

BOARD OF EDUCATION
SUMMIT, NEW JERSEY

The Board of Education held a Meeting on Thursday, April 18, 2024 beginning at 6:30 PM in the LCJ Summit Middle School auditorium. Those present: Mr. Cho, presiding, Ms. Cohn, Mr. Colón, Ms. Erday, Ms. Kelly, and Ms. Stanton. Ms. Justice was absent.

Also present were Mr. Hough, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Sarno, Assistant Business Administrator, Mr. Gardella, Director of Human Resources, Ms. Babis, Director of Special Education Services, Dr. Cordero, Director of Curriculum/Instruction, Dr. Marr, Director of Student Personnel Services, and Ms. Dickinson, Communications Officer. There were 70 members of the public in attendance.

NOTICE OF CERTIFICATION

The following notice was presented:

Let the minutes reflect that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in accordance with the regulations of the Open Public Meetings Act.

PRESENTATIONS

A. Recognition of Teachers and Support Staff of the Year

Teachers of the Year:

Amy Chambers - Kindergarten Teacher, Wilson Primary Center
Aaron Gilbert - STEAM Teacher, Brayton Elementary School
Cathy Alberico - Fifth Grade Teacher, Franklin Elementary School
Arthur Rodgers - Second Grade Teacher, Jefferson Elementary School
Erica Dorsey - School Counselor, Lincoln-Hubbard Elementary School
Suzanne Pilipski - Fifth Grade Teacher, Washington Elementary School
John Ross - Seventh Grade Science Teacher, Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School
Caitlin Reilly - ELL Teacher, Summit High School

Support Staff of the Year:

Liz Mondelli - Aide, Jefferson Primary Center
Carolyn Pallitto - Main Office Secretary, Brayton Elementary School
Marty Naples - Main Office Secretary, Franklin Elementary School
Debbie Vartan - Main Office Secretary, Jefferson Elementary School
Gamel Nash - Head Custodian, Lincoln-Hubbard Elementary School
Linda Mundy - Main Office Secretary, Washington Elementary School
Adriana Loaiza - Counseling Department Secretary, Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School
Mary-Ann Terrett - Main Office Secretary, Summit High School

PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Cho spoke about the following:

- Coffee with the Board April 23rd
- Earth Day lessons in the elementary schools

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Mr. Hough introduced and welcomed the three new staff members in the audience tonight.

REPORT OF NEW HIRES

Mr. Colón moved the following:

A. Report of New Hires

1. Approval to appoint the following new staff, pending criminal history review background checks as required by law, and ability to obtain appropriate NJ certification:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Step/ Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>	<u>Replacing</u>
Madelaine Travaille	Science Supervisor	District	\$135,000 (prorated)	August 2, 2024 (or sooner) for the 2024-2025 school year	Tom O'Dowd
Melissa Brause	ELA Teacher	LCJSMS	MA-Step-13, \$76,435 (prorated)	August 28, 2024 (or sooner) for the 2024-2025 school year	Elizabeth Guella
Danielle Gardner	Grade 1 Teacher	WES	BA+15-Step 4-5, \$64,660	August 28, 2024, for the 2024-2025 school year	

Motion seconded by Ms. Cohn. The roll was called, and all voted, “Aye”. The motion was declared adopted.

Ms. Stanton moved approval of the following items listed under Superintendent’s Report:

B. Approval to affirm the following reports of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying:

1. 9/09/2024 - 0033
2. 2/26/2024 - 1029
3. 2/28/2024 - 1208
4. 2/28/2024 - 1285
5. 3/05/2024 - 1669
6. 3/06/2024 - 1794
7. 3/01/2024 - 1647
8. 2/29/2024 - 1443
9. 2/27/2024 - 1530
10. 3/07/2024 - 2267
11. 3/13/2024 - 2380
12. 2/28/2024 - 1207

C. Approval to review the following reports of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying:

1. 4/09/2024 - 3711
2. 4/01/2024 - 3499
3. 3/21/2024 - 3482
4. 4/01/2024 - 3481
5. 3/22/2024 - 2980
6. 3/21/2024 - 2947
7. 3/13/2024 - 2544
8. 3/15/2024 - 2524
9. 3/12/2024 - 2229

