PUBLIC SESSION **DECEMBER 6, 2011**

The Board of Education of the Borough of North Caldwell in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in public session on December 6, 2011, in the cafeteria of the Grandview School, Hamilton Drive East, North Caldwell, NJ, at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Wayne Demikoff, Interim Business Administrator, indicated that in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting had been properly advertised and the agenda had been posted at the appropriate locations.

Roll call by the Business Administrator:

Present: Mr. Steven Hadley, President
Mrs. Mary Wojtowicz, Vice President
Mrs. Valerie Buccino
Mr. Robert Kessler
Mr. Robert Projansky

Absent: None

Also Present: Dr. Linda Freda, Superintendent
Mr. Wayne Demikoff, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Mr. Hadley announced that negotiations with the North Caldwell Education Association have started. The first session was this evening, proposals were exchanged and the Board looks forward to a speedy resolution of the contract issues.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Dr. Freda commented that the new district website was launched.
- She stated that this year's Turkey Trot was a huge success with 87 turkeys donated to Bloomfield Food Pantry.
- Dr. Freda reported that Language Arts and Social Studies Curricula have been reviewed by the four sending districts and West Essex.
- She then thanked the NCPE and Mrs. Marotta for the successful Holiday Shop. The children loved being able to purchase gifts for the holidays for their families.

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

G1. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve an enrichment class trip to the Morris Museum.

Moved:	Mr. Kessler	Seconded:	Mrs. Wojtowicz
Yes:	5	No:	0

G2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve payment to **Dr. Fadden** in the amount of $625.00 for a neurological assessment for **student #8003512.**

Moved:	Mr. Kessler	Seconded:	Mrs. Wojtowicz
Yes:	5	No:	0

G3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following resolution Seeking Amendment to Senate Bill 2925 (Ruiz)/Assembly Bill 4132 (Coutinho/Singleton) To Retain Local School Board and Superintendent Authority over Personnel Decisions;

WHEREAS, Under current law and practice, school district hiring decisions are made upon the recommendation of the chief school administrator to the local board of education; and

WHEREAS, Hiring procedures leading up to the chief school administrator's recommendation should always consider the perspective the school principal; and

WHEREAS, District-level factors, including the allocation of resources, programming considerations and educational goals, should take precedent when hiring and placing instructional staff; and

WHEREAS, Proposed legislation to provide long-overdue reform of the state's tenure process and seniority system also includes provisions that would significantly diminish the involvement of the superintendent and local school board in personnel matters; and

WHEREAS, In particular, the Teacher Effectiveness and Accountability for the Children of New Jersey (TEACHNJ) Act.", Senate Bill 2925/Assembly Bill 4132, would give sole authority to appoint or remove instructional staff to the principal, in consultation with a "school improvement panel," consisting of the principal, an assistant principal and an instructional staff member nominated by the principal and approved by the staff; and

WHEREAS, The TEACHNJ Act would completely remove the local board of education and the district superintendent from future personnel decisions; and

WHEREAS, In New Jersey, the community selects a school board, which has a fiduciary relationship with taxpayers and which sets education policy goals; and

WHEREAS, The community vests in the board of education the authority to approve or reject personnel recommendations made by the superintendent; and

WHEREAS, In making his or her personnel recommendations to the local board of education, the superintendent normally seeks the input of district and building-level administrators, including school principals; and

WHEREAS, The current hiring and staffing process has worked successfully in school districts throughout the state, as evidenced by New Jersey students' performance on nationwide measures of achievement, such as the National Assessment of Education Progress. **Now therefore be it**

RESOLVED, That the North Caldwell Board of Education urges the Legislature to amend Senate Bill 2925 and Assembly Bill 4132 to ensure that personnel hiring and placement decisions remain under the authority of the district superintendent, with the approval of the local board of education, the community's elected or appointed representatives; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution be delivered to Governor Chris Christie; State Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney; Senator Teresa M. Ruiz, chair, and all members of the Senate Education Committee; Assembly Speaker Sheila Y. Oliver; Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan, chair, and all members of the Assembly Education Committee; Assemblyman Albert Coutinho; Assemblyman Troy Singleton;, and the 27th Legislative District's representatives in the state Senate and General Assembly; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be sent to the New Jersey School Boards Association and the Essex County School Boards Association.

Moved: Mr. Kessler Seconded: Mrs. Wojtowicz

Yes: 5 No: 0

BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS

B1. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the **Public and Confidential Minutes of November 15, 2011.**

Moved: Mr. Kessler Seconded: Mr. Projansky

Yes: 4 No: 0

Abstain: Mr. Hadley

B2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the **November 15, 2011, payroll** in the amount of $301,251.02.

Moved: Mr. Kessler Seconded: Mr. Projansky

Yes: 5 No: 0

B3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the **November 30, 2011, payroll** in the amount of $282,590.07.

Moved: Mr. Kessler Seconded: Mr. Projansky

Yes: 5 No: 0

B4. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the **November 30, 2011, Hand Check Register** in the amount of $225,481.71.

Moved: Mr. Kessler Seconded: Mr. Projansky

Yes: 5 No: 0

B5. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the attached Board Secretary's and Treasurer's **Monthly Financial Reports** for October 2011.

Moved: Mr. Kessler Seconded: Mr. Projansky

Yes: 5 No: 0

B6. **WHEREAS** pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c) 3, the Board Secretary does certify that as of October 2011, no budgetary line item account has

encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district board of education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8.1; therefore be it

RESOLVED that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c) 4, the Board of Education does certify that as of October 2011, the Board Secretary Monthly Financial Report, did not reflect an over expenditure in any Major Account or Fund, and based on the Appropriation Balances reflected on this report and on the advice of District Officials, that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Moved:	Mr. Kessler	Seconded:	Mr. Projansky
Yes:	5	No:	0

B7. WHEREAS, New Jersey Public Law 2011, Chapter 78 requires boards of education to implement a Section 125 Flexible Spending Account (FSA) Program; and

WHEREAS, the Board's group insurance broker, Brown & Brown Benefits Advisors, Inc. compiled a service and pricing comparison from four major providers who provide this required service;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that after reviewing the pricing comparison, the North Caldwell Board of Education approves the following:

1. Horizon as the Board's FSA Administrator;
2. Brown & Brown Advisors, Inc. as its Horizon FSA Broker-of Record; and
3. All appropriate Board of Education staff members are authorized to take such action and effect such documentation as necessary to implement these changes, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board shall implement the FSA program as soon as administratively practical.

Moved:	Mr. Kessler	Seconded:	Mr. Projansky
Yes:	5	No:	0

PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS

P1. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve Child Rearing Leave for **Tara Kanter** as per the terms of Article X Section A of the Collective Bargaining Agreement effective February 4, 2012 to June 30, 2012.

Moved: Mrs. Wojtowicz Seconded: Mr. Kessler

Yes: 5 No: 0

P2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve **Sharon Mottola** as a confidential payroll/bookkeeper at a prorated salary of $45,000.00 effective January 1, 2012 to June 30, 2012.

Moved: Mr. Kessler Seconded: Mr. Projansky

Yes: 5 No: 0

P3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve **Magdalena Czarnik** as a substitute teacher for the 2011-2012 school year.

Moved: Mr. Kessler Seconded: Mr. Projansky

Yes: 5 No: 0

P4. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve **Melissa Schlachter** as a recess supervisor at a rate of $27.50 per hour effective December 6, 2011 to June 12, 2012.

Moved: Mr. Kessler Seconded: Mr. Projansky

Yes: 5 No: 0

P5. **RESLOVED** that the Board of Education approve the Professional Development Workshops/Conferences costs for the following teachers:

Name	Date	Workshop	Cost	Travel
Decker, L.	11/15/11	Battelle Development		$5.45

Moved: Mr. Kessler Seconded: Mr. Projansky

Yes: 5 No: 0

P6. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve payment for the unreimbursed cost of the Hepatitis B vaccine for the following employees:

David Bogden
John Messier

Moved: Mr. Kessler Seconded: Mr. Projansky

Yes: 5 No: 0

P7. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education rescind resolution **#P7 dated May 18, 2011.**

Moved: Mr. Kessler Seconded: Mr. Projansky

Yes: 5 No: 0

P8. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve **Christina Moawad** as a maternity leave replacement teacher at a salary of $44,787.00 (BA Step 1) effective September 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

Moved: Mr. Kessler Seconded: Mr. Projansky

Yes: 5 No: 0

P9. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve **Maria Girardi** as a lunch aide at a salary of $12.00 per hour not to exceed 2.5 hours effective December 7, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

Moved: Mr. Kessler Seconded: Mr. Projansky

Yes: 5 No: 0

P10. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education rescind resolution **#P18 dated June 14, 2011.**

Moved: Mr. Kessler Seconded: Mr. Projansky

Yes: 5 No: 0

P11. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve **Greg De Rosa** as a maternity leave replacement teacher at a salary of $44,787.00 (BA Step 1) effective September 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

Moved:	Mr. Kessler	Seconded:	Mr. Projansky
Yes:	5	No:	0

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

- None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- None

OLD BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

- Dr. Freda discussed with the Board the possibility that additional snow days might be needed that would impact the school calendar. Various options were discussed and the consensus was that the school calendar would be extended in June if additional days were needed.

The following resolution was called at approximately 7:50 p.m.

RESOLVED that in accordance with section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, the Board has the authority to adjourn to closed session to discuss matters pertaining to: legal, personnel, and negotiations. Said matters will be made public upon their disposition.

Moved:	Mr. Kessler	Seconded:	Mrs. Wojtowicz
Yes:	5	No:	0

As there was no further business to discuss, the Board moved to adjourn into confidential session at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wayne Demikoff,
Interim Business Administrator