

**SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION  
696 ROUTE 46 WEST  
TETERBORO, NJ 07608**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**May 21, 2024**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

NJ OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Business Administrator-Secretary has caused notice of this meeting to be sent to the following, announcing time and place thereof, agenda, etc.:

North Jersey Media Group

Notice of this meeting has been posted in the lobby of the Board of Education Office and at the Jointure Commission Public Schools. This is an official meeting of the Board of Education/ South Bergen Jointure Commission.

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 am.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mr. A. Albro, Ms. A. Bellenger, Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. J. Corso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Dr. S. DeNobile, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Ms. L. Odoksta, Mr. M. Perrapato

Members Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M Polizzi, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. S. Yurchak

Also Present: Ms. S. Cucciniello, Dr. M. Kuchar

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Ms. Alexandra Bellenger was sworn in as a new member from Garfield.
- Mr. Yuchack arrived at 9:36 am during the Superintendent's Report.

Dr. Kuchar updated the board on the upcoming end of the school year events, and the current status of our district's programs. He discussed Administrator negotiations that will be coming up, and the committee that would be participating in getting that done.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Motion: Mr. Frank D'Amico

Seconded: Dr. Stephen Yurchak

A1. Motion to approve the attached Membership Agreement for the Saddle Brook Board of Education to join the South Bergen Jointure Commission at the one time fee of \$20,000.00 effective July 1, 2024 (Attachment A1)

Action taken:

Ayes: Mr. A. Albro, Ms. A. Bellenger, Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. J. Corso, Mr. F. D’Amico, Dr. S. DeNobile, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Ms. L. Odoksta, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. S. Yurchak

Abstain: None

Nayes: None

Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M Polizzi, Dr. D. Sforza

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion: Mr. John Hurley

Seconded: Dr. Yvette Lozanski

1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that the minutes of the Executive Session, Regular Meeting and Reorganization of April 30, 2024 be approved as amended.

Action taken:

Ayes: Mr. A. Albro, Ms. A. Bellenger, Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. J. Corso, Mr. F. D’Amico, Dr. S. DeNobile, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Ms. L. Odoksta, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. S. Yurchak

Abstain: None

Nayes: None

Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M Polizzi, Dr. D. Sforza

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Ms. Liz Forte spoke of the events that we’ve had this Spring and how successful they were, and the upcoming plans for the new year.

**REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**2. FINANCE REPORT:**

Motion: Mr. Jason Chirichella  
Seconded: Mr. John Hurley

- 2a. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that the FINANCE resolutions as per the attached report are approved. (2b, 2c)
- 2b. The Board accepts the Board Secretary’s Report as of March 31, 2024 and approves “ Pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2A.10(E), certify that as of March 31st, 2024 the Board Secretary’s monthly financial report (Appropriations sections), did not reflect an over expenditure in any of the major accounts or funds, and based on the appropriations balances reflected on the report and the advice of districts officials, we have no reason to doubt that the district has sufficient funds available to meet its financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. “ (Attachment 2b)
- 2c. The Board accepts the financial report of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of March 2024. (Attachment 2c)
- 2d. The Board approves the following resolution: “Pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2A.10(d), we certify that as of March 31, 2024, no budgetary line item has been over expended in violation of NJAC 6:20-2A.10(a).”
- 2e. The April and May bills list below are approved (lists attached):

Bills Payable	\$ 4,806,983.07
Payroll/Manual Check	\$ 2,232,581.32
Cafeteria Checks	<u>\$ 31,748.50</u>
Total	\$ 7,071,312.89
- 2f. Motion to approve additional appropriations for revenues and expenditures for the month of March 2024. These appropriations recognize anticipated revenues. (Attachment 2f)
- 2g. The Superintendent of Schools is authorized to pay bills for June, July and August and any time there is not a quorum at a regular monthly meeting, to be approved at the next regular board meeting. The bill list is to be provided to Board Members five days before they are paid.
- 2h. 

