



UPPER ST CLAIR SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Mr. Patrick A. Hewitt, President • Mr. Phillip J. Elias, Vice President • Mrs. Amy L. Billerbeck
Mrs. Barbara L. Bolas • Mrs. Jennifer L. Bowen • Dr. Daphna Gans • Mr. Louis P. Mafrice, Jr.
Mrs. Angela B. Petersen • Mrs. Jennifer A. Schnore
Dr. John T. Rozzo, Superintendent • Mrs. Jocelyn P. Kramer, Solicitor

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, January 11, 2021 @ 7:00pm

Executive Session @ 6:15pm (Litigation and Personnel)

District Administration Building Board Room

Notice having been advertised and posted and members duly notified, a special Board meeting of the Board of School Directors was held on January 11, 2021 in the District Administration Board Room.

School Board Members in Attendance:

Mr. Patrick Hewitt President (in-person)
Mr. Mr. Phillip J. Elias, Vice President (in-person)
Mrs. Amy Billerbeck (virtual)
Mrs. Barbara L. Bolas (in-person)
Mrs. Jennifer L. Bowen (virtual)
Dr. Daphna Gans (virtual)
Mr. Louis P. Mafrice Jr. (virtual)
Mrs. Angela Petersen (in-person)
Mrs. Jennifer Schnore (virtual)

School Personnel in Attendance:

Dr. John T. Rozzo, Superintendent (in-person)
Dr. Sharon K. Suritsky, Assistant/Deputy Superintendent (virtual)
Mrs. Amy Pfender, Assistant to the Superintendent (virtual)
Mr. Ray Carson, Senior Director of Operations & Administrative Services (virtual)
Mr. Scott Burchill, Director of Business & Finance (in-person)
Dr. Lou Angelo, Director of Facilities and Operations (virtual)
Mr. Raymond Berrott, Director of Technology (in-person)
Dr. Judith Bulazo, Director of Curriculum and Development (virtual)
Mrs. Cassandra Doggrell, Director of Student Support Services (virtual)
Mrs. Lauren Madia, Assistant Director of Student Support Services (in-person)
Mr. Bradley Wilson, Director of Strategic Initiatives (virtual)

Mrs. Jocelyn Kramer, Solicitor (in-person)
Mrs. Sarah MacDonald, Board Stenographer (virtual)
Karsen Damon – Student Board Representative (virtual)
R.J. Shontz – Student Board Representative (virtual)

Call to Order

(Hewitt, School Board President)

Mr. Hewitt called the meeting to order at approximately 7:17pm.

Resident's Comments - (Regarding Agenda Items Only)

Link to Online Form

Note: As per Guidelines for Resident's Comments, please state your name and address and limit your comments to three minutes. Social distancing and mask guidelines will also be adhered to during Resident's Comments. In light of continued health and safety concerns, the Board will offer an additional option for submitting Residents' Comments via online form (link above) or by phone in advance of the meeting. You can submit a comment via phone by contacting the Board Stenographer at 412-833-1600 x2218 by Monday, January 11, 2021 any time before 2pm. Comments submitted in advance regarding agenda items will be shared with the Board prior to the meeting and summarized at this time.

There were no Resident's Comments at this time.

Approval of Agenda

(Hewitt, School Board President)

MOTION: By Bolas: I move that the Board approve the Agenda, as presented.
Seconded by Elias and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Superintendent's Report

a. Presentation Regarding Truxton Hillside Embankment Reconstruction Project

(Angelo, Director of Operations & Facilities)

ATTACHED

Dr. Angelo presented a proposed reconstruction project of the Truxton Hillside Embankment. The Truxton hillside has slid and is in need of repair. The hillside is currently a safety concern. Engineering site work has been completed to determine the best options for repair. Currently, the hillside belongs to the Upper St. Clair Township, however upon completion of the project the property will be transferred to the Upper St. Clair School District. The Township will share the cost 50/50 with the District, and the Township will oversee the project.

b. Authorization to enter into an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement between the Upper St. Clair School District and the Upper St. Clair Township regarding the Truxton Hillside Embankment Reconstruction Project

(Angelo, Director of Operations & Facilities)

ATTACHED

Dr. Angelo reviewed the presentation and stated why it is important to enter into the Agreement with the Township. Dr. Rozzo noted that the property is adjacent to the High School Stadium and that over time the District has noticed significant deterioration. He also advised that the District and Township have a great relationship and he would like to acknowledge the Township's commitment to resolving this matter.