D. Suspensions:

Summit High School

<u>Date</u>	<u>State ID#</u>	<u>Days Suspended</u>
3/05/2024	5068550300	3
3/05/2024	7296710430	6
3/06/2024	2673513913	3
3/06/2024	6470115051	1
3/07/2024	2230833034	6
3/08/2024	8599473590	3
3/11/2024	7105973748	3
3/11/2024	6598080442	1
3/11/2024	4067493950	1
3/13/2024	9351638537	3
3/13/2024	7344263516	3
3/13/2024	1786980283	6
3/19/2024	5086608755	6
3/19/2024	5796143623	6
3/22/2024	5302980353	6

Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School

<u>Date</u>	<u>State ID#</u>	<u>Days Suspended</u>
3/07/2024	8398574212	1 in-school
3/13/2024	1487953594	1 in-school
3/18/2024	1680576551	2
3/18/2024	5452373165	2
3/20/2024	7794559370	1 in-school
3/21/2024	4059984494	1 in-school
3/21/2024	5470323921	1 in-school

Motion seconded by Ms. Cohn. The roll was called, and all voted, "Aye". The motion was declared adopted.

STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT - Lena Kifnidis

Ms. Kifnidis reported on the following:

- Sports update
- Pep rally at the end of May

- School events: upcoming prom; council elections; Carnegie Hall performance; ABA Dance

ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

Ms. Sarno read the addendum items.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Education and Student Activities/Services Committee – Ms. Cohn reported on the following: athletic update from AD Dan Healy; Ms. Babis reported on the establishment of an elementary ERI (emotional regulation impairment) program for SY 2024-2025; Dr. Cordero shared testing results from last year – all ES's & HS hitting targets in ELA & math; however, the MS did not hit their math target; discussion of 2023-2024 professional development
- B. Operations Committee – Mr. Colón reported on the following: roof replacements in (4) buildings; utilities procurement; food services update; RFP for district physician services; ERI program; increase in student fees for school-sponsored trips; residency verification
- C. Policy Committee – Ms. Erday reported on the following: discussion of policies including affirmative action; equity in classroom practices; student substance abuse
- D. Communications Committee – Ms. Stanton reported on the following: Summit Wellness Symposium; recruitment expo; communication of new science supervisor
- E. Negotiations and Personnel Committee – Mr. Cho reported the committee met on April 2nd and discussed personnel items
- F. Liaison Reports – None

PUBLIC COMMENT

A parent asked that consideration be given to unlocking the playground at JPC for use by the neighbors.

Motion by Ms. Kelly, seconded by Ms. Stanton, unanimously approved by voice vote to close public comment.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Ms. Kelly moved approval of the following items listed under Approval of Board Minutes:

- A. Approval of Minutes of the following meetings:
 - 1. March 21, 2024 Regular Meeting
 - 2. March 22, 2024 Special Budget Meeting
 - 3. April 4, 2024 Special Meeting & Executive Session

Motion seconded by Ms. Stanton, unanimously approved by voice vote.

CURRICULUM / INSTRUCTION / PROGRAM

Ms. Cohn moved the following items under Curriculum/Instruction/Program:

- A. Approval to establish the creation of an Elementary Emotional Regulation Impairment program at Jefferson Elementary School beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, subject to at least 2 students are enrolled in the program

Motion was seconded by Ms. Kelly. The roll was called, and all present voted, "Aye". The motion was declared adopted.

FINANCE

Ms. Kelly moved the following items under Finance:

Upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator to the Superintendent:

- A. Approval of the April Bills List as listed below:

1. Regular Bills	Fund 10	\$1,697,671.71
2. Special Revenue	Fund 20	\$ 124,618.30
3. Capital Projects	Fund 30	\$ 39,707.29
4. Enterprise Fund	Fund 60	\$ - 0 -
Sub Total All Funds		\$1,861,997.30
5. Food Service	Fund 61	\$ 133,969.28
Total All Funds		\$1,995,966.58

- B. Approval of the monthly payroll for March 2024 - \$5,253,080.38

- C. Approval of budget adjustments and line-item transfers for February 2024

- D. Approval of Secretary and Treasurer's Report for February 2024

- E. Monthly Budgetary Line-item Status Certification:

Resolved, that the Board Secretary for the Summit Board of Education certifies that pursuant to NJAC 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 3, as of February 2024 that no line-item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line-item appropriation in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(a); and

Further Be It Resolved, that the Summit Board of Education certifies that pursuant to NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(c) 4 that after review of the board secretary's and treasurer's monthly financial reports and the advice of district officials, no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16.10 (b).