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, after advertising for bids, the South Bergen Jointure Commission Board of Education ("Board") entered into a contract with Catcord Construction Company,

Inc. (“Catcord”) for the first floor renovation of the South Bergen Jointure Commission Board of Education Building Project (“Project”) in the amount of \$433,300.00;

WHEREAS, Catcord previously submitted five change orders in the amount of \$27,654.55 for the Project which have been previously approved by Solutions Architectural Company (“Solutions”), the Board’s Architect, increasing the contract amount to \$460,954.55; and

WHEREAS, Catcord submitted an additional change order for the Project which has been recommended for approval by Solutions Architectural Company (“Solutions”), the Board’s Architect; and

WHEREAS, the change order is submitted in accordance with the parties contract and applicable law;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approves the following change order:

- PCO7 (Painting all existing walls in Rooms 108,110,112,115, and 116) which increased the contract sum to \$464,244.66.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the School Business Administrator is authorized to sign the change order on behalf of the Board. (Attachment 2h)

2i. Motion to approve the submission of the Grant Application for the 2024 Safety Grant Program through the NJ Schools Insurance Group’s NJEIF Subfund for the purposes described in the application, in the amount of \$2,000.00 for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

2j. Motion to approve the following list of field trips with cost.

Date of Field Trip	Destination	Teachers	Cost of Trip	Estimated Cost of Transportation	Total Cost of Trip for SBJC
5/29/24	Dave & Busters	Schmidt & Marszalek	\$1,056.90	\$342.26	\$1,399.16
5/3/24, 5/16/24, 5/31/24	Westfield Gardent State Plaza	Kavanagh		\$13.50	\$13.50
5/1/24, 5/9/24, 5/15/24, 5/23/24, 5/29/24	Ridgewood	Kavanagh		\$28.00	\$28.00

5/2/24, 5/8/24, 5/14/24, 5/22/24, 5/28/24	Retro Fitness	Kavanagh		\$22.50	\$22.50
5/7/24	Lodi Lanes	Kavanagh	\$595.00		\$595.00
6/4/24	Dave & Busters	Kavanagh	\$933.63	\$342.26	\$1,275.89
6/6/24	American Dream - Nickelodeon Universe	Schmidt & Marszalek	\$1,033.00	\$415.00	\$1,448.00
6/4/24	Fiddlers Elbow Country Club	Payoczkowski		\$392.26	\$392.26
5/21/24 5/22/24 5/23/24	Jewll Street Park	Garfield Campus		\$621.78	\$621.78

Action taken:

Ayes: Mr. A. Albro, Ms. A. Bellenger, Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. J. Corso, Mr. F. D’Amico, Dr. S. DeNobile, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Ms. L. Odoksta, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. S. Yurchak

Abstain: None

Nays: None

Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M Polizzi, Dr. D. Sforza

**3. PERSONNEL:**

Motion: Mr. Giovanni Giancaspro  
 Seconded: Dr. Sue DeNobile

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that in compliance with Chapter 116, P.L. 1986 and in accordance with the State of New Jersey Department of Education memorandum dated October 29, 1986 that all new personnel shall be considered to be provisionally hired: and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools is hereby directed to comply with State Department directives concerning the State and Federal criminal history background checks of these employees and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said new personnel shall be considered provisionally hired until such time as the Department of Education has indicated that they have completed the criminal history background checks of prospective

employees and that said employees have satisfied the requirements of Chapter 116, P.L. 1986 at which time said employees shall no longer be provisional; the Business Administrator shall be hereby directed to employ personnel and to take such other personnel actions as indicated.

All appointments upon recommendation of the Superintendent are on an emergent basis, pending completion of a criminal history background check. In addition, all appointments are contingent upon the employee signing a contract in accordance with law and the receipt of favorable reference responses. All aide appointments are contingent upon the employee being available for employment for the month of July 1, 2023 through July 31, 2024. All employments are approved to be paid additional compensation for the Clubs and Activities Program, Office Support, Home Programming and Parent Training Home Program and Home Instruction on an as-needed basis.

