

The business meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of New Providence was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on June 27, 2024, at the New Providence High School/Middle School Media Center, 35 Pioneer Drive, by Mrs. Cuccaro, Board President.

Present on the roll call were Rebecca Coniglio, Bernadette Cuccaro, Kristen Empson Hayden, Stacey Gunderman, Amanda Marano, and Mr. Walsh. Also present were James Testa, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Lauren Zirpoli, Assistant Superintendent, Jon Keaney, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Supervision, and sixteen members of the public.

Mrs. Cuccaro led in the salute to the flag.

Mrs. Cuccaro 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 a Closed Session, the session will begin no later than 9:30 p.m. At the conclusion of the need for a 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. Cuccaro did not have any comments.

Dr. Zirpoli thanked Mrs. Cuccaro and welcomed the public. She then reported the enrollment report for the schools.

#### **ENROLLMENT**

Dr. Zirpoli gave the enrollment report for the following schools Allen W Roberts - 680 students, Salt Brook- 589 students, New Providence Middle School - 414 students, and New Providence High School - 643 students, for a total of 2,326 students. We have 34 out-of-district students, making the total 2,360 students.

Incoming kindergarten; Salt Brook has 79 full-day kindergarten students, 5 of the students were from either zone A or D in the redistricting plan, and Allen W. Roberts has 61 full-day kindergarten students.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Zirpoli congratulated all students for a successful school year. She highlighted the excitement students showed during the end-of-year Clap Out at the elementary schools, and at the Middle School, Dr. Zirpoli was impressed by the students at the promotion and the addresses made by the salutatorian and valedictorian. For the High School graduation, she thanked Mr. Henry for organizing despite the poor weather.

She then went on to state that a discussion regarding board goals and committee reports will be led by Mrs. Cuccaro later in the meeting, and thanked the committee members for meeting at the beginning of the month to discuss the board goals. The board goals will be on the July agenda for approval.

Dr. Zirpoli summarized the following statistics for the senior class. Senior class statistics: 94.4% of

seniors will attend a four-year college, 2.5% will enroll in a two-year college, and 1.25% will go directly into employment. The senior class submitted 1,451 college applications, with an average of nine applications per student. The acceptance rate for college applications was 66.5%. Notable colleges and universities where students are attending include Fairfield University, Indiana University in Bloomington, NYU, Quinnipiac, Rutgers University in New Brunswick, University of Maryland, University of South Carolina, and Virginia Tech. She also wished the senior students success in the future.

Dr. Zirpoli shared with the Board the success of the three-day administrative retreat. The three-day administrative retreat included various leadership activities, both physical and brainstorming, at Maskers Barn in Berkeley Heights. A brochure and a slide deck with pictures of the activities were shared with the Board.

Dr. Zirpoli then asked Mr. Testa for an update on the HVAC updates being done at the schools.

Mr. Testa stated that HVAC projects have started in all the schools, with the most demolition work currently being done at Allen W. Roberts. Equipment is starting to be received at all the schools, with unit ventilators set to be released on July 1st. He also shared that construction meetings with the contractors are scheduled every two weeks starting July 10th to ensure the projects are on target with regards to schedule and budget. Two projects from last year are still not completed, one being the roofing, Pravco has to address punch list items for the roof and the other being to replace the flooring for the trainer's room, due to defects.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mrs. Cuccaro opened the meeting to the public at 7:10 p.m.

There being no public comments, Mrs. Cuccaro declared the public portion of the meeting closed at 7:10 p.m.

#### **DOG THERAPY PILOT PROGRAM PRESENTATION ([LINKED PRESENTATION](#))**

Mrs. Feliciano Allen began her presentation by thanking Dr. Zirpoli, Dr. Miceli, the New Providence Education Foundation (NPEF), the Counseling Department, the Administrative team, and the Board for their support in this pilot program. She then reminded the Board that the pilot program began in March and concluded in June. The program was funded by the New Providence Education Foundation. The goals of the program were to reduce student anxiety levels, promote feelings of belonging, and improve overall mental health and well-being.

Allen W. Roberts, Salt Brook, and the Middle School had certified handlers on staff, allowing the therapy dogs to visit these buildings once a week. The High School, however, has facilitated visits through a third-party vendor, Creature Comfort, on an as-needed basis. Parents had the opportunity to opt their students out of the program, but only 12 students opted out, mainly due to allergies and fear. Pre and post-surveys were given to district faculty and students, and interviews and observational data were collected to measure the program's success and impact.

Mrs. Feliciano Allen reviewed the results of the pre and post surveys from faculty and students. The faculty pre-survey indicated that about 83% of elementary staff and 72% of middle and high school faculty either currently or previously owned a dog, showing a positive perception regarding dogs. The post-survey results of the faculty showed that most of them strongly agreed or agreed that students were less stressed, excited to see the therapy dog at school, and enjoyed having the therapy dog in their classroom. The post-survey results of the elementary students indicated that most of them strongly agreed or agreed that they were less stressed, excited to see the therapy dog at school, and felt happy when the therapy dog was in their classroom. PreK to second-grade student survey revealed that 76% of students wanted a dog before the program, which increased to 81% after the pilot, showing increased interest in having a dog.

The post-survey results of the middle school students showed that most of them were less stressed after being around a therapy dog, their mood was boosted during the school day, and they were excited to see the therapy dog at school. Many of them strongly agreed that the district should continue with the therapy dog program. The post-survey results of the high school students reflected similar positive experiences, with most indicating that seeing or interacting with the therapy dog boosted their mood during the day and expressed support for continuing the therapy dog program.

Mrs. Drexinger thanked the committee and the people who supported the pilot program and then went on to review the key findings of the program. The first finding, students reported lower levels of stress and anxiety and increased feelings of happiness and calmness when interacting with therapy dogs. Mrs. Drexinger shared that when students asked why Bailey was in school she would tell them “Bailey is here to make you happy”. Bailey has been an outlet for many students. Second finding, the staff indicated increased feelings of happiness and emotional comfort. Bailey has his morning routine of greeting the Administrators and staff before students come into the building. Bailey has also made a more positive overall school atmosphere and climate when therapy dogs visited, helped with school refusal, and increased academic engagement.

Mrs. Drexinger then shared a video that shows how the therapy program has impacted the schools. The video also included interviews with staff and students.

Mrs. Feliciano Allen thanked the committee for help in creating the video.

Mrs. Drexinger then went over the recommendations for the next school year. The recommendations are the following:

- Start at the beginning of the year
- Allow for visits to occur twice a week based on events/activities occurring in the school for elementary schools and NPMS
- Allow Finny (therapy dog at NPMS) to visit the High School for ½ hour each month
- Continue Creature Comfort Visits for NPHS. When possible, utilize an in-house dog if cancellations occur
- Include the opt-out form in New & Returning Student Registration

Mrs. Marano commented that her boys are in Salt Brook and have been able to enjoy seeing Bailey and thanked the committee.

Mrs. Gunderman thanked Mrs. Drexinger and the other handlers at the other schools for sharing their time and their dogs for the program.

Dr. Zirpoli thanked Mrs. Feliciano Allen for putting the program proposal together, she also thanked Mrs. Drexinger for her support. She also thanked Ms. Conlan and Ms. Stickle for becoming certified handlers. She then asked if the Board approved continuing the dog therapy program and making it a permanent program.

Mrs. Cuccaro commented that she believes that no one would be opposed to continuing the program and also thanked everyone involved in creating the pilot program.

The Board unanimously agreed to continue the program.

Mrs. Cuccaro then asked Mr. Keaney for his presentation of the NJGPA Assessment Report.

### **NJGPA ASSESSMENT REPORT PRESENTATION**

Mr. Keaney reported that he was presenting the NJGPA assessment report within the sixty (60) day state mandate to report the result to the Board of Education.

Mr. Keaney then explained that the NJGPA stands for the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment which is a requirement for all 11th graders to take and pass in order to graduate High School. Students who don't pass the assessment have other pathways to prove proficiency, such as the PTSA, SAT, ACT, or a portfolio assessment.

Mr. Keaney presented that the scores for next year's graduating class (present juniors) are 93.3% for language arts and 87.3% for math. Mr. Keaney also reported that the state requires reporting of any subgroup numbers greater than ten (10) students and that of the 12.7% of students who didn't pass the Math component, 12 of these students had IEPs.

The 6.7% of students who didn't pass the Language Arts assessment and 12.7% of students who didn't pass the Math assessment have the option to prove their proficiency in other ways, such as: taking the PSAT in October (which the District pays for), take either the SAT, ACT, and/or the Accuplacer assessment. If the student still does not get a passing score in either of these options then the student will start the process of reviewing their portfolio with the department head in January 2025.

A comparison of this year's results and last year's results shows that there is a small decrease in the Language Arts and Math assessments. There have been discussions with department heads on how to address this small decrease and strategies will be put in place this year to help students.

To understand and visualize the data better, Mr. Keaney researched other Districts' results, as per the request of the Board in previous years, and presented the New Providence scores compared to surrounding districts such as Berkeley Heights, Chatham, Livingston, Madison, Millburn, Summit and Westfield. Mr Keaney reported that New Providence compared favorably to the neighboring districts.

Mr. Keaney showed the Board the passing scores for the alternative assessments for PSAT, SAT, and ACT since Mrs. Cuccarro had asked about these scores in last year's assessment report presentation.

Mrs. Cuccarro clarified that the PSAT assessment is paid for all students in the District, not just the students who are taking the PSAT as an alternative pathway to prove proficiency in order to graduate.

Mr. Keaney confirmed this clarification.

Mrs. Cuccarro asked if ESL students are also included in the IEP subgroup or if are they reported separately.

Mr. Keaney affirmed that ESL students are identified separately in their subgroups but they are not reported out since there are less than ten students.

Mrs. Marano asked what the passing score was for the NJGPA.

From the public, Mrs. Shadis commented that the passing score for the NJGPA is 725 out of 850.

### **BASEBALL/SOFTBALL FIELD RENOVATIONS PRESENTATION**

Mr. Carangelo updated the Board on the proposal for renovations to the baseball and softball fields at the High/Middle School. The Board had previously approved the submission of the grant application to fund the moving of the Varsity Softball field from Allen W. Roberts to the New Providence High School. This would entail taking the JV baseball field and moving it to Allen W. Roberts.

The awarded grant was for \$63,000.00, however, this grant will not cover the total cost of the project. Mr. Carangelo proposed that the remaining funds will be crowd-sourced, with the athletic booster club supporting the project. Schoolfundr will be used for fundraising, while the rest will be captured as donations. The District plans to use \$63,000 to renovate the current junior varsity baseball and varsity softball field by replacing the old fencing and adding new fencing around dugouts, deck circle, and foul line. Also, would renovate infield to transition to a varsity softball field. They will also install high-quality

temporary outfield fencing for both varsity baseball and softball fields, allowing simultaneous games and improved stadium atmosphere. Temporary fencing will be installed at the field, allowing continued use for lower levels. Project planning is ongoing, with plans to reach out to the PAL and baseball/softball commissioners. The goal is to contract the vendor that was previously used for the varsity baseball infield.

Mrs. Cuccaro asked how long the current funding of \$63,000.00 is good for and if the remaining funds needed to complete the project aren't crowdsourced, what is the plan then?

Mr. Carangelo responded that he believes the grant funds will need to be used within 365 days of receiving the funds, and in the worst-case scenario, if we don't receive all the funds then the main goal is to make the fields playable. To make the fields playable, there is a need to field swap between the schools. The fencing is something that can be down at a later date, the priority is to swap the fields first.

Mrs. Cuccaro asked if the SchoolFundr link would be shared with the entire community, as this is a project that not only will benefit the schools but also the community.

Mr. Carangelo confirmed that the SchoolFundr link will be shared with the entire community.

Mrs. Marano asked when would the project start.

Mrs. Carangelo replied that the project is expected to begin in early November, avoiding high temperatures ensures the new sod will grow well and be healthy.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mrs. Marano moved to approve the minutes for:

|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Business Meeting: | May 2, 2024 |
| Closed Session:   | May 2, 2024 |

Dr. Empson Hayden seconded the motion and it was carried on the following vote:

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| <u>Yea</u>     | Mrs. Coniglio     |
| <u>Yea</u>     | Mrs. Cuccaro      |
| <u>Yea</u>     | Dr. Empson Hayden |
| <u>Abstain</u> | Mrs. Gunderman    |
| <u>Absent</u>  | Mrs. Killea       |
| <u>Yea</u>     | Mrs. Marano       |
| <u>Yea</u>     | Mr. Walsh         |

Mrs. Gunderman moved to approve the minutes for:

|                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Business Meeting: | May 29, 2024 |
| Closed Session:   | May 29, 2024 |

Mr. Walsh seconded the motion and it was carried on the following vote:

|               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Coniglio     |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Cuccaro      |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Dr. Empson Hayden |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Gunderman    |
| <u>Absent</u> | Mrs. Killea       |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Marano       |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mr. Walsh         |

**ACTION ITEMS**  
**FINANCE ACTIONS**

Mrs. Marano, Finance Chairperson, moved to approve Items 1 through 22:

**BOARD SECRETARY REPORT APPROVED**

1. After review, we hereby accept the Board Secretary and Treasurer reports for May 2024. No major account or fund has been over expended in violation of financial obligations for the the remainder of the fiscal year.

**BILL LIST APPROVED**

2. Approve the payment of bills for June 2024, in the amount of \$7,270,628.52.

**ACCOUNT TRANSFER APPROVED**

3. Ratify the action of the Superintendent in making the following transfers for the 2023/2024 school year.

**May 2024**

From:

| Account        | Description                    | Amount              |
|----------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 11-000-100-562 | Tuition- LEA in NJ             | \$ 49,000.00        |
| 11-000-240-103 | Salaries- SchoolAdministration | 24,893.00           |
| 11-000-261-420 | Repairs & Maintenance          | 12,000.00           |
| 11-000-262-107 | Salaries- Aides                | 16,477.00           |
| 11-000-291-270 | Employee Benefits              | 87,721.00           |
|                |                                | Total: \$190,091.00 |

To:

| Account        | Description                     | Amount              |
|----------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| 11-000-230-199 | Unused Vacation Payments        | \$ 24,893.00        |
| 11-000-261-610 | General Supplies-Maintenance    | 9,000.00            |
| 11-000-262-490 | Utilities- Water                | 16,477.00           |
| 11-000-262-610 | General Supplies- Custodial     | 3,000.00            |
| 11-000-291-299 | Unused Sick Day Payments        | 87,721.00           |
| 11-150-100-320 | Purchased Professional Services | 49,000.00           |
|                |                                 | Total: \$190,091.00 |

**INSURANCE AGENTS AND PROVIDERS APPROVED**

4. Move to approve the following appointments of insurance agents and providers by N.J. Statutes 18A:18A-5a(2) and (10) for the 2024/2025 school year:
  - a. Aetna Health Insurance
  - b. RPS/Bollinger Specialty Group, as the provider of athletic accident insurance
  - c. CFC, as the provider of privacy and data breach (cyber) insurance
  - d. Acrisure, as the Board's agent for health and dental benefits insurance; fee covered by the insurance company
  - e. Delta Dental
  - f. New Jersey Insurance Group, as the provider of workers' compensation insurance
  - g. New Jersey Unshared Excess Program (NJUEP), as the provider of excess umbrella insurance liability coverage
  - h. Clyde Paul Insurance Agency, as the Board's agent for all property, liability, auto, cyber,

- i. workers' compensation, and accident insurance, fee covered by insurance companies  
Utica National Insurance Group, as the provider of commercial package property insurance (property, liability, auto, umbrella, and school legal)
- j. Philadelphia Insurance Company, as the provider for pollution coverage

#### **RESOLUTION TO NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM APPROVED**

5. Adopt the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the New Providence Board of Education has considered whether to participate in the National School Lunch Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Providence Board of Education has concluded that it was in the best interests of the District to withdraw from participation in the National School Lunch Program effective the 2014/2015 school year.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the New Providence Board of Education continues to withdraw the District from participation in the National School Lunch Program for the 2024/2025 school year.

#### **APPROVAL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY TO DIRECT PREPAYMENT**

6. Adopt the following resolution:

The Business Administrator/Board Secretary has the authority to direct prepayment of claims for debt service, insurance, payroll, petty cash and any other claim or demand which would be in the best interest of the Board to pay promptly. All prepayments shall follow the District's purchasing procedure and be approved by the New Providence Board of Education at the next regular meeting, during the 2024/2025 school year.

#### **SUMMARY OF BID AWARDS APPROVED**

7. Approve the final District Summary of bid awards, through Educational Data Service, Inc., for the 2024/2025 school year.

| CATEGORY                    | BID OPENING DATE    | AMOUNT      |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| General Classroom Supplies  | 10/16/22            | \$23,865.43 |
| Athletic Supplies           | 9/28/23 and 2/29/24 | \$39,841.20 |
| Audio Visual Supplies       | 9/19/23             | \$ 25.31    |
| Copy Duplicator Supplies    | 2/8/24              | \$11,744.90 |
| Custodial Supplies          | 9/28/23             | \$ 64.67    |
| Family/Consumer Science     | 9/19/23             | \$ 53.16    |
| Fine Art Supplies           | 9/19/23             | \$11,666.87 |
| Health and Trainer Supplies | 9/19/23             | \$ 6,609.78 |
| Library Supplies            | 9/19/23             | \$ 319.86   |
| Math Supplies               | 9/28/23             | \$ 153.52   |
| Music Supplies              | 9/19/23             | \$ 83.79    |
| Office/Computer Supplies    | 9/28/23             | \$14,498.98 |

|                             |                         |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Photography Supplies        | 9/19/23                 | \$ 79.97    |
| Physical Education Supplies | 9/19/23                 | \$ 5,205.65 |
| Science Supplies            | 9/19/23 and<br>11/29/23 | \$ 6,199.23 |
| Special Needs               | 9/28/23                 | \$ 83.75    |
| Teaching Aids               | 9/28/23                 | \$ 244.91   |
| Technology Supplies         | 9/19/23                 | \$ 400.95   |
| World Language Supplies     | 3/5/24                  | \$ 34.48    |

**PURCHASE/RENEWAL OF SOFTWARE APPROVED**

8. Approve the purchase/renewal of software, including support and maintenance, for the 2024/2025 school year in accordance with N.J. Statutes 18A:18A-5. **(EXHIBIT A)**

**USE OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF NJ CONTRACT AWARDED TO RIDDELL FOR THE 2024/2025 SCHOOL YEAR APPROVED**

9. Approve the use of the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey contract and bid Co-op # ESCNJ 18/19-24 Athletic Equipment Reconditioning and Repair, awarded to Riddell for the 2024/2025 school year.

**TRANSFER TO CAPITAL RESERVE APPROVED**

10. Approve the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-41, N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-31, and N.J.S.A. 18A:21-2 permit a board of education to establish and/or deposit into certain reserve accounts at year end, and

**WHEREAS**, the aforementioned statutes authorize a board of education to transfer unanticipated excess current revenue or unexpected appropriations into reserve accounts during the month of June by board resolution, and

**WHEREAS**, The New Providence Board of Education wishes to transfer unanticipated unexpended appropriations from the General Fund into the Capital Reserve Account at year end to fund the replacement of turf at Lieder Field when necessary, and

**WHEREAS**, the New Providence Board of Education has determined that \$60,000.00 is available from account number 11-000-100-561 (Tuition LEA in NJ) for such a transfer;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the New Providence Board of Education that it hereby authorizes the District's School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to make this transfer consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

**BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR APPROVED TO EXECUTE TRANSFERS**

11. Approve the following resolution:

The Business Administrator, with approval of the Superintendent of Schools and Finance, Facilities, and Security Committee Chairperson, be authorized to execute account transfers that may be needed to close the fiscal year with Board confirmation at the next regular Board meeting.

**NONPUBLIC SCHOOL CHAPTER 192-193 SERVICES AGREEMENT APPROVED**

12. Approve the Agreement/Resolution for Nonpublic School Chapter 192-193 Services authorizing Union County Educational Services Commission to provide the required auxiliary services for the New Providence Board of Education for the 2024/2025 school year. **(EXHIBIT B)**

**NONPUBLIC NURSING SERVICES APPROVED**

13. Approve the Agreement/Resolution for Nonpublic School Nursing Services authorizing Union County Educational Services Commission to provide required nursing services for the New Providence Board of Education for the 2024/2025 school year. **(EXHIBIT C)**

**NONPUBLIC SCHOOL SECURITY AID AGREEMENT APPROVED**

14. Approve the Agreement/Resolution for Nonpublic School Security Aid authorizing Union County Educational Services Commission to administer the Security Aid Program for the New Providence Board of Education for the 2024/2025 school year. **(EXHIBIT D)**

**NONPUBLIC SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES APPROVED**

15. Approve the Agreement/Resolution for Nonpublic School Technology Services authorizing Union County Educational Services Commission to provide the required technology services for the New Providence Board of Education for the 2024/2025 school year. **(EXHIBIT E)**

**NONPUBLIC SCHOOL TEXTBOOK SERVICES APPROVED**

16. Approve the Agreement/Resolution for Nonpublic School Textbook Services authorizing Union County Educational Services Commission to provide required textbook services for the New Providence Board of Education for the 2024/2025 school year. **(EXHIBIT F)**

**NONPUBLIC IDEA-B SERVICES APPROVED**

17. Approve the Agreement/Resolution with Union County Educational Services Commission to administer the New Providence School District's Nonpublic School Individuals with Disabilities Education Act-B (IDEA-B) Initiative funds BASIC, pursuant to the requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Act and Grant Application for the 2024/2025 school year. **(EXHIBIT G)**

**APPROPRIATION OF BOND INTEREST EARNINGS APPROVED**

18. Approve the following resolution:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Education of the Borough of New Providence in the County of Union, in the State of New Jersey as follows:

**WHEREAS**, the legal voters of New Providence approved a bond proposal at an election on November 8, 2022, and

**WHEREAS**, the bond proposal included the following statement: The Board is authorized to transfer funds among the projects approved at this election. By resolution, the Board may appropriate interest earnings, capital reserves, or general fund surplus if needed for the projects; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board of Education hereby approves the appropriation of bond interest earnings to the Project as approved by the legal voters of New Providence. In the event that the Project is funded fully, excess interest earnings will be handled as per State regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, the appropriation of bond interest earnings shall be in effect for the 2024/2025 school year.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized to allocate bond interest earnings to the approved Project.

**DISTRICT SOFTWARE/ONLINE SUBSCRIPTION INVENTORY APPROVED**

19. Approve the list of District Software/Online Subscription Inventory for the 2024/2025 school year, copies in the hands of Board members.

**PURCHASE OF IREADY MATH WORKBOOKS AND SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES APPROVED**

20. Approve the following purchase in accordance with N.J. Statutes 18A:18A-5(a)(5) for the 2024/2025 school year:
- iReady Math Classroom workbooks and Supplemental Resources for Grades K-6 from Curriculum Associates, not to exceed \$88,578.00.

**VOIDED CHECKS APPROVED**

21. Approve the following voided check:

|               |             |               |                      |                  |
|---------------|-------------|---------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Voided        |             |               |                      |                  |
| <u>Check#</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Account#</u>      | <u>Reason</u>    |
| 1535          | 4/24/24     | \$550.00      | AWR Activity Account | Incorrect amount |

**TUITION REFUND APPROVED**

22. Approve the refund of the 2023/2024 preschool tuition payment in the amount of \$10.00 to Theresa Martin.

Mr. Walsh seconded the motion and it was carried on the following vote:

Roll call vote:

|               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Coniglio     |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Cuccaro      |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Dr. Empson Hayden |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Gunderman    |
| <u>Absent</u> | Mrs. Killea       |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Marano       |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mr. Walsh         |

**FACILITIES ACTIONS**

Mr. Marano, the Facilities Chairperson, moved to approve Items 1 through 4:

**TECHNOLOGY DISPOSALS APPROVED**

1. Approve the disposal of the attached items, as they are outdated and no longer deemed necessary for school use. (EXHIBIT H)

**LOCAL RECREATION IMPROVEMENT GRANT ACCEPTANCE APPROVED**

2. The New Providence Board of Education applied for and will accept the Local Recreation Improvement grant award in the amount of \$63,000.00, requirements as per the attached resolution and grant agreement. **(EXHIBIT I)**

**SALE OF IPADS BID APPROVED**

3. Bids were received in the office of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary on June 18, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. Award as indicated:

**Sale of iPads – New Providence Board of Education, Bid #24-01**

Vendor: GDI Trading  
1111 Jefferson Avenue  
Suite A  
Elizabeth, NJ 07201

Base Bid: \$55,993.00

**DISPOSALS APPROVED**

4. Approve the disposal of the following items and books, as they are outdated and no longer deemed necessary for school use:

| Quantity | Item Description                          | Model/ISBN#                                                        | BOE#/Ser.# |
|----------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 47       | We Live Together, Social Studies Textbook | Macmillan/McGraw-Hill Copyright 2005<br>ISBN<br>0-02-150313-3      | N/A        |
| 58       | Health and Fitness, Health Textbook       | Harcourt Copyright<br>2006<br>ISBN<br>0-15-337525-6                | N/A        |
| 24       | Beginner Dictionary                       | Macmillan<br>Publishing<br>ISBN<br>0-02-195370-8<br>Copyright 1987 | N/A        |
| 1        | Philips 19" TV                            |                                                                    | 100390     |
| 1        | Panasonic 19" TV                          |                                                                    | 100410     |

Mr. Walsh seconded the motion and it was carried on the following vote:

Roll call vote:

|               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Coniglio     |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Cuccaro      |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Dr. Empson Hayden |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Gunderman    |
| <u>Absent</u> | Mrs. Killea       |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Marano       |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mr. Walsh         |

**EDUCATION ACTIONS**

Mrs. Gunderman moved to approve Items 1 through 10:

**HIB INVESTIGATIONS APPROVED**

1. 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:

| <u>School</u>     | <u>Incident Report Number(s)</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| High School:      | 4                                |
| Middle School:    | 14, 15                           |
| Allen W. Roberts: | 3, 4, 5                          |

**LIVE STREAMING MEMORANDUM WITH NEW PROVIDENCE POLICE DEPARTMENT APPROVED**

2. Approve the Live Streaming Memorandum of Understanding between the New Providence Board of Education and the Borough of New Providence Police Department, effective 7/1/24 through 6/30/25.

**2024/2025 SCHOOL NURSING SERVICES PLANS APPROVED**

3. Approve the 2024/2025 School Nursing Services Plans for the New Providence School District and approve submission of same to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools as mandated by N.J.A.C. 6A:15-2.1(b), copies in the hands of each Board member.

**ADOPTION OF TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS APPROVED**

4. Approve the adoption of textbooks and other educational materials for the 2024/2025 school year, as per the attached list.

(EXHIBIT J)

**RELATED SERVICES FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS APPROVED**

5. Approve the provision of related services for designated special education students, effective 7/1/24 through 6/30/25, as per the attached list.

(EXHIBIT K)

**ESY OUT-OF-DISTRICT PLACEMENTS/TUITIONS APPROVED**

6. Approve the extended school year program, summer 2024, classified out-of-district placements/tuitions, as per attached list.

(EXHIBIT L)

**10 MONTH OUT-OF-DISTRICT PLACEMENTS/TUITIONS APPROVED**

7. Approve the 10-month classified out-of-district placements/tuitions for the 2024/ 2025 school year, as per attached list.

