BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

AUDUBON HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2024

5:30 P.M.

MINUTES

I. **Call to Order:** In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act of 1975, the Audubon Board of Education transmitted notice of this meeting, scheduled at 5:30 P.M. in the Audubon Junior-Senior High School Media Center to the Retrospect newspaper and the Borough Clerk and by postings on the Audubon Public School District website and at the Main and the Pine Street entrance of the Junior-Senior High School.

II. **Flag Salute**

III. **Roll Call**

SY 2022-2024

_X_ James Blumenstein	_Exc._ Allison Cox Excused	_X_ Andrea Robinson

SY 2023-2025

_X_ Ammie Davis	_X_ Stephen Wilson	_X_ Tara Sullivan-Butrica

SY 2024-2026

_X_ Alison Lipsky	_X_ Mark Gatti	_X_ Bill Wilson

SY 2024 Mt. Ephraim Representative

_X_ Johnathan Maxson

Motion by Ms. Lipsky seconded by Mr. Gatti to approve the resolution for board to enter into closed Authorizing Executive session I at 5:30pm for the following purposes. Motion approved by unanimous roll call (9-0) Member Cox was excused.

IV. **Authorizing Executive Session:**

WHEREAS, while the Sen. Byron M. Baer Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 et seq.) requires all meetings of the **Audubon Board of Education** to be held in public, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) sets forth nine types of matters that may lawfully be discussed in Executive Session," i.e. without the public being permitted to attend; and

WHEREAS, the **Audubon Board of Education** has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the Public; and

WHEREAS, the nine exceptions to public meetings set forth in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) are listed below, and next to each exception is a box within which the number of issues to be privately discussed that fall within that exception shall be written, and after each exception is a space where additional information that will disclose as much information about the decision as possible without undermining the purpose of the exception shall be written.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the **Audubon Board of Education** will go into closed session for the following reason(s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b):

__X___ Any matter which, by express provision of Federal Law, State Statute or Rule of Court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from discussion in public;

_____ Any matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the federal government;

__X___ Any material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy such as any records, data, reports, recommendations, or other personal material of any educational, training, social service, medical, health, custodial, child protection, rehabilitation, legal defense, welfare, housing, relocation, insurance and similar program or institution operated by a public body pertaining to any specific individual admitted to or served by such institution or program, including but not limited to information relative to the individual's personal and family circumstances, and any material pertaining to admission, discharge, treatment, progress or condition of nay individual, unless the individual concerned (or, in the case of a minor or incompetent, his guardian) shall request in writing that the same be disclosed publically;

_____ Any collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions of which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of terms and conditions with employees or representatives of employees of the public body

_____ Any matter involving the purchase lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of bank rates or investment of public funds where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed;

_____ Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public provided that their disclosure could impair such protection;

_X____ Any investigations of violations or possible violations of the law;

_____ Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer;

_X____ Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public; Specifically the evaluation of the Superintendent

_____Any deliberation of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party as a result of an act of omission for which the responding party bears responsibility;

WHEREAS, the length of the Executive Session is undetermined; however, the **Audubon Board of Education** will make every attempt to estimate the time of the session prior to convening the session after which the public meeting shall reconvene and the **Audubon Board of Education** will proceed with business.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the **Audubon Board of Education** will go into Executive Session for only the above stated reasons;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the **Audubon Board of Education** hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) may be made public at a time when the **Audubon Board of Education** attorney advises that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the school district or any other entity with respect to said discussion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the **Board of Education**, for the aforementioned reasons, hereby declares that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place and hereby directs the board secretary to take the appropriate action to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

Motion by Ms. Lipsky seconded by Mr. Butrica to adjourn closed Authorizing Executive session at 8:00pm. Motion approved by unanimous roll call (9-0) Member Cox was excused.

V. Participation:

The Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest.

In order to permit the fair and orderly expression of such comment, the Board has set aside two portions of this Board meeting for public comment on any school or school district issue that a member of the public feels may be of interest to the residents of the school district.

For the first portion, public comments are invited on matters pertaining only to the agenda for tonight's meeting. For the second portion, public comments are invited on all matters pertaining to the school district.

Participants should announce their name, address, and any group they may represent, if applicable. The Board reserves the right to limit public discussion. Public discussion of a topic will be limited to fifteen (15) minutes, and individual speakers will be limited to three (3) minutes. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard. Reference bylaws #0167 of the Audubon Public Schools Board of Education Manual.

The Board uses the public comment period as an opportunity to listen to citizen. Not all issues brought to a Board meeting will be resolved at that particular meeting. Complaints stated or actions requested by the public may be taken under advisement by the Board for investigation, discussion, actions, or disposition at a later date or time. The public comments sessions are an opportunity for citizens to share their opinions and remarks with the Board; it is not a question and answer session. The Board may or may not respond to public comments at the time they are made and is under no obligation to do so.

The Board does not endorse public comments nor will the Board be held liable for comments made by members of the public. Any individuals who may be the subject of public comments, including district employees, shall retain all rights against defamation and slander according to the laws of New Jersey.

All motions are voted on by all members unless otherwise marked with a +.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

1. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 6:30 pm in the Audubon Junior-Senior High School Library Media Center.

2. Motion by Ms. Lipsky seconded by Mr. Gatti to adjourn meeting at approximately 8:00pm.
   Motion approved by unanimous roll call (9-0) Member Cox was Excused

Motion to Approve: _A. Lipsky_____ Second: __M. Gatti_____

Roll Call

_X_ Ammie Davis _X_ Stephen Wilson _X_ Tara Butrica X Johnathan Maxson

_X_ Alison Lipsky _X_ Mark Gatti _X_ Bill Wilson

_X_James Blumenstein Exc. Allison Cox Excused _X_ Andrea Robinson

The Audubon Board of Education reserves the right to add and/or delete motions or make changes to motions in this agenda up to the time of the meeting and during the actual meeting.

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Deborah Roncace
Business Administrator/Board Secretary