- F. Approval of travel for staff members (as per attached)

- G. Approval of acceptance of the NJ Learning Acceleration Program: Reissue High-Impact Tutoring Competitive Grant in the amount of \$154,000

- H. Approval of the Nonpublic School Security Aid Program spending plans for the participating schools located within this district as follows:

Kent Place School	\$28,180.35
Kent Place School	\$69,581.00
- I. Approval of Consulting Agreement with Jason Dean, MD LLC/DBA: The Center for Developmental Psychiatry, 400 Frank W. Burr Blvd, Teaneck, NJ 07666 for psychiatric evaluation and consultation services from March 21, 2024 to June 30, 2024 at a cost of \$1,000 per evaluation
- J. Approval to accept a donation in the amount of \$3,139.38 from the Summit Sailing Foundation, Inc. to fund the transportation costs during the 2023 sailing season
- K. Approval of the following Gottesman Family Foundation Parenting Institute expenditures:
 - 1. Summit Board of Education reimbursement for The Latino Family Literacy Project 04/20/24 Webinar registration for Paola Acosta in the amount of \$200.00
 - 2. Summit Board of Education reimbursement for The Latino Family Literacy Project 04/22/24 Webinar registration for Alicia Downey in the amount of \$200.00
 - 3. Summit Board of Education reimbursement for The Latino Family Literacy Project TBD Webinar registration for Greta Teixeira in the amount of \$200.00
 - 4. Summit Board of Education reimbursement for The Latino Family Literacy Project TBD Webinar registration for Alexandra Falconi in the amount of \$200.00
- L. Approval of Master Energy Sales Agreement with MP2 Energy NE LLC d/b/a/ Shell Energy Solutions to provide electricity to the district from 5/1/2024 to 5/1/2026 as per the EMEX Reverse Auction on 3/22/24
- M. Approval of Natural Gas Sales Agreement with Aggressive Energy to provide gas services to the district from 12/1/2024 to 12/1/2027 as per the EMEX Reverse Auction on 3/22/24
- N. Approval to accept a donation from the Brayton School PTO in the amount of \$19,620.56 to purchase playground equipment for Brayton School
- O. Approval of additional Professional Services with Parette Somjen Architects, 439 Route 46 East, Rockaway, NJ 07866 to include Information Gathering & Documentation of Existing Conditions, Schematic Design, Preliminary Budgeting and NJDOE Project Application, Design Development, Construction Procurement Services, Construction Documents, and Contract Services for the Brayton Elementary School - Unit Ventilators project at a cost of \$2,100

Motion was seconded by Mr. Colón. The roll was called, and all present voted, “Aye”. The motion was declared adopted.

SCHOOL BOARD OPERATION

Ms. Cohn moved the following items under School Board Operation:

- A. Approval of the (*revised*) 2023-2024 Holiday Schedule for 12-Month Employees (see attached)
- B. RESOLVED: Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, and contingent upon approval by the NJSIAA, NJAC and UCC, the Board of Education approves the Cooperative Sports Program for Wrestling between the School District of the Chathams and the City of Summit Public Schools for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years

Motion was seconded by Ms. Erday. The roll was called, and all present voted, “Aye”. The motion was declared adopted.

PERSONNEL

Ms. Stanton moved the following items under Personnel:

- A. Approval to appoint the following Leave Replacement Teacher Substitutes and Long-Term Teacher Substitutes, pending criminal history review, background checks as required by law, and the ability to obtain NJ substitute teacher credentials:

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Step/Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Lauren Nowrotzki	FES	STEAM – LTS	\$265/day	April 17, 2024 (end date tbd) with 2 overlap days at \$125/day)
Eliza Richardson	SHS	Culinary Arts Teacher - LTS	\$265/day	May 15 2024 (or sooner) for the 2023-2024 school year

- B. Approval of the following Changes of Assignment:
 - 1. Archana Shah, from Inclusion Aide, Jefferson Primary Center, to Inclusion Aide, Lincoln-Hubbard Elementary School, effective April 1, 2024 through April 16, 2024, effective April 17, 2024, to Jefferson Primary Center, for the 2023-2024 school year
 - 2. Althea Orrico, from Inclusion Aide, Lincoln-Hubbard Elementary School, to Inclusion Aide, Jefferson Elementary School, effective April 1, 2024 through April 16, 2024, effective April 17, 2024, to Lincoln-Hubbard Elementary School, for the 2023-2024 school year
 - 3. Joanna Weir, from Inclusion Aide, Jefferson Elementary School, to Inclusion Aide, Jefferson Primary Center, effective April 1, 2024 through April 16, 2024
 - 4. Matthew DeFonzo, from Long-Term Inclusion Aide Substitute, Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School, to Leave Replacement Physical Education Teacher, \$265/day, effective March 11, 2024 through June 14, 2024
 - 5. Sharon Burke, from Substitute Teacher, District, to Part-Time Long-Term Spanish Teacher Substitute, Jefferson Elementary School and Lincoln-

Hubbard Elementary School, \$132.50/day, effective April 1, 2024 for the 2023-2024 school year

6. John Reinhardt, from Substitute Teacher, District, to Long-Term Teacher Substitute, Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School, \$265/day, effective April 15, 2024 through May 17, 2024

- C. Approval to appoint the following support staff, pending criminal history review and background checks as required by law:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u>
David Leventhal	Inclusion Aide	SHS	Aide-Step-1	\$38,915 (prorated)	April 2, 2024 for the 2023-2024 school year

- D. Approval to accept the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of the following staff:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Frederique Roduit-Bosi	Inclusion Aide	SHS	July 1, 2024

- E. Approval to accept the resignation of the following staff:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Donna Niebanck	Secretary	JPC	June 18, 2024
Alexandra Scanniello	Grade 5 Teacher	LHES	June 30, 2024
Gianna Nardi	Inclusion Aide	JPC	June 30, 2024
Sara Cadiz	Inclusion Aide	WPC	June 30, 2024
Chelsea Barreto	Science Teacher	SHS	June 30, 2024

- F. Approval of maternity leave/family leave for the following staff:

1. Mariana Godoy-Salerno, paid leave effective, March 26, 2024 through May 6, 2024, unpaid leave effective, May 7, 2024 through June 14, 2024, return date tbd, (*revised from the February 22, 2024 and March 21, 2024 Agendas*)
2. Rachel Lapinski, Music Teacher, Brayton and Franklin Elementary Schools, paid leave effective, March 18, 2024 through April 22, 2024, unpaid leave effective, April 23, 2024 through October 1, 2024 (*revised from the November 16, 2023 Agenda*)
3. Tina Lee, Physics/Chemistry Teacher, Summit High School, paid leave effective, January 29, 2024 through April 15, 2024, unpaid leave effective, April 16, 2024 through September 24, 2024, unpaid child care leave effective, September 25, 2024 through September 30, 2024 (*revised from the November 16, 2023 and March 21, 2024 Agendas*)

4. Samantha Figueroa, Social Studies Teacher, Summit High School, unpaid leave effective August 28, 2024 through November 26, 2024
5. Jacqueline DellaPietro, STEAM Teacher, Franklin Elementary School, paid leave effective, April 15, 2024 through June 2, 2024, (June 3, 2024, .5 sick day and .5 unpaid leave), unpaid leave effective, June 4, 2024 through November 13, 2024
6. Iris Amaya, Custodian, Franklin Elementary School, unpaid leave effective, January 2, 2024 through April 17, 2024 (*revised* from the December 14, 2023 and February 22, 2024 Agendas)

- G. Approval to appoint the following substitute teachers, pending criminal history review, background checks as required by law, and the ability to obtain NJ substitute teacher credentials:

