

**Clinton-Glen Gardner Board of Education**

May 11, 2020

**BUSINESS SESSION MINUTES**

The Clinton-Glen Gardner School District is a community who values traditions. Our MISSION is to nurture and cultivate each child to be a compassionate, curious, and creative thinker, entrusted and empowered to build and lead the future.

**Adopted 3/2016****Opening Statement:**

Brendan McIsaac called the meeting together at 7:01 pm by announcing this meeting is held in compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law. The Clinton-Glen Gardner Board of Education has given the public adequate notice by having the date, time, and place of the meeting published in the Hunterdon County Democrat and Hunterdon Review, and by having duly posted the same information in the Board Office, the school bulletin board, the faculty room and the Town Hall.

**ROLL CALL:** Present (via live stream accessible via CPS.org website): Mr. Brendan McIsaac, Mrs. Lorraine Linfante, Mr. Carl Sabatino, Dr. Ashutosh Tewari, and Mr. Craig Sowell-arrived at 7:03

Also Present: Dr. Seth Cohen, Superintendent/Principal

Mrs. Bernadette Wang, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**1. Superintendent/Principal's Report -**

- Dr. Cohen presented 8th grade graduation options at present virtual option may be only option as no drive by ceremonies are allowed and no more than 10 persons are permitted in the building at a time. Later graduation dates may be required to hand off to other organizations to potentially hold those ceremonies as the students are no longer the responsibility of , under the care of, or under the legal umbrella of the Board.
- Pending vote at next meeting Virtual graduation date 6/11/2020, last day for students 6/12/2020 based on 180 day school year vs 181, last day for staff 6/15/2020
- Pass/Fail grading mostly favorably received
- Fridays are being used as catch up days for assignments
- 8th grade wind down to graduation will be discussed with Middle School Team
- No answers to date on how next school year will look, virtual/social distancing/etc.
- Summer program (ESY) no definitive guidance to date, current plan seems to be virtual based on current knowledge

**6. Public Comment-**

Comment 1 from Ms. Kimberly Seigal:

Any plans being developed to the 8th grade graduating class as far as postponing their special activities to a later date?

If it is possible to consider a dinner dance, camping trip and graduation ceremony for them once it is safe to do so.

- Board advises we currently do not have answers as rules are changing so quickly

Comment 2 from Ms. Fran Daley:

Ms. Daley is a grant coordinator at High Bridge School district and wanted to know if CPS is working on applying for the federal and other COVID grants?

She commented that it is a cumbersome and confusing process but there seem to be a lot of opportunities. Ms. Daley is also parent to Zack and Emma Ruhf in our school.

- Mrs. Wang responded prior to the meeting regarding taking guidance from Roundtable of Business Administrators and the County for our school to participate in grant opportunities possible. The required DUNS number for the school and application Grant access has been set up.

Comment 3 from Ms. Theresa Young:

1. What can you offer to the students who are having math difficulties or other subjects and need in person instruction?

- Dr Cohen advises no in person instruction is allowed however reach out to individual teachers for virtual assistance. Conferences can be arranged after if the teacher feels the student still needed.

2. What are you doing to do about students being at different levels due to the various ways instruction has been provided to students in other districts? For example, some students have done no work each day, 2 hours or work where others have done 5 hours of work each day.

- Dr. Cohen expressed that the priority will be about making sure students are ok mentally, socially and emotionally a new educational baseline will need to be evaluated.
- Mr. McIsaac advises that the high school will have children coming from many districts to evaluate as well.

3. What will be the arrangements for the gym lockers/desks to be cleaned out? What about books to be returned?

- Dr. Cohen advised that a plan/schedule is being developed. Will be before the end of the school year.

4. Can you arrange for special laptop/computer/printer pricing for students from Microsoft and Apple if parents would prefer to purchase?

- Dr Cohen advised that purchase of additional technology is not available however if current CPS technology is not working it can be swapped out.

Comment 4 from Brenda Menichillo

1. Would it be possible to defer the last day of school for 8th graders so the Board can take a much more active role in rescheduling the ceremonies

- Mr. Sabatino indicated the responsibility of the Board comes in question when the students are no longer CPS students, and Dr Cohen advised that to reschedule the last day would require consultation with Board attorneys as it is a contract issue.

Comment 5 Ms. Rogan

Also inquired about extending the school year, for graduation, dinner dance, camping, etc.

- Mr. MsIsaac advised the law, school calendar and attorneys will be considered and Dr Cohen will consider all and advise as matters develop

**11. Correspondences**

- **Approval of Bernadette Wangs, Business Administrator's contract from County is received. Motion to approve will be on May 19th agenda**
- **Email from School Boards rep regarding Superintendents evaluation by 7/1/2020.**
- **Senate/Legislators re: flexibility of delay or relief regarding taxes for budgeting.**

**12. New Business****13. Old Business**

- **Lebanon Borough- potential for start of students coming to CPS in 2021/2022**

**14. Public Comment** NONE received via email to Mrs. Wang**Executive Session -****RESOLUTION 2019-2020: 168****ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mrs. Linfante moved, seconded by Mr. Sabatino motion carried by roll call vote, 5-0 to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:00 pm.in accordance with the Sunshine Law, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, to discuss Personnel matter. The matter discussed will be made public if and when the circumstances requiring confidentiality no longer exist; however, it is not presently known when such circumstances will exist.

**Negotiations****RESOLUTION 2019-2020: 169****RESUME BUSINESS SESSION MEETING**

Mrs. Linfante moved, seconded by Mr. Sabatino, motion carried by roll call vote, 5-0 to at 8:17 pm to resume regular business session meeting.

**RESOLUTION 2019-2020: 170****ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Linfante moved, seconded by Mr. Sabatino and passed by roll call vote, 5-0, to adjourn the Board Meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Bernadette Wang  
Business Administrator

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Brendan McIsaac  
President