(EXHIBIT M)

**SPECIAL EDUCATION TUITION AGREEMENT WITH UCESC APPROVED**

8. Approve the Special Education Tuition Agreement between the Union County Education Services Commission and the New Providence School District for the 2024/2025 school year. (EXHIBIT M)

**UNION COUNTY VO-TECH SCHOOLS TUITION RATE SCHEDULE APPROVED**

9. Approve the School Tuition Rate Schedule Agreement between the Union County Vocational-Technical Schools and the New Providence Board of Education for the 2024-2025 school year. (EXHIBIT N)

**RE-ADOPTIONS APPROVED**

10. Approve the re-adoption in the 2024/2025 school year of all the previously adopted Bylaws, Policies & Regulations, Job Descriptions, Staff Evaluations Rubrics, Curriculum guides, approved Textbooks, Gifted and Talented Program, and School Counseling programs of the Board of Education, on file in the Office of the Board of Education.

Dr. Empson Hayden seconded the motion and it was carried on the following vote:

Roll call vote:

|               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Coniglio     |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Cuccaro      |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Dr. Empson Hayden |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Gunderman    |
| <u>Absent</u> | Mrs. Killea       |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Marano       |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mr. Walsh         |

**PERSONNEL ACTIONS**

Mrs. Coniglio moved to approve Items 1 through 26:

**2024/2025 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 2024/2025 school year:
- Gina Calleo, teacher, \$57,499.00\*, effective 9/1/24
  - Victoria Delia, teacher, \$56,999.00\*, effective 9/1/24 (subject to criminal history review procedures) (subject to issuance of certification)
  - Fiona Flanagan, teacher, \$56,999.00\*, effective 9/1/24 (subject to criminal history review procedures) (subject to issuance of certification)
  - Tara Martin, teacher, \$67,936.00\*, effective 9/1/24
  - Rebeca Barbagallo, long term substitute teacher, \$60,499.00\*, effective 9/1/24 through 6/30/25
  - Karen Gaeta, long term substitute teacher, \$31,593.00\* (base \$63,185.00\*), effective 9/1/24 through 1/31/25
  - Kristin Jakubowski, HS/MS summer technology work, not to exceed 60 hours at \$54.87/hr.
  - Lindsay Gnudi-Sztybel, HS summer school counseling, not to exceed 6 days, \$2,765.73
  - Kristy McCauley, HS summer school counseling, not to exceed 6 days, \$3,275.07
  - Christine Noppenberger, HS summer school counseling, not to exceed 6 days, \$2,392.65
  - Kim Chrisostomides, MS summer school counseling, not to exceed 6.5 days, \$3,697.49
  - Jenna Stickle, MS summer school counseling, not to exceed 6 days, \$2,392.65
  - Carolyn Macchia, summer station manager, not to exceed 44 hours @ \$54.87/hr.
  - Andrea Wright, HS/MS nurse summer hours, not to exceed 10 days, \$4,664.00
  - Rachel Fintz, touch tank care monitor, not to exceed 30 hours @ \$54.87/hr.
  - Michelle Demich, summer SB media center, not to exceed 20 hours, \$1,257.72
  - Lynn Kral, SB nurse summer hours, not to exceed 3 days, \$1,460.61
  - Nicola Zipeto, SB summer technology work, not to exceed 60 hours @ \$54.87/hr.

- s. Julie Spoerl, elementary summer technology work, not to exceed 60 hours @ \$54.87/hr.
  - t. Brandee Conover, summer AWR media center, not to exceed 20 hours, \$1,531.64
  - u. Jessica Leon, AWR nurse summer hours, not to exceed 3 days, \$1,085.10
  - v. Kelley Fahey, AWR summer technology work, not to exceed 60 hours @ \$54.87/hr.
  - w. Lyndsay Wittenberg, MS assistant principal, 12 mos., \$105,000.00, effective 7/1/24 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
  - x. Rachel Winard, teacher, \$88,152.00\*, effective 9/1/24 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
  - y. Katherine Blanco, summer department head work, not to exceed 10 hours @ \$54.87/hr.
  - z. Leah Bromley, summer department head work, not to exceed 20 hours @ \$54.87/hr.
  - aa. Jennifer Florencio, summer department head work, not to exceed 20 hours @ \$54.87/hr.
  - bb. David Goldstein, summer department head work, not to exceed 10 hours @ \$54.87/hr.
  - cc. James McGeechan, summer department head work, not to exceed 30 hours @ \$54.87/hr.
  - dd. Jennifer Pasuit, summer department head work, not to exceed 20 hours @ \$54.87/hr.
  - ee. Michael Santoro, summer department head work, not to exceed 20 hours @ \$54.87/hr.
  - ff. Peter Schaefer, summer department head work, not to exceed 10 hours @ \$54.87/hr.
  - gg. Michelle Testa, summer department head work, not to exceed 10 hours @ \$54.87/hr.
  - hh. Byron Tracey, summer department head work, not to exceed 20 hours @ \$54.87/hr.
  - ii. Scott Ziegler, summer department head work, not to exceed 20 hours @ \$54.87/hr.
  - jj. Leah Bromley, summer curriculum review work, not to exceed 4 hours @ \$54.87/hr.
  - kk. David Goldstein, summer curriculum review work, not to exceed 1 hour @ \$54.87/hr.
  - ll. Jennifer Pasuit, summer curriculum review work, not to exceed 6 hours @ \$54.87/hr.
  - mm. Michelle Testa, summer curriculum review work, not to exceed 14 hours @ \$54.87/hr.
  - nn. Holly Lessing, secretary II, 12 mos., 7.5 hrs./day, \$43,447.00\*, effective 7/1/24
  - oo. Dana Lester, teacher, \$69,697.00\*, effective 9/1/24 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
  - pp. Heather Huber, long term substitute teacher, \$23,287.00\* (base \$57,499.00\*), effective 9/30/24 through 1/31/25
  - qq. Tara Nelson, reading specialist (.48), \$34,106.00\* (base \$71,054.00\*), effective 9/1/24 (subject to issuance of certification)
  - rr. Melissa Marszalek, teacher, \$64,492.00\*, effective 9/1/24 (subject to criminal history review procedures) (subject to issuance of certification)
  - ss. Laina Magnani, science chemical hygiene monitor, not to exceed 15 hours @ \$54.87/hr., effective 7/1/24-6/30/25
  - tt. Denise Thompson, science chemical hygiene monitor, not to exceed 15 @ \$54.87/hr., effective 7/1/24-6/30/25
- (\*) subject to completion of negotiations for 2024/2025 school year

#### **2024/2025 ESY APPOINTMENTS APPROVED**

2. 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 2024/2025 school year. The following personnel will all participate in the Extended School Year (ESY) Program.
  - a. Nicole McGuire, extended school year PSD program teacher, not to exceed 20 half days, \$4,281.30\*
  - b. Deana Marie Salvadore, extended school year LLD3 program aide, not to exceed 30 half days, \$2,035.35
  - c. Lauren Koppel, extended school year LLD1 program teacher, not to exceed 20 half days, \$3,929.05
  - d. Scott Rahner, extended school year LLD2 program teacher, not to exceed 20 half days, \$3,547.75
  - e. Gina Bellitti, extended school year LLD3 program teacher, not to exceed 20 half days, \$4,609.55