Name	Pay Rate	Effective Date
Sara Cadiz	\$125/day	July 1, 2024
Andrew Gaertner	\$125/day	April 19, 2024
Michael Steiner	\$125/day	April 19, 2024

- H. Approval to appoint Neil Carrozza as a Home Instruction Tutor for Grades 6-12, at \$50/hour, effective April 19, 2024 (paid via timesheet)
- I. Approval of administrative leave, with pay, for employee #9973, per the Superintendent's recommendation, effective April 8-16, 2024
- J. Approval for employee #9973 to take an unpaid leave of absence, effective April 17-25, 2024
- K. Approval of the following Tech Coaching staff to work up to 120 hours each during the summer, at the curriculum rate of \$50/hour:
1. Bonnie Weinstein
 2. Trudy Lopez-Cohen
 3. Matthew Schachtel
 4. Nicole Finnegan
 5. Carrie Odgers-Lax
- L. Approval to pay the following Summit High School staff for teaching an extra 6th Social Studies period, effective May 6, 2024 through the end of the school year:
1. Andrea Laquerre - \$98.86/per class
 2. Richard Groner - \$63.00/per class
 3. Frank Harpster - \$61.83/per class
 4. Jessica Pietracatella - \$60.67/per class
 5. William O'Regan - \$91.01/per class
- M. Approval to pay Francis Wulff, Security, Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School, for three (3) additional hours per work day, \$53/hour, effective November 29, 2023, end date tbd (paid via timesheet) (*revised* from the December 14, 2023 Agenda)

- N. Approval to pay the following Washington Elementary School staff to teach Tutoring, at the curriculum rate of \$50/hour, effective March 16, 2024, for the 2023-2024 school year, (paid via timesheet through ESSER: Beyond the School Day), (*revised* from the October 12, 2024 Agenda):
1. Kylie Fine - up to 40.5 hours
 2. Elizabeth Fox - up to 40.5 hours
 3. Bridget Pietrantuono - up to 56.25 hours
 4. Bradley Somerville - up to 56.25 hours
 5. Crystal Williams - up to 3.5 hours
 6. Dianna Doolittle (substitute) - up to 20 hours
 7. Linda Stanziale (substitute) - up to 20 hours
- O. Approval to pay the following Jefferson Elementary School staff to teach ESL Tutoring, effective April 1, 2024, for the 2023-2024 school year, (paid via timesheet through ESSER: Beyond the School Day):
1. Marija Landeka - up to 30 hours
 2. Melissa Acabou - up to 30 hours
- P. Approval for Sandra Giraldo to provide childcare for the Latino Literacy Program, at \$18/hour, up to 20 hours, for the 2023-2024 school year (paid via timesheet - funded by the Gottesman Fund)
- Q. Approval of the following Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School staff for participating in the 2023 spring musical, (funded via Student Activities funds):
1. Eugenia Grigorian - Choreographer - \$1,500

Motion was seconded by Ms. Erday. The roll was called, and all present voted, "Aye". The motion was declared adopted.

POLICIES & REGULATIONS

Ms. Cohn moved the following items under Policies & Regulations:

First Reading

- P 1140 - Educational Equity Policies/Affirmative Action (M) (Revised)
- P 2260 - Equity in School and Classroom Practices (M) (Revised)
- R 2260 - Equity in School and Classroom Practices Complaint Procedure (M)(Revised)
- P & R 5530 - Substance Abuse - Students (internal updates)
- P 5570 - Sportsmanship (Revised)

Second Reading

- P 1530 - Equal Employment Opportunities (M) (Revised)
- R 1530 - Equal Employment Opportunity Complaint Procedure (M) (Revised)
- P 1550 - Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination Practices (M) (Revised)
- P 3211 - Code of Ethics (Revised)
- P 5841 - Secret Societies (Revised)
- P & R 7610 - Vandalism (Revised)
- P 9323 - Notification of Juvenile Offender Case Disposition (Revised)

Motion was seconded by Mr. Colón. The roll was called, and all present voted, “Aye”. The motion was declared adopted.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ms. Erday, seconded by Ms. Kelly, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kathy Sarno", is written above the printed name.

Kathy Sarno
Assistant School Business Administrator
Summit Public Schools