MOTION: By Bolas: I move that the Board approve the following Resolution: Resolved, that the Board authorize the Superintendent to enter into an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement between the Upper St. Clair School District and the Upper St. Clair Township regarding the Truxton Hillside Embankment Reconstruction Project, subject to final terms and conditions approved by the Superintendent and Solicitor. Seconded by Petersen and carried by unanimous voice vote.

c. Approval of Personnel Listings

(Carson, Sr. Director of Operations & Administrative Services)

ATTACHED

Mr. Carson reviewed the Personnel Listings.

MOTION: By Schnore: I move that the Board approve the Personnel Listings, as attached. Seconded by Bolas and carried by unanimous voice vote.

Adjournment

(Hewitt, School Board President)

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:27pm.

Patrick A. Hewitt, President
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Scott P. Burchill, Secretary
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Submitted by: Sarah MacDonald
School Board Stenographer

Truxton Hillside Project



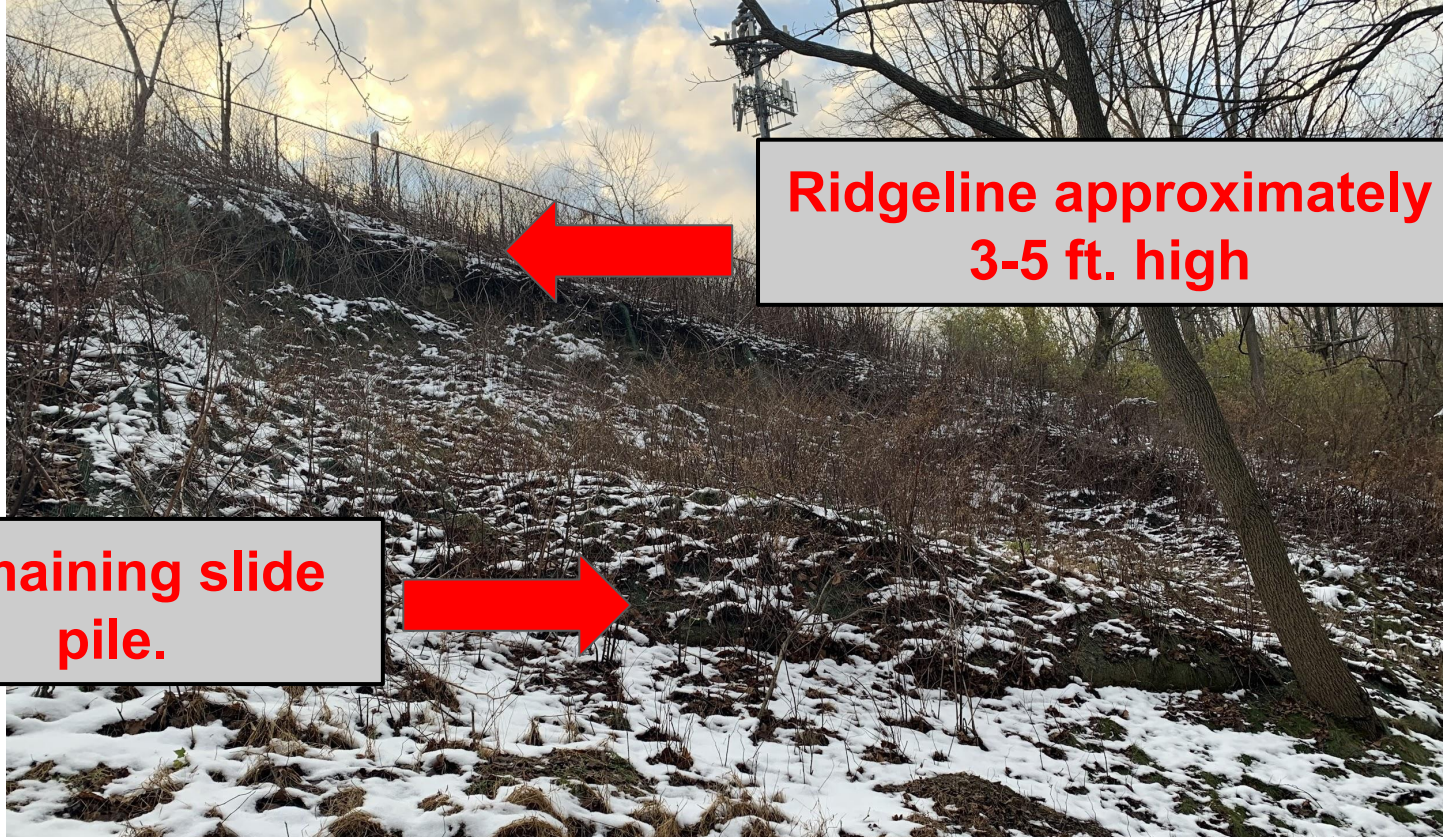
Board Meeting January 11, 2021

History: Truxton Drive Hillside

- The Truxton Drive hillside property has long been assumed to have belonged to the Upper St. Clair School District.
- Originally owned by the Upper St. Clair Township, the property was intended to be transferred to the School District during the 1980s. However, the transfer process was never completed.
- In June of 2018, the Truxton hillside slid during a rainstorm
- The Truxton hillside is a safety concern that is in need of repair
- Engineering site work has been completed to determine best options