- f. Glen Robertson, extended school year LLD4/5 program teacher, not to exceed 20 half days, \$4,609.55
- g. Dana Branstetter, extended school year learning support teacher, not to exceed 20 half days, \$3,274.50
- h. Marc Willemsen, extended school year LLD1 program aide, not to exceed 20 half days, \$1,661.81
- i. Lori Gallitelli, extended school year LLD4/5 program aide, not to exceed 20 half days, \$1,554.60
- j. Leah Russo, extended school year PSD program teacher, not to exceed 30 half days, \$5,547.45
- k. Laurel Brockman, extended school year PSD aide, not to exceed 30 half days, \$2,331.92
- l. Brenda Debski, extended school year PSD aide, not to exceed 20 half days, \$1,356.90
- m. Laurel Brockman, extended school year program summer transportation aide, \$20.73/hr.
- n. Lori Gallitelli, extended school year program summer transportation aide, \$20.73/hr.
- o. Marc Willemsen, extended school year program summer transportation aide, \$22.16/hr.
- p. Deana Marie Salvatore, extended school year program summer transportation aide, \$18.09/hr.
- q. Brenda Debski, extended school year program summer transportation aide, \$18.09/hr.
- r. Grace Kinsella, summer CST work, not to exceed 8 days, \$2,838.20
- s. Kristen Nazzaro, summer CST work, not to exceed 8 days, \$2,730.28
- t. Kira Shmuler, summer CST work, not to exceed 8 days, \$4,438.76
- u. Victoria Hinz, summer CST work, not to exceed 8 days, \$2,730.28
- v. Joseph Route, summer CST work, not to exceed 8 days, \$4,366.76
- w. Kathleen Shelley, summer CST work, not to exceed 10 days, \$4,609.55
- x. Carol Zimmerman, summer speech evaluations, not to exceed 6 days, \$3,160.98
- y. Nina Kania, summer occupational therapy evaluations/services, not to exceed 6 days, \$2,128.65
- z. Colby Roebuck, for program based behavioral supports, not to exceed 12 half days, \$2,711.58
- aa. Scott Rahner, summer teacher for IEP meeting, \$48.40/hr.
- bb. Julie Spoerl, summer teacher for IEP meeting, \$71.87/hr.
- cc. Kathleen Joyce, summer teacher for IEP meeting, \$47.79/hr.
- dd. Rebecca DeCelestino, summer teacher for IEP meeting, \$54.40/hr.
- ee. Donna Trivisonno, summer teacher for IEP meeting, \$75.70/hr.
- ff. Erin Doherty, summer teacher for IEP meeting, \$57.64/hr.
- gg. Lynn Kowalskie, summer teacher for IEP meeting, \$78.15/hr.
- hh. Gina Bellitti, summer teacher for IEP meeting, \$62.87/hr.
- ii. Christina Focacci, summer teacher for IEP meeting, \$73.10/hr.
- jj. Deena Rudnicki, summer teacher for IEP meeting, \$69.83/hr.
- kk. Alicia Barbour, summer teacher for IEP meeting, \$72.95/hr.
- ll. Tracey Blanchard, summer teacher for IEP meeting, \$75.70/hr.
- mm. Leah Russo, summer teacher for IEP meeting, \$50.45/hr.
- nn. Brandon Hilf, summer teacher for IEP meeting, \$45.36/hr.
- oo. Holly Pizzonia, summer teacher for IEP meeting, \$69.83/hr.
- pp. Alicia Hennessy, summer teacher for IEP meeting, \$78.15/hr.
- qq. Denise Thompson, summer teacher for IEP meeting, \$73.10/hr.
- rr. Rachele Petronella, summer teacher for IEP meeting, \$46.14/hr.
- ss. Patricia Panzarino-Ramos, summer teacher for IEP meeting, \$74.47/hr.
- tt. Kristin Salsberry, summer teacher for IEP meeting, \$62.89/hr.
- uu. Kristy McCauley, summer school counselor for IEP meeting, \$74.47/hr.
- vv. Christine Noppenberger, summer school counselor for IEP meeting, \$54.40/hr.
- ww. Marla Malinauskas, summer substitute teacher for ESY program and/or teacher for IEP meeting, \$60.18/hr.
- xx. Lisa Matrale, summer substitute teacher for ESY program and/or teacher for IEP meeting, \$55.85/hr.
- yy. Nicola Zipeto, summer substitute teacher for ESY program and/or teacher for IEP

- meeting, \$62.89/hr.
- zz. Michele Picarelli, summer substitute teacher for ESY program and/or teacher for IEP meeting, \$71.05/hr.
- aaa. Brandee Conover, summer substitute teacher for ESY program and/or teacher for IEP meeting, \$76.58/hr.
- bbb. Angelina Iosso, summer substitute teacher for ESY program and/or teacher for IEP meeting, \$43.57/hr.
- ccc. Meredith Mintz, summer substitute teacher for ESY program and/or teacher for IEP meeting, \$44.79/hr.
- ddd. Elizabeth Giaime, summer substitute teacher for ESY program and/or teacher for IEP meeting, \$60.18/hr.
- eee. Wendy Zigon, summer substitute aide for ESY program, \$18.09/hr.
- fff. Jessica Leon, extended school year program nurse, not to exceed 30 half days, \$5,425.50
- ggg. Curren DeVico, extended school year LLD2 program aide, not to exceed 20 half days, \$1,356.90
- hhh. Curren DeVico, extended school year program summer transportation aide, \$18.09/hr.

(\*) subject to completion of negotiations for 2024/2025 school year

### **2024/2025 ARP-ESSER APPOINTMENTS APPROVED**

3. 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 2024/2025 school year. These appointments are made under the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP-ESSER).
  - a. Katherine Blanco, professional development hours to prepare mini-series workshops, not to exceed 6 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr., effective 7/1/24-8/23/24
  - b. Shawna Damon, professional development hours to prepare mini-series workshops, not to exceed 6 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr., effective 7/1/24-8/23/24
  - c. Maria Halkias, professional development hours to prepare mini-series workshops, not to exceed 6 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr., effective 7/1/24-8/23/24
  - d. Sharon Licari professional development hours to prepare mini-series workshops, not to exceed 6 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr., effective 7/1/24-8/23/24
  - e. Gwen Hermann, professional development hours to prepare mini-series workshops, not to exceed 6 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr., effective 7/1/24-8/23/24
  - f. Jaclyn Kaufman, professional development hours to prepare mini-series workshops, not to exceed 6 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr., effective 7/1/24-8/23/24
  - g. Lynn Kral, professional development hours to prepare mini-series workshops, not to exceed 6 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr., effective 7/1/24-8/23/24
  - h. Michelle Testa, professional development hours to prepare mini-series workshops, not to exceed 6 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr., effective 7/1/24-8/23/24
  - i. Leah Bromley, professional development hours to prepare mini-series workshops, not to exceed 6 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr., effective 7/1/24-8/23/24
  - j. Alessandra Finis, professional development hours to prepare mini-series workshops, not to exceed 6 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr., effective 7/1/24-8/23/24
  - k. Grace Kinsella, professional development hours to prepare mini-series workshops, not to exceed 6 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr., effective 7/1/24-8/23/24
  - l. Leah Russo, professional development hours to prepare mini-series workshops, not to exceed 6 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr., effective 7/1/24-8/23/24
  - m. Rachel Fintz, professional development hours to prepare mini-series workshops, not to exceed 6 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr., effective 7/1/24-8/23/24
  - n. David Goldstein, professional development hours to prepare mini-series workshops, not to exceed 6 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr., effective 7/1/24-8/23/24

- o. Amy Nagle, professional development hours to prepare mini-series workshops, not to exceed 6 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr., effective 7/1/24-8/23/24
- p. Jennifer Pasuit, professional development hours to prepare mini-series workshops, not to exceed 6 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr., effective 7/1/24-8/23/24

(\*) subject to completion of negotiations for 2024/2025 school year

#### **2024/2025 ESSA APPOINTMENTS APPROVED**

4. 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 2024/2025 school year. These appointments are made under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

- a. Hailey Hogan, Title III teacher for summer programs, not to exceed 30 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr.
- b. Heather Maguire, Title III teacher for summer programs, not to exceed 30 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr.
- c. Deborah Leonard, Title III teacher for summer programs, not to exceed 30 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr.
- d. Brenda Avila, summer Title III teacher for MLs student profiles, not to exceed 30 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr.
- e. Hailey Hogan, summer Title III teacher for MLs student profiles, not to exceed 15 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr.
- f. Heather Maguire, summer Title III teacher for MLs student profiles, not to exceed 15 hours @ \$54.87\*/hr.

(\*) subject to completion of negotiations for the 2024/2025 school year

#### **RESIGNATION APPROVED**

5. Accept the resignation of the following employee:

- a. Daniel Dougher, teacher, effective 6/30/24

#### **2023/2024 REVISION APPROVED**

6. Approve the following revision for the 2023/2024 school year:

- a. Brandee Conover, AWR winter/spring academic achievement program teacher, not to exceed 38 hours @ \$75.00/hr.

#### **2024/2025 RESCINDED APPOINTMENTS APPROVED**

7. Rescind the following appointments for the 2024/2025 school year:

- a. Tara Martin, long term substitute teacher, \$67,936.00\*, effective 9/1/24 through 6/30/25
- b. Tara Nelson, long term substitute teacher, \$34,106.00\* (base \$71,054.00\*), effective 9/1/24 through 1/24/25
- c. Holly Lessing, teacher aide, \$24,698.00

#### **UNPAID MATERNITY LEAVE APPROVED**

8. Approve the request for unpaid maternity leave for Victoria Hinz, school psychologist, under the state Family Leave Act for a period of twelve weeks commencing 10/30/24 and ending 1/31/25 with continued health insurance benefits pursuant to law. (Based on 10/15/24 due date. Dates subject to adjustment by actual birth.)

**RESCINDED UNPAID LEAVE APPROVED**

9. Rescind the request for unpaid leave for Vanessa Jebson, teacher, under the federal Family Leave Act for a period of four weeks commencing 5/2/24 and ending 6/2/24 with continued health insurance benefits pursuant to law.

**SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY CONTRACT AGREEMENT APPROVED**

10. Approve the contract agreement for James Testa, as School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, with the New Providence Board of Education. Contract is on file in the Board Office. (Copies in the hands of each Board member.)

**NEW PROVIDENCE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION TEACHERS UNIT AGREEMENT APPROVED**

11. Approve the ratification of the agreement between the New Providence Education Association Teachers Unit for the duration of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027. The Board President and the Board Secretary are authorized to execute the final agreement.

**NEW PROVIDENCE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION SECRETARIAL UNIT AGREEMENT APPROVED**

12. Approve the ratification of the agreement between the New Providence Education Association Secretarial Unit for the duration of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027. The Board President and the Board Secretary are authorized to execute the final agreement.

**NEW PROVIDENCE CUSTODIAN AND MAINTENANCE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT APPROVED**

13. Approve the ratification of the agreement between the New Providence Custodian and Maintenance Association for the duration of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027. The Board President and the Board Secretary are authorized to execute the final agreement.

**NEW PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S HOMELESS LIAISON APPOINTMENT APPROVED**

14. Approve the appointment of Dr. Lauren Zirpoli as the New Providence School District's Homeless Liaison for the 2024/2025 school year, effective 7/1/24-7/28/24.

**NEW PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S HOMELESS LIAISON APPOINTMENT APPROVED**

15. Approve the appointment of Joseph G. Uglialoro as the New Providence School District's Homeless Liaison for the 2024/2025 school year, effective 7/29/24.

**NEW PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S AFFIRMATIVE ACTION OFFICER APPOINTMENT APPROVED**

16. Approve the appointment of Dr. Lauren Zirpoli as the New Providence School District's Affirmative Action Officer for the 2024/2025 school year, effective 7/1/24-7/28/24.

**NEW PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S AFFIRMATIVE ACTION OFFICER APPOINTMENT APPROVED**

17. Approve the appointment of Joseph G. Uglialoro as the New Providence School District's Affirmative Action Officer for the 2024/2025 school year, effective 7/29/24.

**NEW PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S SCHOOL SAFETY SPECIALIST APPOINTMENT  
APPROVED**

18. Approve the appointment of Dr. Lauren Zirpoli as the New Providence School District's School Safety Specialist for the 2024/2025 school year, effective 7/1/24-7/28/24.

**NEW PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S SCHOOL SAFETY SPECIALIST APPOINTMENT  
APPROVED**

19. Approve the appointment of Joseph G. Ugliarolo as the New Providence School District's School Safety Specialist for the 2024/2025 school year, effective 7/29/24.

**ANTIBULLYING COORDINATORS AND SPECIALIST APPROVED**

20. Approve, per the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, the following staff members for the 2024/2025 school year:

Dr. Lauren Zirpoli, Anti-Bullying Coordinator, effective 7/1/24-7/28/24  
Joseph G. Ugliarolo, Anti-Bullying Coordinator, effective 7/29/24  
Michael Criscitello, Anti-Bullying Specialist, NPHS  
Lyndsay Wittenberg, Anti-Bullying Specialist, NPMS  
Nataasha Feliciano-Allen, Anti-Bullying Specialist, AWR  
Stephanie Kwiatkowski, Anti-Bullying Specialist, SB

**NEW PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S DISABILITY SERVICES RESOURCE APPOINTMENT  
APPROVED**

21. Approve the appointment of Joseph Route as the New Providence School District's Disability Services Resource for Parents for the 2024/2025 school year.

**DCCP LIASON APPOINTMENT APPROVED**

22. Approve the appointment of Kathleen Shelley as the New Providence School District's Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCPP) Liaison for the 2024/2025 school year.

**APPOINTMENT OF STAFF, INCLUDING NON-TENURED, FOR THE 2024/2025 SCHOOL YEAR  
APPROVED**

23. Approve the appointment of the following, including non-tenured staff, with the salaries as noted on file with the Board Secretary per the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools for the 2024/2025 school year, copies in the hands of each Board member. This group includes teachers, secretaries, and custodians/maintenance workers.

**NON-UNIT SALARIES FOR THE 2024/2025 SCHOOL YEAR APPROVED**

24. Approve the Non-Unit salaries for the 2024/2025 school year, copies in the hands of each Board member.

**CURRICULUM WRITING APPOINTMENTS APPROVED**

25. Approve the summer 2024 curriculum writing appointments, not to exceed the hours shown, @ \$54.87/hr.\*

(\*) subject to completion of negotiations for 2024/2025 school year

**(EXHIBIT O)**

**REVISED JOB DESCRIPTIONS APPROVED**

26. Approve the following revised Job Descriptions, a copy in the hands of each Board member.

| <u>Job No.</u> | <u>Job Title</u>                                                 |         |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 226            | Non-Certified Volunteer Athletic Coach                           | Revised |
| 227            | Non-Certified Volunteer Co-Curricular Activity Advisor/Assistant | New     |

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

Roll call vote:

|               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Coniglio     |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Cuccaro      |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Dr. Empson Hayden |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Gunderman    |
| <u>Absent</u> | Mrs. Killea       |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Marano       |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mr. Walsh         |

Dr. Zirpoli welcomed new staff members and highlighted the following new teachers:

Fiona Flanagan, a New Providence High School graduate, is joining the high school language arts department after graduating from Boston College.

Rachel Winard, with many years of experience as a language arts teacher from East Brunswick High School, will also be joining the high school language arts department.

Dana Lester, with experience from Deon High School as a biology teacher and a teacher leader, is joining the high school science department as a biology teacher.

Tara Nelson, previously a reading specialist at Salt Brook School, is moving to a part-time position at AWR as a reading specialist.

Melissa Marszalek is joining AWR as a special education teacher, continuing her education to obtain a standard certificate in special education.

Lyndsay Wittenberg, previously a teacher at Chatham Middle School, is the new Middle School assistant principal, bringing extensive experience and committee involvement into the role.

**BOARD POLICY**

Mrs. Coniglio moved to approve Item 1 as listed below.

**FIRST READING APPROVED**

1. Approve the following Bylaws, Policies, and Administrative Regulations on the first reading:

**Bylaws and Policies:**

|             |                                                                                      |                |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Policy 9181 | Volunteer Athletic Coaches and Co-curricular Activity Advisors/Assistants (Coniglio) | <b>Revised</b> |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|

Dr. Empson Hayden seconded the motion and it was carried on the following vote:

Mrs. Coniglio reviewed the policy related to the job description revision to take out the required substitute certification.

Roll call vote:

|               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Coniglio     |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Cuccaro      |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Dr. Empson Hayden |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Gunderman    |
| <u>Absent</u> | Mrs. Killea       |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mrs. Marano       |
| <u>Yea</u>    | Mr. Walsh         |

### **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**

Mr. Walsh reviewed personnel items that were approved tonight: Three-year Teacher, Secretaries, and Maintenance/ Custodial agreements.

Mrs. Cuccaro thanked Mrs. Marano and Mr. Walsh for serving on the committee.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Testa reviewed the awarded contract for the 2023/2024 school year. The memo that was sent to all Board members contains all the contracts that were awarded throughout the school year.

Mrs. Coniglio reviewed the Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology 2024-2025 committee goals:

- Monitor the implementation of a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion rubric by which our curriculum will be evaluated.
- Monitor the integration of AI across curriculum and instruction by designing learning experiences that foster students' understanding of AI concepts, ethics, and implications.
- Monitor the implementation of personalized learning strategies to meet the diverse needs of our students.
- Monitor the Dog Therapy Program and other potential SEL opportunities.
- Monitor potential new NPMS elective offerings.

Mrs. Marano reviewed the Finance, Facilities, and Safety/Security 2024-2025 committee goals:

- Present the 2025/2026 budget within the State-mandated cap.
- Monitor the completion of the district-wide HVAC project that will take place in the Summer of 2024.

- Review remaining bond proceeds, if any, after all projects are completed and consider additional projects that were removed from the original project scope.
- Monitor enrollment projections, ongoing community housing updates, and the elementary school redistricting plan.

Mrs. Coniglio reviewed the Personnel, Management, and Communication 2024-2025 committee goals:

- Support the new Superintendent of Schools by establishing clear expectations and goals along with ongoing communication and feedback.
- Support and work with the Superintendent of Schools by communicating expectations for the process and development of comprehensive strategic planning for the 2024/2025 school year.
- Evaluate and update, as necessary, the Communications Plan for the 2024/2025 school year.
- Evaluate the professional development plan for staff members.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the new early dismissal professional development days for staff.
- Recruit and retain diverse talented educators for the 2024/2025 school year.

Mrs. Cuccaro reviewed the board goals for the 2024/2025 school year:

1. Develop a strategic planning framework that aligns with the district's vision and goals, fosters stakeholder involvement, and ensures ongoing evaluation and adaptation to effectively guide educational initiatives and resource allocations.
2. Monitor the implementation of the Belonging and Community Initiative goals for the 2024/2025 school year.
3. Monitor and support the successful integration of the new Superintendent of Schools and administrators, to ensure high standards of leadership and to promote continuity in student achievement.
4. Strategically allocate any remaining bond referendum funds toward infrastructure improvements that align with the district's priorities.
5. Complete the fiscal year 2025/2026 budget process in a timely and compliant manner while staying within the 2% tax levy cap restrictions.

All Board members agreed to the 2024/2025 board goals. The goals will be on the July agenda for approval.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mrs. Cuccaro opened the meeting to the public at 8:18 p.m.

Mr. Sunil Abrol  
1532 Springfield Avenue

Mr. Abrol, retired Chairman of the Diversity Committee, came to speak on the DEI report. He praised the success of the Unity Day event, which was held at the Berkeley Heights YMCA and attracted a large number of participants from New Providence, including students and faculty from New Providence High School, Middle School, Allen W. Roberts, and Salt Brook. The event included an Indian dance sequence performed by a group of young girls from Salt Brook and Roberts elementary schools, choreographed by one of the students.

Mr. Abrol suggested cross-collaboration with diversity groups in neighboring towns to share resources and organize events, citing an example of fundraising for hiring a salsa dancer without tapping into the diversity committee's constrained budget. He invited board members to come to events as it is fun and looks for support.

Mrs. Coniglio suggested to review scheduled dates so events do not conflict with other events at the school or community.

Mr. Abrol requested a possible monthly summary of the DEI report so community members can come and comment on it.

Mrs. Cuccaro declared the public portion of the meeting closed at 8:19 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Mrs. Gunderman moved to adopt the following resolution:

This body shall on June 27, 2024, in the New Providence High/Middle School Media Center, 35 Pioneer Drive, discuss in closed session, pursuant to Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act, specific matters which may generally be described as follows:

- Personnel
- Student matters

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.

Mrs. Marano seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

**RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

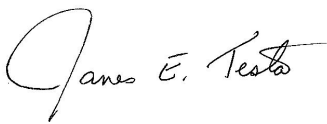
The Board reconvened to public session at 9:06 p.m.

Mrs. Cuccaro called the Board to order.

Board members present were Rebecca Coniglio, Bernadette Cuccaro, Kristen Empson Hayden, Stacey Gunderman, Amanda Marano, and Mr. Walsh

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business before the Board, on a motion by Mrs. Gunderman, seconded by Mrs. Marano, and carried unanimously, Mrs. Cuccaro declared the meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.



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James Testa, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary