach and a recreation basketball coach. I am working on getting all my college applications out now so I can focus on truly enjoying my last year at New Providence!

To start, the peer leader's annual club fair took place on September 29th. There were 37 clubs represented, including Neer Nation, Culinary Arts Club, National Art Honor Society, Real Estate Club, and Yearbook Club! Hosted in the cafeteria, all freshmen had the opportunity to walk around and learn about all of the wonderful clubs that New Providence High School has to offer.

In addition to the club fair, the peer leaders also hosted their freshman breakfast on Friday the 13th. Huge shout out to Mrs. Henriques and Mrs. McCauley for organizing the event, and a huge thank you to the PTSA for supplying us with bagels! The freshmen had the opportunity to talk to our junior and senior peer leaders about any questions they had. To wrap up the breakfast, the freshmen got to play a fun game of Kahoot, focusing on the high school and its origins.

The class of 1973 had their 50th reunion last Friday. After touring the school, they joined the community at the Pink Out football game! The class of 1965 will be having their 58th-year reunion tour this Saturday!

To start the month of October, the district celebrated its week of respect! At the end of the week, this year's Character Education theme was announced. This year's theme is "Now is the Time." The high school's promotion video featured many students and staff, and is guaranteed to bring

a smile to your face! All promotion videos for this year's theme were emailed to the Board of Education email last Friday.

On October 4th, our sophomores and juniors participated in the digital PSAT. This is the first time that the PSAT has been digital, as the college board has just started its transition to making the standardized test completely online. The SAT will change to a digital format at the beginning of 2024.

Last Friday, the 13th, was New Providence High School's second Pep Rally, which was run by Neer Nation and Ms. Berrios. During the last block of the day, all students and staff gathered together in the high school gym for an hour of fun and games! Each fall sport was recognized and represented, as well as band and color guard. To start the event, the students and staff got a lovely performance from our marching band and color guard, as well as the singing of the national anthem. Later on, our cheerleaders performed for us and taught the students a new cheer. This cheer was then later performed at the football game that night alongside our student section in the stands. This moment made the night even more special!

The Yearbook Club has started piecing together this year's yearbook! Make sure to purchase your yearbooks while they are still available! You can access the purchase form on the home screen of the high school's website!

Yesterday, students in the character education committee had the opportunity to attend Wagner Farms and work in the Giving Garden! The character education committee will also be going to Allen W Roberts on the 27th to assist in their AWR Gives Back!

Next Tuesday, the 24th, the Spanish club will be hosting their annual pumpkin painting activity during lunch! All supplies will be available, but students must bring in their pumpkin to decorate!

Next Tuesday and Wednesday, 25 Japanese exchange students will be joining us around the school! They will participate in activities such as making pancakes with Culinary Arts, making fish prints with AP Art, and completing different STEM challenges!

Get ready for the fall play, Radium Girls! This play takes place in the 1920s, in Orange, NJ. The play follows the real-life story of three girls who worked in a factory and got radium poisoning. This play was written to have very few people acting and is made so each person plays multiple roles. Although tickets are not on sale yet, they will be soon, so make sure you clear your calendar for November 17th and 18th!

As always, our marching band and color guard have been excelling throughout their season. This was the first year that they had finished their show before school started! They had their senior night on October 6th and their first competition of the season ended with them landing first place! The pride and class will be competing next weekend at Ridge High School. Their states will take place the following weekend, at South Brunswick High School. The color guard has a new director this year, who encourages the team and has taught them a bunch of new

skills! Also, the tri-m induction, which is the honor society for students in choir, band, and orchestra, will be held tonight.

As fall sports start winding down, we can reflect on our sports teams and their wonderful seasons! To start, our girls' volleyball team had their sixth annual dig-pink game on October 2nd, against the Summit Hilltoppers. Their senior night followed with a win against Union on October 5th.

Boys soccer had their senior night on September 26th, against Roselle, which led to a Pioneer win, ending with a score of 7-0. This past Monday, the boys' soccer team played against Morristown-Beard, ending with another winning score of 4-0!

The girls' soccer team has also been very successful this season. Their most recent game led to a pioneer win against Rahway, with the ending score being 5-3. The girls will play against Elizabeth next Monday. If they win, this means that they will have won their conference!

Both boys and girls cross country had their senior night last Tuesday! Today, they had their county championship. The girls team got 6th place, and the boys got 11th. Way to go cross country!

Tomorrow, our football team will be playing at Middlesex at 7 pm! Both football and cheerleading celebrated their senior night on October 6th, at the gold out game, where we won against Metuchen, ending with a score of 35-7. The football team, courtesy of Joe Eberle, helped raise money for the Brooke Healy Foundation. Each touchdown scored at a home game led to a donation of \$100!

As mentioned before, our cheerleaders were able to work with the students section during the third quarter at the Pink Out game! Not only did they perform the cheer taught at the pep rally, "Do It," they also performed one of their most known cheers, "P-I-O" with a tumbling line. The cheerleading team has had the ability to perform their halftime routine at all four home games, adding in more advanced skills each week!

To wrap up on fall sports, our girls' tennis team had their state semifinals and finals today! I am very happy to share that the girls won not only the semi-finals but state finals, once again! This is a wonderful accomplishment and we could not be any prouder. This past Tuesday, the girls also won sectionals and got 4th overall at counties.

Our fall sports have been doing remarkable and we cannot wait to see what the rest of the season holds for these athletes, as well as the winter and spring seasons to come!

Quickly looking into the next few weeks, the freshmen scavenger hunt, which is run by the PTSA, will start this Saturday the 21st, and run for 4 days! Next Thursday, the high school will be having its open house, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Peer leaders will be in attendance, giving tours and answering all of the questions you may have!

As a school, we are looking forward to all of the events to come within the next few weeks and months! Once again, thank you for giving me the opportunity to share all of this information with you all!

ENROLLMENT

Mrs. Zirpoli gave the enrollment report for the following schools: Allen W Roberts - 673 students, Salt Brook - 593 students, New Providence Middle School - 414 students, and New Providence High School - 640 students, for a total of 2,320 students. We have 34 out-of-district students, making the grand total 2,354 students.

NJ QSAC (NEW JERSEY QUALITY SINGLE ACCOUNTABILITY CONTINUUM)

Dr. Miceli wanted to bring the board and the community up to date concerning New Jersey QSAC. Central office will begin preparing documentation to submit to the Department of Education for NJQSAC monitoring. An on-site visit by the Department of Education will likely occur in January or February. The Board will need to approve some documentation at the next meeting for submission by December 15, 2023.