Current Circumstances



**Ridgeline approximately
3-5 ft. high**

**Remaining slide
pile.**

Topside View of Slide

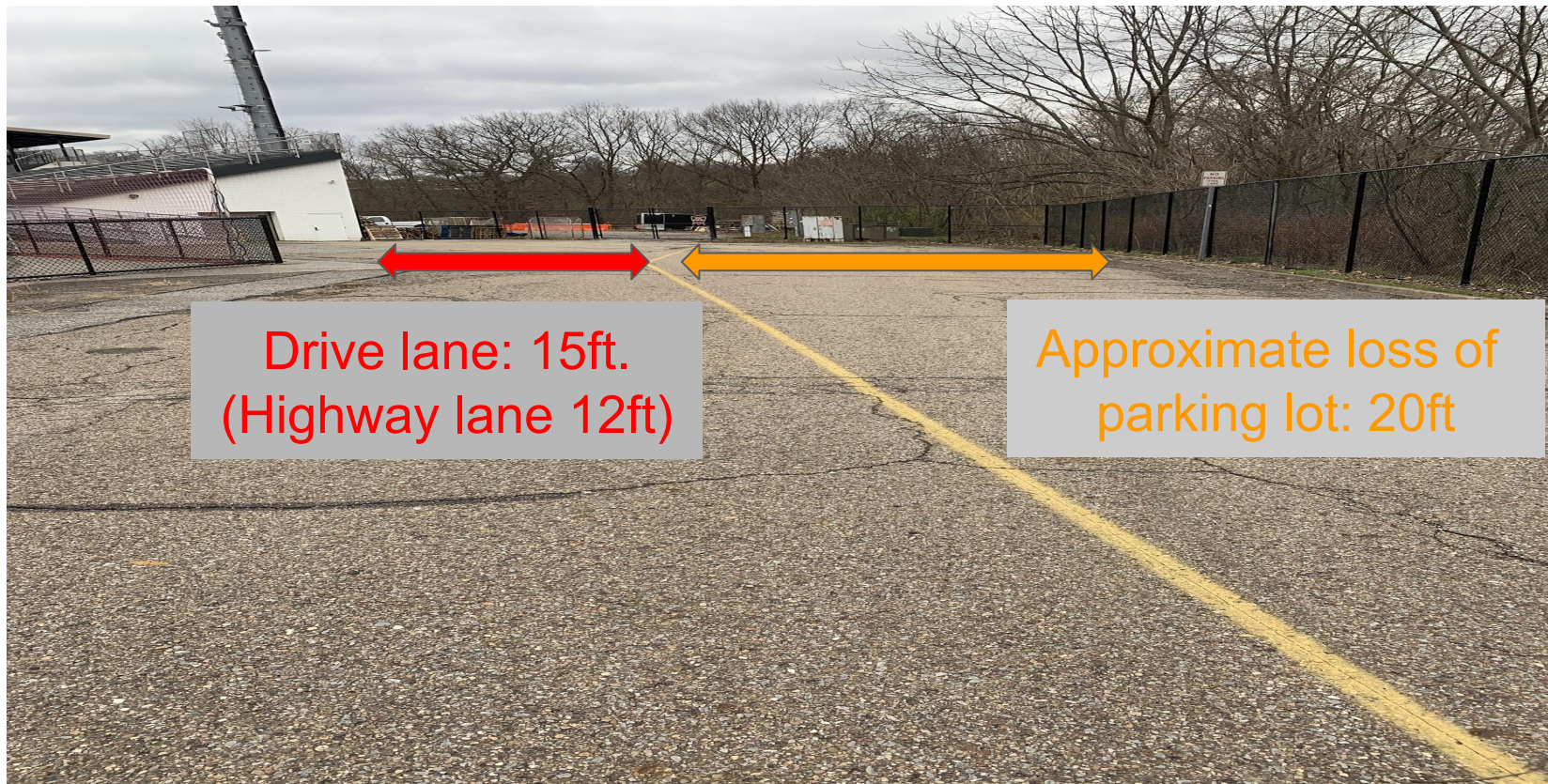


**Approximately 6 feet to
the edge of the ridgeline.**

Proposed Solution/Tentative Agreement

- Drive Soldier Pile and Lagging Retaining Wall
 - Approximate Dimensions: 200 ft. long, 15 ft. high
 - Useful life: 50-60 years
 - Textured finish
- 50/50 cost sharing with the Township
- Township will oversee the project
- Property will be transferred from the Township to USCSD at the completion of the project
- Value added engineering option provides \$450K - \$500K savings

Approximate Boundary



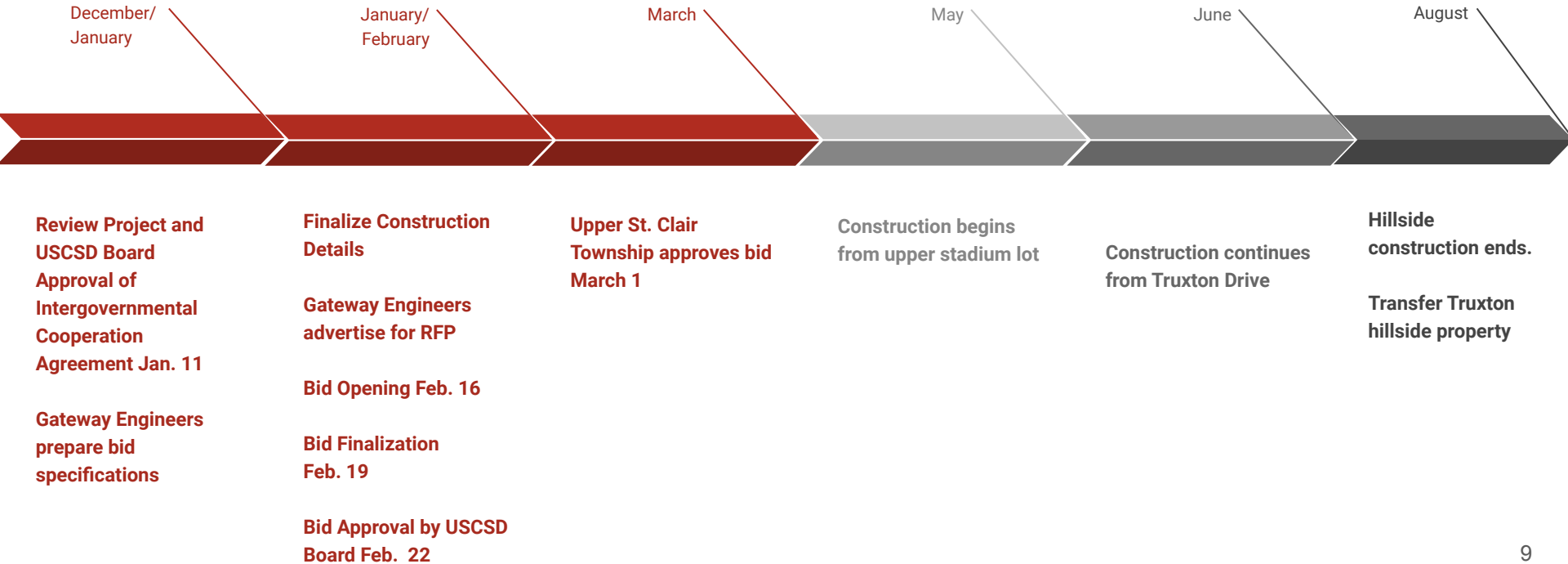
Sample Wall



Estimated Project Costs

Construction Costs	\$1,079,852.55
Engineering to date	\$21,000.00
Engineering Final Design and Bid Package	\$12,500.00
Construction Management/Administration	\$100,000
Property Transfer	\$10,000
Estimated Total Project Costs	\$1,223,352.55
Approximate USCSD Project Costs (50%) <i>(Costs may vary based on final accepted bid)</i>	\$611,676.28

Proposed Timeline



Truxton Hillside Project Questions?



Memo



To: Mr. Ray Carson

From: Dr. Lou Angelo

Date: December 8, 2020

RE: **Truxton Hillside Project and Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement**

This memo serves as a recommendation to approve the intergovernmental cooperation agreement between the Upper St. Clair School District and the Township of Upper St. Clair as part of our partnership to complete the Truxton hillside embankment reconstruction project during the **summer of 2021**.

History: The Truxton hillside is property that has long been assumed to have belonged to the Upper St. Clair School District. Originally owned by the Upper St. Clair Township, the property was intended to be transferred to the School District during the 1980s. However, the paperwork to complete the transfer was never formally signed and processed; therefore, although the School District was assumed to have taken ownership of the Truxton hillside since the 1980's, the property is actually owned by the Township.

Current Circumstances: During a heavy rain in June 2018, a significant portion of the Truxton hillside slid toward and onto the sidewalk and roadway and has become a safety concern. The Township secured Gateway Engineers Inc. to conduct a geotechnical investigation and assess the stability of the hillside. After reviewing the site location and conditions, conducting geological reconnaissance, and boring for subsurface exploration, the results indicated a portion of the embankment east of Truxton Drive has been experiencing long-term creep movement. Consequently, the Truxton hillside is distressed and embankment reconstruction is recommended.

Additionally, we are working with the Township to formally transfer the Truxton hillside property ownership to the District after the completion of the project. Consequently, we should ensure a sustainable solution to the distressed hillside that will provide the maximum years of stability and safety.

Lastly, the Township will manage the project while, if approved, we are completing the paving project for the High School campus. The two projects will be coordinated so as to not interfere with one another.

Proposed Remediation: The Upper St. Clair Township officials hired Gateway Engineering and collaborated with the District to determine the best possible solution. After reviewing several options,

deliberating costs, projected useful life, value added engineering capabilities and aesthetics, we have tentatively agreed to following solution:

- Soldier Pile and Lagging Retaining Wall
- Textured concrete finish
- Approximate dimensions: 200 ft long, 15 feet high
- Approximate useful life: 50 – 60 years
- Value added engineering will necessitate excavation to our current Truxton end-zone parking lot, but the lot will retain functionality. This option will save approximately \$450K-\$500K to the overall project costs.

Estimated Costs: As part of the understanding with the Township, each party will contribute 50% of the costs for completing the project. An agreement will be drawn up detailing the responsibilities/obligations of each party. The District's portion to fund this initiative will be secured/included as part of a proposed loan to complete the High School paving project.

Construction Costs (details attached)	\$1,079,852.55
Engineering to date	\$21,000.00
Engineering Final Design and Bid Package	\$12,500.00
Construction Management/Administration	\$100,000.00
Property Transfer	\$10,000.00
Estimated Total Project Costs	\$1,223,352.55
Approximate USCSD Project Costs (50%)	\$611,676.28

Attached:

- [Pictures of the Truxton Drive hillside](#)
- [Site drawing](#)
- [Picture of sample wall](#)
- [Project Timeline](#)





GATEWAY ENGINEERS

100 McMORRIS ROAD
PITTSBURGH, PA 15205

412-921-4030 PHONE
412-921-9960 FAX

www.gatewayengineers.com

PROJECT SCHEDULE USC TRUXTON DRIVE WALL

December 4, 2020

Milestones

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1. Design Documents Complete and Ready for bid | January 4, 2021 |
| 2. Documents provided to Township and District for authorization to solicit bid | January 4, 2021 |
| 3. Anticipated approval from Township and District to Bid | January 12, 2021 |
| ○ District Board meeting January 11, 2021 | |
| 4. Public Advertisement Date | January 22, 2021 |
| 5. Bid Due Date | February 9, 2021 |
| 6. Bid Review Complete and Recommendation to Township and District | February 15, 2021 |
| 7. Anticipated acceptance of bids from Township and District | March 3, 2021 |
| ○ Township discussion meeting February 22, 2021 | |
| ○ Township regular meeting March 1, 2021 | |
| ○ District Board meeting February 22, 2021 | |
| 8. Contracts Executed | March 22, 2021 |
| 9. Contractor Notice to Proceed | March 23, 2021 |
| 10. Materials delivered (approx. 8-week lead time) | May 21, 2021 |
| 11. Construction Start | May 24, 2021 |
| 12. Construction Complete | August 22, 2021 |

Personnel List**Board Meeting - Interim Approval (Dr. John Rozzo, Superintendent)****January 11, 2021****ELECTION**

Staff Name	Location	New Assignment	New Assignment Status	Effective Date
Assad, Andrew	Substitute	Custodian	Substitute	01-12-21
Brown, Natalie	Streams	AWS Teacher	Substitute	01-11-2021 through 06-09-2021
Cejer, Brittany	Ft. Couch	1.0 Special Ed Teacher (LTS for A. Neely through 4-7-21 & extended SE position)	LTS	02-09-21 through LDTR
Holzworth, Cynthia	Substitute	Substitute Nutrition Center Worker	Substitute	01-05-20
Hughes, Emily	Ft. Couch	AWS Teacher	Substitute	01-06-2021 through 06-09-2021
Long, Maria	Boyce /Ft Couch	1.0 Music Teacher (0.6 Boyce/0.4 FC) (LTS for S. Shoemaker)	LTS	TBD through LDTR
Mayfield, Alice	Substitute	ETC Substitute Teacher	Substitute	01-11-21
Nicolette-Fantin, Emily	Boyce	1.0 Music Teacher (LTS for J. Schetley)	LTS	01-19-21 through LDTR
O'Brien, Lauren	Substitute	Substitute Nurse	Substitute	01-04-21
Sargent, Robert	Bus Garage	Bus Attendant	PT	01-04-21
Taylor, Elizabeth	Substitute	Substitute Teacher Aide	Substitute	12-17-20
Williams, Hallie	Boyce	AWS Teacher	Substitute	01-19-21 through 06-09-21
Zader, Avis	Ft. Couch	Substitute Nutrition Center Worker	Substitute	01-04-21

CHANGE OF STATUS

Staff Name	Location	Current Assignment	Current Assignment Status	New Assignment	New Assignment Status	Effective Date
Jones, Holly	Boyce	Day-to-Day Substitute	Substitute	AWS Teacher	Substitute	01-25-21 through 06-09-21
Young, Lindsey	Streams	AWS Teacher	Substitute	1.0 Elementary Teacher (LTS for C. Fortson)	LTS	02-04-21 through 05-12-21 (includes

RESIGNATION

Staff Name	Location	Current Assignment	Current Assignment Status	Effective Date
LaPradd, Emily	Ft. Couch	AWS Teacher	Substitute	12-23-20

OTHER

EE#3061	5 day suspension & LCA (12-17 through 12-23)
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