- 3a. Motion to approve the attached additional pay for services rendered as indicated. (Attachment 3a)
- 3b. Motion to approve the leave of absence for the following, using days in accordance with the individual agreement with the Board and utilizing the FMLA and/or NJFLA leave entitlement.

<b><u>Employee ID#</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Effective Dates</u></b>
1021	Paraprofessional	5/1/24 - 6/19/24
1119	Paraprofessional	3/7/24 - 4/26/24 (adjusted)
1067	Paraprofessional	4/22/24 - 5/31/24

- 3c. Motion to approve the following staff to be added to the substitute list for the 2023-2024 school year.

Joanna Balestier	Adrianna Bakreski	Francis Russo
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- 3d. Motion to appoint Paraprofessionals to the 2024 Extended School Year Program, as per attached. (Attachment 3d)
- 3e. Motion to appoint Teachers to the 2024 Extended School Year Program, as per attached. (Attachment 3e)
- 3f. Motion to appoint Outreach Personnel to the 2024 Extended School Year Program, as per attached. (Attachment 3f)
- 3g. Motion to approve the following substitutes for the 2024 Extended School Year.

<b>ESY 2024 - Substitutes</b>			
Arata, Joseph	Kearns, Linda	Pucciarelli, Francine	Stroud, Susanna
Bevacqua, Vitoria	Mera, Marildo	Mirza, Gabrielle	Tina, Matthew
Conti, Olivia	Balestrieri, Joanna	Scala, Kelly	Thomas, Peter
Russo, Francis	Lisciandrello, Rita	Smith-Taylor, Systania	Bakreski, Adrianna

3h. Motion to adjust the start date of the following personnel:

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>From</u></b>	<b><u>To:</u></b>
David Gibbions	Paraprofessional	5/2/24	5/8/24

3i. Motion to approve Marie Bridge, School Nurse to cover the Moonachie Summer Program from June 21, 2024 to June 28, 2024 at her hourly rate of \$63.25.

3j. Motion to accept the resignation of the following personnel:

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Effective Date</u></b>	<b><u>Purpose</u></b>
Kathryn LaForge	Paraprofessional	7/1/24	Retirement
Sidorela Aga	Paraprofessional	4/29/24	Resignation

3k. Motion to approve Jamie Villegas, Teacher, for the 2024-2025 school year at the annual salary of \$65,475.00 is based on Step 4 M.A. of the teacher's guide.

3l. Motion to reappoint the Paraprofessional employees for the 2024-2025 school year with salaries to be determined (Attachment 3l)

Action taken:

Ayes: Mr. A. Albro, Ms. A. Bellenger, Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. J. Corso, Mr. F.

D’Amico, Dr. S. DeNobile, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Ms. L. Odoksta, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. S. Yurchak

Abstain: Mr. J. Knipper (3i only)

Nays: None

Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M Polizzi, Dr. D. Sforza

**4. POLICY:**

Motion: Dr. Yvette Lozanski

Seconded: Dr. Sue DeNobile

4a. BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the second Reading of Policies and Regulations as follows (Attachment 4a):

<b>Policy/Regulation</b>	<b>Title</b>
Policy 1510	Americans with Disabilities Act
Policy 2418	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
Regulation 5570	Sportsmanship
Policy 5751	Sexual Harassment of Students
Regulation 5751	Sexual Harassment of Students

4b. Motion to approve the South Bergen Jointure Commission 2024 - 2025 Calendar (Attachment 4b).

Action taken:

Ayes: Mr. A. Albro, Ms. A. Bellenger, Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. J. Corso, Mr. F. D’Amico, Dr. S. DeNobile, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Ms. L. Odoksta, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. S. Yurchak

Abstain: None

Nays: None

Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M Polizzi, Dr. D. Sforza

**5. TRANSPORTATION:**

Motion: Mr. Matthew Perrapato

Seconded: Mr. John Hurley



- 5a. Motion to approve the attached 2023-2024 Quote Results School Year Set 9 (Attachment 5a).
- 5b. Motion to approve the addendum for the addition of mileage on Contract #M112923-R, route IN420-M1, Mayor Transportation, Inc. Mileage was added April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Additional mileage is \$47.20 per diem (\$4 per mile x 11.8 miles).