CRG MAPPING

Mrs. Zirpoli went on to explain that CRG mapping, a requirement for every school in New Jersey, involves creating accurate floor plans with a gridded overlay. These plans are distributed to law enforcement and fire services for emergency preparedness training. Each year, the floor plans are updated by the principals in collaboration with the head custodians and other school personnel.

Dr. Miceli thanked Mrs. Zirpoli and then introduced Kevin Settembrino of Settembrino Architects to give an update on the HVAC bond referendum project and to explain the steps taken in the past four months to ensure the successful execution of the project.

BOND REFERENDUM- HVAC PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Settembrino thanked the Board and began his update by taking two steps back to give the public and the Board an understanding of the strategy concerning the HVAC project. Everyone knows and understands with regards to the number of projects for HVAC improvements, given the post-COVID economy that we are in, it has substantially increased the lead time on HVAC both in terms of price and lead time. We did have to struggle with that when planning the project and executing the project, understanding that we had to go out the public bid in accordance with the school public contracts law. To get to the portion of the HVAC, it was the largest portion of the \$22.1 million referendum, to date the Board has executed the furniture portion of the referendum, the flooring upgrades for the Middle/High School, the faculty toilet room upgrades, and the partial roof replacement. To date with that spend, we are approximately \$400,000.00

below budget, which leaves us cash to use for the HVAC projects of about \$16 million. Now, given the fact that we have three separate schools; the approach here was to substantively bifurcate all of the schools on a per-school basis. This would invite and encourage more contractors to bid on the project rather than one contractor on a \$16 million project.

We look for contractors to take smaller bites, on a per-school basis, understanding that we will get a better response. We kept everything in the base bid, meaning that all of the educational spaces and the classroom spaces were in the base bid, the cafeteria, the gymnasiums at each of the schools, and the auditorium at the High School. Part of the base bid was also an electric service infrastructure upgrade at each one of the schools. When going from heating and ventilating to heating ventilating and air conditioning, there is more of a demand for power so infrastructure improvement was also part of the base bid.

Given this approach, separation of projects, to invite more bidders and take smaller bites of this project, we went out to bid and received bids for the first time on July 20th. We received one bid from one contractor for Salt Brook School only and one bid from another contractor for the high/middle school only, and there were no bids by any contractor for Allen W. Roberts School. Both of those received bids were over budget and we did provide that information back to the District. Now, the statute does allow us to go out to rebid as long as the project does not substantively change in scope, meaning that the scope of the project does not substantively change any more or less than 20%. We were able to go back out to rebid as early as possible to capture the contractors that are available sooner than later so that they maintain interest in the work that they've done for the original bid and it gets the board to a position where you can negotiate with bidders. Following school public contracts law after two bids that are over budget, you can negotiate with any bidder whether they bid on your project or not. The only exception is that you can not negotiate with bidders that have withdrawn their bids. The result of the rebid on August 22nd, we got back rebids and they were again over budget. The next question was; Do we go back out again? and Do we negotiate with contractors? What we did in the base bid for the next rebid was to add alternates, to all of the cafeterias, and all of the gymnasiums at each one of the schools and made those add alternates. We did not remove the auditorium in the high school that remained in the base bid.

Our new approach was to provide a new bid for each one of the schools and to provide the auditorium as add alternate number one, to provide the cafeterias as add alternate number two, and to provide the gymnasiums as add alternate number three. Understanding that we wanted to get an awardable project and essentially when we did this and we received bids on October 19th; we were able to recommend an award, H&S Mechanical, for a base bid directionally less than the prescribed budget of about \$750,000.00 less. In aggregate, the prescribed base bidshad approximately \$640,000.00 in unallocated allowances that are part and partial of the base bids and they are required by the general contractor to provide those. This is your money, not the contractor's money that is to be used upon approval by Settermbrino Architects if it is deemed an unforeseen condition.

Our recommendation this evening will provide the District with approximately \$750,000.00 in funds, that is not part of the base bid and carries a \$640,000.00 unallocated aggregate allowance with all the bids. In addition to the budget that would not be awarded to this contract, we would aggregate the additional budget at about a million and a half dollars so the award of these base bids is provided to the district in terms of an allowance and terms of the remaining project budget. We are not recommending awarding any of the cafeterias and any of the gymnasiums. Our approach to this is that all of those spaces are independent spaces but for the fact that we're providing the electrical upgrades in each one of the schools, each of those spaces can be accomplished on an annual basis out of your operating budget.

Post Covid and after our budgeting, we asked our engineer to come back to re-budget the project and the project budget would have increased by about 30% to 35% now when we budgeted this project we included a contingency and escalation in the budget of about 17%, the project costs had escalated about double what we've allocated for in escalation. The post-COVID economic impacts concerning HVAC are substantive, at this point lead times for unit ventilators are anywhere from six to eight months from date of order, and rooftop units are anywhere from eight to ten months from the date of order. Those lead times have been a combination of the substantive amount of HVAC projects that are being done post-COVID, the amount of money that the state and federal governments have been providing post-COVID and the diminishing amount of contractors that can do that. With those two factors, we had an increase in HVAC components and lead times that we weren't able to accommodate given the budget of the project so we had to come up with a new strategy to get you an awardable project so that was the approach in a nutshell.

We have given you a recommendation for this evening for base bid awards that include the auditorium, there is \$640,000.00 in unallocated allowance in aggregate, and in all the base bids there's approximately \$750,000.00 that is not part of the award that's remaining in the referendum budget and that includes the fact that the remainder of projects that have been executed and encumbered have been about \$400,000.00 less than the prescribed budget for those projects. Mr. Settembrino would have liked to see the projects that we executed be under budget to the point where the other projects were over budget so that did not happen as nicely as we would have liked it but we had to generate a new strategy and that's our strategy for this evening.

Mrs. Cuccaro asked if we were looking for air conditioning for the next school year or the school year after that. Also, all the electrical work will be done during 2024 summer, and then add the units in when they come.

Mr. Settembrino answered that at this time due to the tight timeline, we are not going to permit the contractor to do any demolition work, any demolition that they would do would take that room offline until the new products are in place. Due to this, there is a small but achievable window to execute the unit ventilators by or before the end of next summer. The contractor has offered to come in and work and mobilize and demobilize and clean up after hours in certain locations to do all the make-ready work.

Mrs. Cuccaro reiterated the fact that this would allow for air conditioning in every educational space except for cafeterias and gymnasiums.

Mr. Settermbrino confirmed this fact.

Mrs. Marano asked what is the priority for completing the cafeterias and gymnasiums.

Mr. Testa responded that at this time we need to focus on the first portion of the HVAC project, which is the classrooms and auditorium. Once the project is completed then the Board can reconvene and see what money was not used and then go back to the committee and put a priority list of how we want to go about the next spaces.

Mrs. Marano then asked if there was a dedicated crew assigned to each school even though we were only using one contractor and if we were putting in one order for the entire school district.

Mr. Settembrino answered yes each school will have its crew since the projects were bifurcated as individual projects. If the project was aggregated under one contract the contractor would have been able to move around crews. The ordering over units will be ordered simultaneously for all schools.

Mrs. Cuccaro then followed up with Mrs. Marano's question and wanted to clarify with Mr. Settemrbino that just because the orders for all the schools are being placed at the same time, it is possible that one school may receive equipment before another school and that school could start the project.

Mr. Settembrino confirmed this but clarified that predominantly the classrooms are served by unit ventilators, which have a lead time of six to eight months, however, some classrooms have rooftop units, which have a lead time of eight to ten months. This means that work can begin if one school receives unit ventilators but not rooftop ventilators, however, work will only begin on classrooms that have unit ventilators. Spaces that have rooftop units will only begin work once the rooftop ventilators are received.

Mr. Walsh asked Mr. Settembrino to go over the timeline of the HVAC project if the product comes in June-July.

Mr. Settembrino stated that if the product comes in before the beginning of the summer then the contractor must provide adequate manpower to install it. The alternative of this is if the product gets here in August, we have to require the contractor to work after hours, from 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., to install it.

Mrs. Gunderman asked if the electrical will be done in all spaces, including the add alternates of cafeterias and gymnasiums, that way when the time comes to do each of the add alternates its only a matter of installing the units.

Mr. Settembrino confirmed that all electrical work will be done in all spaces, including the add alternates.

A member of the public went on to comment that she presumes that the equipment has not been ordered as of yet.

Mr. Settembrino answered that yes, the equipment had not been ordered yet.

The member of the public then asked what happens with the supply chain delays that are still happening all over, and asked what kind of contingency is built in.

Mr. Settebrino answered that supply chain delays are still happening however, lead times are not expected to get worse if not they can get moderately better but not substantially better.

The member of the public then asked again if there was a contingency built into the possibility of lead time getting worse.

Mr. Settemrbino answered yes, in aggregate between the three schools the base bid includes a \$640,000.00 unallocated contingency for unforeseen conditions to accommodate the project.

The member of the public then went on to ask what would happen once construction began and there were findings of asbestos.

Mr. Settembrino stated that included in the base bids reflect the findings of a hired hazardous material firm that tests everything that would be touched during construction.

Another member of the public asked if the premium work is contingent on the lead time of the units or if it would be happening no matter what and if so what would the premium work be for.

Mr. Settembrino stated that this premium work time is not at the District's expense but rather the contractor's expense. This is make-ready work for when the units arrive. With no disruption of teaching environments.

The member of the public then asked if the District would be paying for triplicate site supervisors or if there was a way to consolidate site management since it is one contractor doing all the work at the three schools.

Mr. Settembrino answered that each school would have its own site manager since each school was a separate contract and for each contract, a site manager is included in the price. This is not an extra charge to the District.

Another member of the public asked if all this information presented would be available in a summary for the public.

Dr. Miceli answered that after tonight's meeting, there will be correspondence to the community.

Molly Stassfurth, 61 Colchester Road

Mrs. Stassfurth commented that the community would appreciate a plan, not a binding plan, on the completion of the cafeterias and the gymnasiums. She then went on to ask what percentage of rooftop units vs regular unit ventilators.

Mr. Settembrino stated that in all the schools, 80% - 85% are unit ventilators, 8% - 10% are VRF units, and 5%-10% are rooftop units.

Mrs. Stassfurth then asked if there would be heat and ventilation in the gym or cafeterias and no air conditioning or just no heat and ventilation and no air conditioning.

Mr. Settembrino answered that at this time the only large space going from HV to HVAC will be the auditorium. The cafeterias and gymnasiums will stay as they are with only HV.

Thu Novak, 119 Ryder Way

Mrs. Novak asked if only parts of the buildings being air-conditioned, would cause stress to the units and have them burn out quicker because you have a lot of air movement coming in and out and having to work a little harder on colling the spaces with the gyms and cafeterias still being hot.

Mr. Settemrbino answered that no, this will not be the case because HVAC is designed on a per-classroom basis. There are no units that will work between a classroom and a cafeteria, or a classroom, a gym, and a cafeteria. Each unit is designed to independently serve its assigned space.

Mrs. Novak reiterated her question and stated that if students are coming in and out of HVAC areas to HV areas air is escaping those rooms and entering the warm spaces and that warm air will move in.

Mr. Settembrino commented that HVAC is not designed this way. Reiterated that HVAC units are designed to serve their specific spaces.

Mrs. Marano asked for confirmation that all schools will have updated electrical systems and that there is no risk of overpowering the units.

Mr. Settembrino confirmed this.

A member of the public asked if the add alternates to be completed in the future will need to be bid on.

Mr. Settermrbino answered that that is something that still needs to be discussed with the District.

Kristen Empson-Hayden, 143 Crane Circle

Mrs. Empson-Hayden commented that since there was no specific plan in place going forward with the add alternates, are there any price estimates given if the Board was looking to potentially absorb them into the operating budget moving forward in the next few years.

Mr. Testa wanted to clarify that it was never stated that there was no plan in place for the add alternates. Before putting the projects in priority order, we first need to finish the first phase of the project and see how much money we have left, then go to our cost estimates, and then we can put the add alternate projects in priority order.

Mr. Settemrbino added that during the bidding process, the contractor did provide numbers to execute the add alternates.

A member of the public then asked if at the end of the project there is a possibility that there might not be enough money for the cafeterias and the gymnasium.

Mr. Testa responded that after the projects are completed we will see what we can do with the available bond referendum dollars and if at that point we do not have enough then we have to put funding in place moving forward to finish other additional spaces. Which may come from different varieties like the budget itself or other funding sources.

The member of the public changed her question to ask if there is a possibility of another bond referendum in the future.

Mr. Testa made it clear that there has been no discussion of another bond referendum.

Mrs. Cucarro commented that the Board is committed to making good on what was started, the plan is to air condition every building and every room. Unfortunately, because of the way that the bidding went we were not able to do it all at once the way we had anticipated it. However, it has not changed our goal, it's just changing how we are getting there in the end.

The member of the public asked again if the Board would be asking the community for more money.

Mr. Testa stated that that has not been a conversation at this point.

Another member of the public asked what contributed to the 33% price increase, and if it was a miscalculation.

Mr. Settembrino stated that no, it was not a miscalculation. The factors that contributed to this increase:

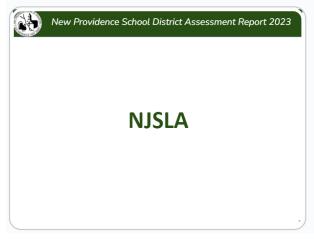
- Firstly, COVID was the predominant driver to make HVAC upgrades and increase your air changes on a per educational space.
- Secondly, the Federal and State governments provided funding to make these changes
- Thirdly, the available funding was turned into active public sector projects
- Fourthly, the number of contractors to accommodate the substantive influx of mechanical projects
- Lastly, the post-COVID effects of the long lead time of items

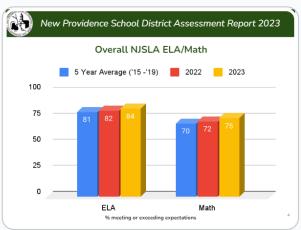
These are the reasons for the price increase that exceeded our contingency and escalation on these specific items.

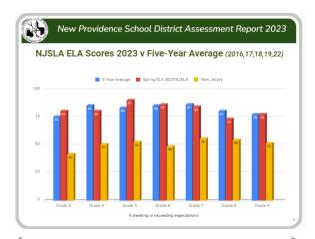
The member of the public then asked if this information could be documented and show the formula of how it contributed to those percentage points.

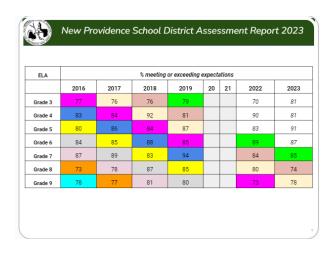
ASSESSMENT REPORT

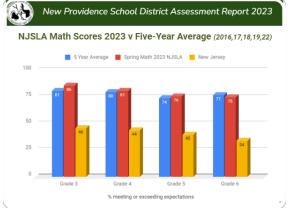


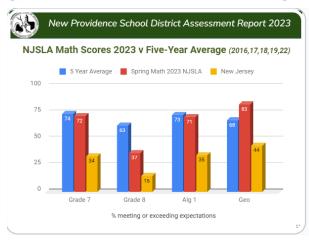


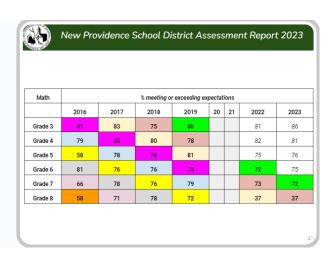


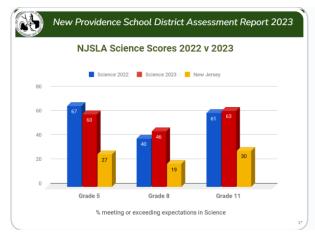




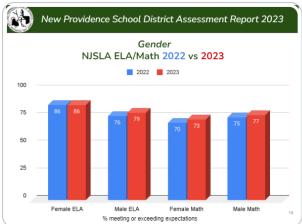


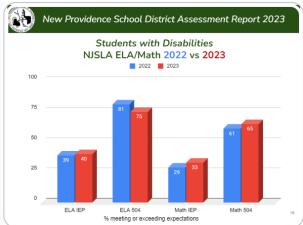


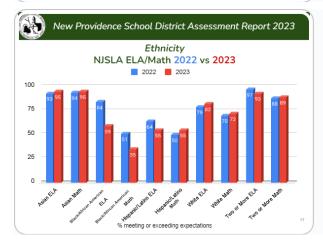


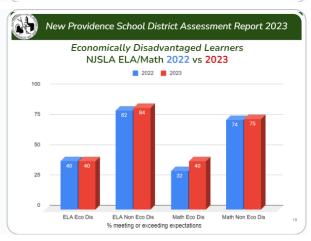










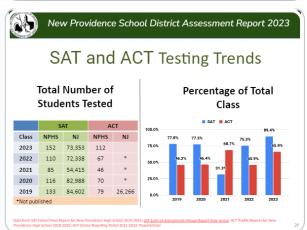


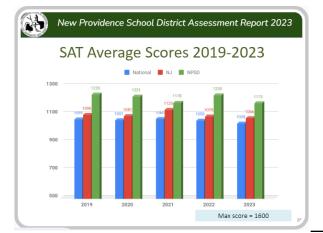


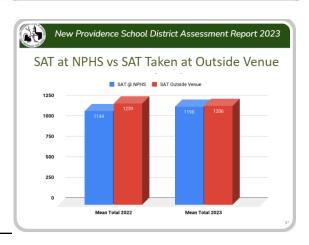
New Providence School District Assessment Report 2023

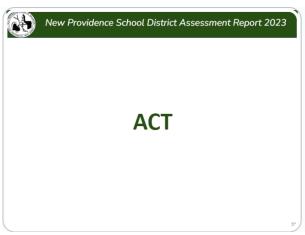
- 2022-2023 Dynamic Learning Maps
- The DLM's are online, alternative assessment for students with special education needs.
- IEPs determine the student eligibility based on significant cognitive disability.
- DLMs are offered in Language Arts, Math, and Science.
- A small percentage of district students took the DLM in their current educational settings.
- The results are shared with parents and used by IEP teams for goals and objectives.

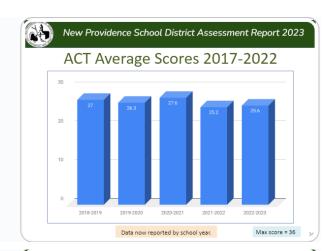


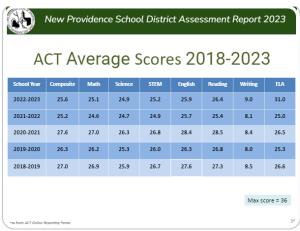


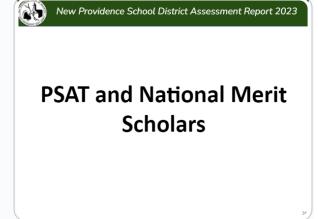


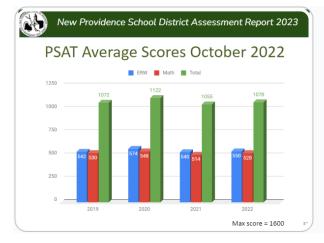


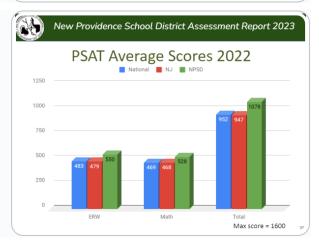


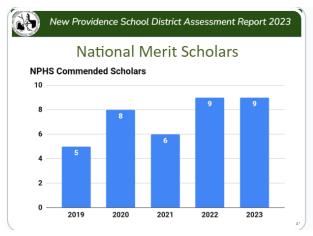


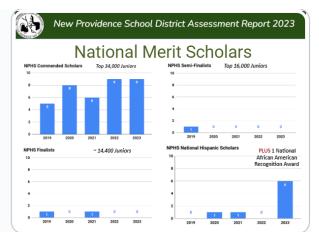


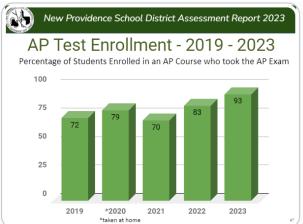


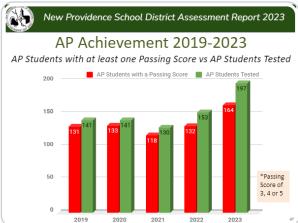


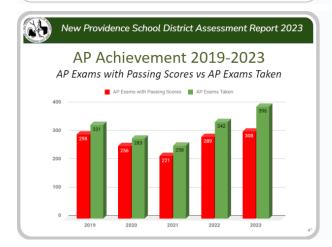


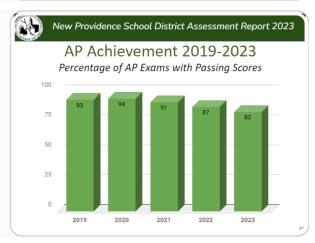


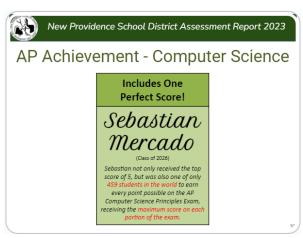


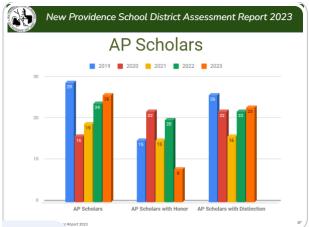










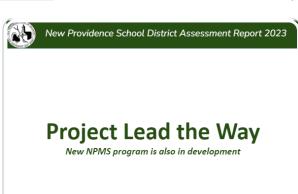


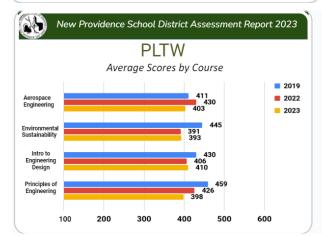


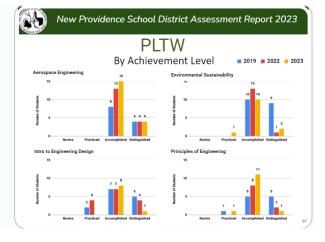
New Providence School District Assessment Report 2023

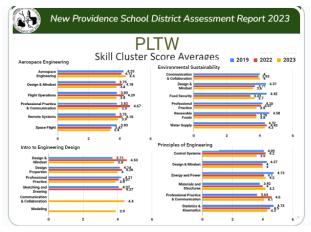
Recommendations/Interventions

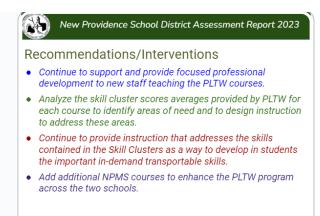
- Provide additional PD opportunities for all AP teachers.
- Examine strategies to promote AP courses in the World language department.
- Adapt the AP Teacher Cohort program to address the different needs of the AP teachers and provide focused mentoring.
- Create a resource highlighting high-impact AP instructional strategies for new AP teachers.
- Examine the external variables that may potentially affect AP Exam performance, such as AP course entry requirements and lost instructional time.
- Monitor student performance in the AP classrooms and the correlation between AP Scores and class grades.
- · Create student AP Study Groups prior to testing.

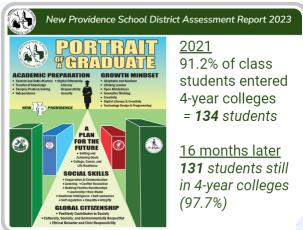












Mr. Keaney began to explain that tonight a variety of assessment data will be presented that has been accumulated over the last twelve months. This will provide the Board with some explanation of the process that we've used so we'll be looking at a whole variety of different data from the New Jersey Student Learning Standards through the Dynamic Maps for the SAT, ACT, and PSAT tests, Advanced Placement exams, the AP Scholars and the Project Lead the Way scores.

Mr. Keaney started with the NJSLA testing, to give the Board context he presented a slide with pre-COVID scores from 2015-2019 and the scores from 2023 and 2022. The graph showed that between this year and last year, the District performed a little better than the average of the five years pre-COVID. Generally, this shows that overall we are moving forward as a school. We have been addressing the concerns about learning loss and will continue to do that as we move forward.

Moving the next slide, it shows a breakdown of grades 3- 9 NJSLA ELA scores from 2023 versus the five-year average from years 2016-2019 and 2022, and the State of New Jersey. Mr. Keaney noted that fourth grade is 5% lower than the five-year average. This year's 2023/2024 fourth graders are our COVID kindergarten students, we may have to focus on those students a little bit more based on some of the data we have collected.

The administration and district track student performance over a longitudinal period to assess progress. The magenta color represents data from 2016, we can see how students did in 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 9th grade. This gives us some information that we may use now to determine our programming. However, the data is not vertically equated from one year to the next, meaning that similar scores in different grades may not be statistically significant. This is the best data that we have for tracking students over a long period to get some idea of how we determine our programming. Spring of 2024 is coming up and that is when we are to be doing our next set of New Jersey Student Learning Assessments.

As an administration, it is agreed that the start of the 2023 school year has been the most stable year we have had in quite a long time. Students and teachers came into the school year very enthusiastic. The Spring of 2024 is going to be a very good baseline for how we now track our students.

The next slide shows the NJSLA math scores. The math scores are divided into different grade levels - grades three through grade six and grades seven through nine (including Algebra 1 and Geometry). Algebra 1 is seen as a gateway to Calculus and college success, so the middle school program was redesigned to allow more students to take Algebra 1 in middle school. Seventh-grade scores include both regular seventh-graders and seventh-graders taking Algebra 1. Eighth-grade scores do not include students taking Algebra 1 and Geometry, so the data becomes more complicated to interpret. The district is focusing on high-impact instructional strategies to address concerns in both eighth-grade and ninth-grade Algebra 1. Longitudinal tracking enables the district to measure student progress over time. The science assessments have changed over the years, from GEPA to PARCC to the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment.

The district now tests students in science in grades five, eight, and eleven. Today at our K-6 Grade level meetings we had our science teachers taking the fifth-grade science exam sample test from the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment so they could get a good feel for how well our students should be doing and get a really good idea for the content that's being presented to the students.

With regards to the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment scores in our different subgroups starting with a comparison of gender performance in ELA and math, there is no significant inequality between male and female students. Mr. Keaney also addressed concerns about students with disabilities, acknowledging low scores but highlighting the success of some students with appropriate modifications to their educational program. He also pointed out variations in achievement among different ethnic groups in both ELA and math, emphasizing the need to address any inequalities present.

Mr. Keaney observed minimal differences in performance among economically disadvantaged learners from one year to the next, with overall improvements seen across the board, and

expressed particular interest in the performance of English Language Learners, noting significant increases in achievement due to program development and additional staff.

Dynamic Learning maps are a special assessment process that goes through a small number of our students as determined by their IEP. These students are mostly out of district and the information from those students cannot be shared because of the low numbers of students. The data used by the Child Study Team to determine the best programming for those students.

The SAT has become optional for some colleges, making it challenging to interpret data from previous years. There has been a slight decline in SAT scores, possibly due to students taking the test less and colleges being test optional. The average scores for this year are 1,173, slightly lower than last year's 1,230 but higher than the year before. However, the number of students taking the SATs and ACTs has increased after providing them in the District and there has been a notable difference in the achievement of students when they take the SAT in New Providence compared to when they take it outside of the town.

The ACT is also being discussed, with some colleges now being test-optional. There has been a slight increase in ACT scores compared to last year. The national ACT scores are currently the lowest they have been in the last 32 years, according to an Educational Week report.

Sophomores and Juniors take the PSAT in school. PSAT scores in language arts and math improved compared to last year and exceeded national and state averages. This year nine National Merit Scholarships were obtained, consistent with the previous year. Six National Hispanic Scholarship awards and one national African-American recognition award were received.

Mr. Keaney now moved on to speak about the AP Exams and AP Scholars. This year New Providence High School was honored as a silver AP 2023 School Honor Roll, this award had not been received in the last five years. In the recent year, 197 students took AP exams, with 164 of them achieving a passing score. The number of exams taken has also increased, with 396 exams taken, the highest in a long time. However, the increase in AP participation has resulted in a dip in AP achievement and the percentage of students with passing scores, the high school administration is now examining different strategies to address this issue. But for the first time in New Providence history, we had a student, Sebastian Mercado, achieve a perfect score on an AP exam in computer science.

Project Lead the Way courses assess students on skill clusters, including 21st-century skills, transferable skills, professional practice, communication skills, and the engineering design process. Mr. Keaney shared that we have received a \$20,000 grant from Project Lead the Way to implement a middle school program. Middle School Project Lead the Way scores are not included, but there is variation from year to year in the scores. No Project Lead the Way exams were held in 2020 and 2021 due to obvious reasons.

New Providence as we all know is a community whose major goal is post-secondary education and our success in sending students to four-year and two-year colleges has been high over time. In 2021, 91.2% of our students entered four-year colleges, and 4.2% went to two-year colleges, making a total of 96% going on to postsecondary education, and 97.7% of kids who entered college 16 months ago are still enrolled, indicating success in college readiness.

Mrs. Marano asked Mr. Keaney how long the District subscribed to Go Math before implementing i-Ready.

Mr. Keaney responded that we had been subscribed to GoMath for about ten years.

Mrs. Marano then followed up to ask if we are taking a more granular look in addition to the State testing on how well the program is doing.

Mr. Keaney commented that something New Providence does very well is monitoring how well something is implemented. Professional development is provided to the teacher and an opportunity for them to work and ask questions with other teachers. Now that the teachers have had six weeks to actually work with students, questions are naturally going to arise. To help the teacher we had a specialist come in and work with the teachers.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mrs. Misiukiewicz opened the Public Hearing on the 2022/2023 School Self-Assessment For Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act.

Mrs. Zirpoli went on to state that the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights requires each school, annually, to complete a self-assessment on how they have implemented the various components of the mandate. The anti-bullying specialists in each of our schools convened with the members of the School Safety Climate team to complete this year's assessment. Mrs. Zirpoli took note that this is a year prior so they are assessing the 2022/2023 school year. On the self-assessment, there are eight core elements; core element one is HIB programs approach and other initiatives, core element two is training on Board of Education approved HIB policy and procedures, core element three is other staff instructions and training programs, core element four is curriculum and instruction on HIB and related information and skills, core element five is HIB personnel, core element six is school level HIB incident reporting procedure, core element seven is HIB investigation procedures, and core element eight is HIB reporting. Each core element contains several specific indicators for which the School Safety Committee and Climate team determine a ranking. The total possible points for each school that they can earn on the assessment is 78. For the 2022-2023 school year self-assessment scores for each of the schools and our district average is as follows New Providence High School had a score of 70 New Providence Middle School had a score of 75, Saltbrook School had a score of 74, and Allen W Roberts School was a score of 75, for a district average of 74.

Mrs. Misiukiewicz then declared the Public Hearing on the 2022/2023 School Self-Assessment For Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act closed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Cuccaro opened the meeting for the Public to be heard (on specific agenda items) at 8:43 p.m.

There were no public comments. Mrs. Misiukiewicz declared the public portion of the meeting closed at 8:43 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Misiukiewicz moved to approve the minutes for:

Business Meeting: September 28, 2023 Closed Meeting: September 28, 2023

Mrs. Coniglio seconded the motion and it was carried on the following vote:

Roll call vote:

YeaMrs. ConiglioYeaMrs. CuccaroYeaMrs. GundermanAbstainMrs. KilleaYeaMrs. MaranoYeaMrs. Misiukiewicz

Yea Mr. Walsh

ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Walsh, Finance Chairperson moved to approve items 1 through 10 as listed below:

BOARD SECRETARY AND TREASURER REPORT APPROVED

 After review, we hereby accept the Board Secretary and Treasurer reports for September 2023. No major account or fund has been over expended in violation of financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

BILL LIST APPROVED

2. Approve the payment of bills for October 2023, in the amount of \$4,539,906.57.

CAPITAL RESERVE MAXIMUM AMOUNT APPROVED

3. The New Providence School District (LEA 3560) has seventy-seven (77) projects identified in its Five Year Long Range Facility Plan. The seventy-seven (77) projects have an estimated total cost of \$37,724,577.00. Eight (8) projects have been completed, initiated, or advanced. Sixty-nine (69) remaining projects, with a total cost of \$34,292,888.00, are currently identified in the plan for initiation. The local share would be funded from bond proceeds and/or annual school budget appropriations (based on needs and dictated by the availability of funds). The District may be eligible for state debt service or EDA grant funds for the identified projects in the amount of \$13,717,155.00. The local share amount of \$20,575,733.00 for the identified projects represents the maximum amount the New Providence School District may deposit in its capital reserve fund for the 2023-2024 school year.

NONPUBLIC SCHOOL SECURITY INITIATIVE - PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN APPROVED

4. Approve the Nonpublic School Security Initiative Program spending plan for the participating school located within the District, New Providence Presbyterian Preschool & Kindergarten, for the 2023/2024 school year.

NONPUBLIC SCHOOL SECURITY INITIATIVE - THE ACADEMY OF OUR LADY OF PEACE APPROVED

 Approve the Nonpublic School Security Technology Program spending plan for the participating school located within the District, The Academy of Our Lady of Peace, for the 2023/2024 school year.

VOIDED CHECK APPROVED

6. Approve the following voided check:

Voided

NEW PROVIDENCE EDUCATION FOUNDATION ADDITIONAL GRANT FUNDS APPROVED

7. Approve the additional 2023 grant funds from the New Providence Education Foundation in the amount of \$6,358.88.

SALE OF 2004 FORD E150 VAN APPROVED

8. Approve the following resolution:

Authorizing Disposal of Surplus Property

WHEREAS, the District is the owner of certain surplus property which is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the District is desirous of selling said surplus property in an "as is" condition without express or implied warranties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the New Providence Board of Education as follows:

The sale of surplus property shall be conducted through GovDeals pursuant to Local Finance Notice 2008-9.

The sale will be conducted online and the address of the auction site is www.govdeals.com. Terms and conditions of the agreement with GovDeals are available on GovDeals website.

The surplus property to be sold is as follows:

2004 Ford E150 Van
 VIN # 1FMRE11W55HA22890

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 Identification Agreement concerning use of said surplus property.

The District reserves the right to accept or reject any bid submitted.

SAFE ROUTE TO SCHOOLS GRANT APPROVED

9. Approve the Borough of New Providence's 2023 submission of a Safe Route to Schools Grant application to improve certain pedestrian areas along school routes.

AFFINITY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION APPROVED

10. Approve Affinity Federal Credit Union as an additional depositor for scholarship funds and to honor the facsimile signatures of the Superintendent of Schools, President of the Board of Education, and the Board Secretary for the 2023/202 school year.

Mrs. Marano seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

<u>Yea</u>

YeaMrs. ConiglioYeaMrs. CuccaroYeaMrs. GundermanYeaMrs. KilleaYeaMrs. MaranoYeaMrs. Misiukiewicz

Mr. Walsh

FACILITIES ACTION

Mr. Walsh, Facilities chairperson, moved to approve Items 1 through 5 as listed below:

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN APPROVED

1. Approve the 2023/2024 Integrated Pest Management Plan for the New Providence School District. (copies in the hands of each Board member)

COMPREHENSIVE MAINTENANCE PLAN APPROVED

2. Adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Department of Education requires New Jersey School Districts to submit three-year maintenance plans documenting "required' maintenance activities for each of its public school facilities, and

WHEREAS, the required maintenance activities listed in the plan for the various school facilities of the New Providence School District are consistent with these requirements, and

WHEREAS, all past and planned activities are reasonable to keep school facilities open and safe for use or in their original condition and to keep their system warranties valid,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the New Providence School District hereby authorizes the School Business Administrator to submit the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for the New Providence School District in compliance with the Department of Education requirements. (EXHIBIT A)

ALLEN W. ROBERTS SCHOOL HVAC BID APPROVED

3. Approve the bids received in the office of the School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary on October 11, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. Awarded as indicated:

HVAC Upgrades at Allen W. Roberts School- Contract #1

Vendor: H&S Construction and Mechanical, Inc.

721 Bayway Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ 07201

Base Bid: \$5,775,000.00

Total: \$5,775,000.00

SALTBROOK SCHOOL HVAC BID APPROVED

4. Approve the bids received in the office of the School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary on October 11, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. Awarded as indicated:

HVAC Upgrades at Salt Brook School- Contract #2

Vendor: H&S Construction and Mechanical, Inc.

721 Bayway Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ 07201

Base Bid: \$4,345,000.00

Total: \$4,345,000.00

HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOL HVAC BID APPROVED

5. Approve the bids received in the office of the School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary on October 11, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. Awarded as indicated:

HVAC Upgrades at New Providence High/Middle School- Contract #3

Vendor: H&S Construction and Mechanical, Inc.

721 Bayway Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ 07201

Base Bid: \$4,320,000.00 Alternate #1: \$860,000.00

Total: \$5,180,000.00

Mrs. Marano seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

YeaMrs. ConiglioYeaMrs. CuccaroYeaMrs. GundermanYeaMrs. KilleaYeaMrs. Marano

Yea Mrs. Misiukiewicz

Yea Mr. Walsh

EDUCATION ACTION

Mrs. Coniglio, Education chairperson, moved to approve Items 1 through 4 as listed below:

2022/2023 SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, AND BULLYING APPROVED

1. Per the 2011 Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, approve the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools regarding the following 2022/2023 Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying investigations:

School Incident Report Number(s)

High School: 11

2023/2024 SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, AND BULLYING APPROVED

2. Per the 2011 Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, approve the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools regarding the following 2023/2024 Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying investigations:

School Incident Report Number(s)

High School: 1

Middle School: 1, 2, 3 Salt Brook: 1, 2

2023/2024 ESSER AMENDMENT APPROVED

3. Approve the amendment to the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Grant "ESSER"- American Rescue Plan, Learning, Coaching, and Support Fund, for the 2023/2024 school year. The amendment allows for the reallocation of funds not utilized for Teacher Salaries and Benefits (made available due to the resignation of the Math Coach) to be used for external math consultants for coaching in accelerated learning. The allocation will be \$49,487.00.

2023/2024 ESSER AMENDMENT APPROVED

4. Approve the amendment to the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Grant "ESSER"- American Rescue Plan, Learning, Coaching, and Support Fund, for the 2023/2024 school year. The amendment allows for the reallocation of funds not utilized for Teacher Salaries and Benefits (made available due to the resignation of the Math Coach) to be used for iReady professional development. The allocation will be \$40,000.00.

Mrs. Gunderman seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

YeaMrs. ConiglioYeaMrs. CuccaroYeaMrs. GundermanAbsentMrs. KilleaYeaMrs. MaranoYeaMrs. MisiukiewiczYeaMr. Walsh

PERSONNEL ACTION

Mrs. Cuccaro, the Personnel Chairperson, moved to approve Items 1 through 7 as listed below:

2023/2024 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 2023/2024 school year:
 - a. Christopher Calveley, long-term substitute teacher, effective 11/20/23, to be paid on a per diem basis of \$285.00 (prorated Step 1, Column I, base of \$56,999.00) (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - b. Nadeem Elmahroukey, wrestling, winter, volunteer
 - c. Jeffrey Mase, wrestling, winter, first assistant, \$6,614.00
 - d. Maria Deluca, gameworker
 - e. Kim Chrisostomides, gameworker
 - f. David Goldstein, gameworker
 - g. Jennifer Wetzel, substitute teacher, teacher aide, and secretary
 - h. Ryan McDonald, substitute teacher, teacher aide, and secretary (subject to issuance of certification)
 - i. Gianna Marchetto, substitute teacher, teacher aide, and secretary (subject to issuance of certification)
 - j. Jennifer Gsell, substitute teacher, teacher aide, and secretary

- k. Angela Hawes, substitute teacher, teacher aide, and secretary
- I. Elizabeth Rapoano, substitute custodian
- m. George Pharmakides, substitute custodian
- n. Maria Halkias, HS marching band (fall), assistant color guard director, \$1,162.00
- o. Jennifer Pasuit, HS STEM advisor, \$2,064.00

2023/2024 ESSER APPOINTMENTS APPROVED

- 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 2023/2024 school year. These teachers will be reimbursed through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Grant, "ESSER," for the 2023/2024 school year:
 - a. Amy Kautzmann, fall academic achievement program teacher, not to exceed 20 hours @ \$75.00/hr.
 - b. Jennifer Minich, fall academic achievement program teacher, not to exceed 20 hours @ \$75.00/hr.

2023/2024 SCHOOL YEAR REVISIONS APPROVED

- 3. Approve the following revisions for the 2023/2024 school year:
 - a. Rachel Fintz, HS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, \$3,440.00 (base stipend \$8,000.00), effective 9/26/23-2/2/24
 - b. Michele Adkins, long-term substitute teacher, \$59,010.00 (base \$64,492.00), effective 9/1/23 through 6/5/24
 - c. Amanda Spencer, playground/lunch assistant, 3 hrs./day, \$9,228.00 (base \$10,560.00), effective 10/13/23

2023/2024 RESCINDED APPOINTMENTS APPROVED

- 4. Rescind the following appointments for the 2023/2024 school year:
 - a. Nadeem Elmahroukey, wrestling, winter, first assistant, \$6,614.00
 - b. David Hall, HS photography club advisor, \$2,064.00

PATERNITY LEAVE APPROVED

5. Approve the request for unpaid paternity leave for Nicholas Sommo, teacher, under the state Family Leave Act for a period of twelve weeks commencing 1/2/24 and ending 3/25/24, with continued health insurance benefits pursuant to law. (Based on 12/15/23 due date. Dates subject to adjustment by actual birth.)

PATERNITY LEAVE APPROVED

6. Approve the request for unpaid paternity leave for Daniel Dougher, teacher, under the state Family Leave Act for a period of twelve weeks commencing 1/5/24 and ending 3/28/24, with continued health insurance benefits pursuant to law. (Based on 8/24/23 date of birth.)

MATERNITY LEAVE APPROVED

7. Approve the request for unpaid maternity leave for Kathy Yanni, school counselor, under the state and federal Family Leave Acts for a period of twenty weeks commencing 1/10/24 and ending 6/5/24 with continued health insurance benefits pursuant to law. (Based on 2/6/24 due date. Dates subject to adjustment by actual birth.)

Mrs. Coniglio seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

YeaMrs. ConiglioYeaMrs. CuccaroYeaMrs. GundermanYeaMrs. KilleaYeaMrs. MaranoYeaMrs. MisiukiewiczYeaMr. Walsh

BOARD POLICY

No Board Policy for approval.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1. Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology: No comments
- 2. Finance, Facilities, and Safety/Security: No comments
- 3. Personnel, Management, and Communication: No comments

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Misiukiewicz wanted to give an update on the calendar survey ad hoc committee meeting, with statistics on staff and community participation in the survey. The community and staff were surveyed about their preferences for professional development sessions. In November, the ad hoc committee will review the survey results, considering religious and federal holidays, and testing dates in the district. The committee plans to discuss their findings at the November 16th

meeting. In December, they will present the survey data to the community and propose modifications to the 24/25 and 25/26 calendars.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Mrs. Misiukiewicz, Board President, declared the public portion of the meeting open at 8:50 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

Mrs. Cuccaro moved to adopt the following resolution:

This body shall on October 19, 2023, in the New Providence High/Middle School Media Center, 35 Pioneer Drive, discuss in closed session, pursuant to Section 7 of the Open Meetings Act, specific matters which may be generally described as follows:

- Student matters related to Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying

Mr. Walsh seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

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.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

The Board reconvened to a public session at 9:31 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. Gunderman and carried unanimously, Mrs. Misiukiewicz declared the meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

James Testa, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Janes E. Testa