Action taken:

- Ayes: Mr. A. Albro, Ms. A. Bellenger, Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. J. Corso, Mr. F. D’Amico, Dr. S. DeNobile, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Ms. L. Odoksta, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. S. Yurchak
- Abstain: None
- Nayes: None
- Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M Polizzi, Dr. D. Sforza

**6. FACILITIES AND PLANNING:**

None

**7. OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**8. NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Kennedy reminded the board of the upcoming Teacher of the Year luncheon being held on Thursday, May 23, 2024.

**9. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

None

**10. FOOD SERVICE:**

- Motion: Dr. Yvette Lozanski
- Seconded: Dr. Sue DeNobile

10a. **RESOLUTION**

Be it resolved that the South Bergen Jointure Commission Board of Education “SFA” accepts the proposal for the Food Service Management contract with The Pomptonian, Inc. “FSMC” for the food service operation for 2024-2025.

1. FSMC Fee:

The FSMC shall receive, in addition to the costs of operation, an administrative/management fee of \$15,600.00 to compensate the FSMC for

administrative and management costs. This fee shall be billed in 10 monthly installments of \$1,560.00 per month as a cost of operation. The SFA guarantees the payment of such costs and fees to the FSMC.

2. There is no guaranteed financial performance.
3. Total Cost of Contract:

Total expenses (cost) include food, labor, supplies, other expenses, and FSMC management fee.

The Total Cost of Contract is \$219,876.58. (Attachment 10a)

- 10b. Motion to approve the vended meals agreement between the Lyndhurst School District and the SBJC for vended meals for the 2024-2025 school year at the following cost:

Breakfast - \$2.50  
Lunch - \$4.00

- 10c. Motion to approve the vended meals agreement between the Garfield School District and the SBJC for vended meals for the 2024-2025 school year at the following cost:

Breakfast - \$1.90  
Lunch - \$3.30

Action taken:

Ayes: Mr. A. Albro, Ms. A. Bellenger, Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. J. Corso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Dr. S. DeNobile, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Ms. L. Odoksta, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. S. Yurchak  
Abstain: Ms. A. Bellenger (10c. only), Mr. J. DeCorso (10b. only)  
Nays: None  
Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M Polizzi, Dr. D. Sforza

**11. INFORMATION ITEMS:**

None

**12. CURRICULUM:**

None

**13. INFORMATION ITEMS:**

Mr. Joe DeCorso discussed meeting with the Board after the regular meeting to discuss the Administrator's employment contracts for the upcoming negotiations. The committee for this is Mr. John Hurley, Mr. Jason Chirichella, Dr. Yvette Lozanski and Mr. Matthew Perrapato.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion: Mr. John Hurley  
Seconded: Mr. Frank D'Amico

BE IT RESOLVED, that this meeting is adjourned at 9:55 am.

Action Taken: Unanimous approval by voice vote.

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Ms. Susan Cucciniello  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION  
SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS  
CLOSED MEETING TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE**

**May 21, 2024**

Motion:

Seconded:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION will hold a closed meeting on May 21, 2024 to review personnel matters and other confidential concerns as listed on the Closed Agenda dated May 23, 2024. The items discussed will be made public at the conclusion of the executive session or at a date not determined at this time.

Action taken:

Meeting Opened at \_\_\_\_\_.

Members Present:

Members Absent:

Also Present:

Special Order of Business

I. Employee Relations and Negotiations

II. Legal

**Adjournment**

Motion:

Seconded:

BE IT RESOLVED, that this closed session is adjourned at \_\_\_\_\_.

Action taken: