

**SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION**  
**500 Route 17 South, Suite 307**  
**Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (Virtual)**  
**March 1st, 2022**

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.:

The 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 9:37 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mr. Albro, Dr. Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Mr. DeCorso, Mr. Scarafile, Ms. Evans, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. Hurley, Dr. Helfant, Dr. DeNobile, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, and Dr. Yurchak.

Members Absent: Ms. Shanley, Dr. Sforza, Ms. Sciacca, Dr. Petty

Also Present: Dr. Michael Kuchar, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Susan Cucciniello, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Rodney Hara, Esq., Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Rota.

Special Order of Business

Motion: Mr. Jack Hurley

Seconded: Mr. Frank Scarafile

- Went into closed session at 9:39 a.m.

Action Taken: Unanimously approved by voice vote

Motion: Mr. Frank Scarafile

Seconded: Mr. Damien Kennedy

- Came out of closed session: 10:22 a.m. and resumed regular meeting.

Action Taken: Unanimously approved by voice vote

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

- Mr. Ken Rota updated the Board (due to Dr. Kuchar having to leave for a personal issue) regarding the status of the district and its programs. Sue Cucciniello presented the budget to the SBJC Board.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion: Dr. Matthew Helfant  
Seconded: Mr. Frank Scarafile

1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that the minutes of the Executive Session and Regular Meeting of January 25, 2022 be approved.

Action taken: Unanimously approved by voice vote.

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

None

- Mr. Scarafile left the meeting at 10:33 a.m.

**REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**2. FINANCE REPORT:**

Motion: Mr. John Hurley  
Seconded: Mr. Damien Kennedy

- 2a. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that the FINANCE resolutions as per the attached report are approved.  
(2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f)
- 2b. The Board accepts the Board Secretary's Report as of December 31st, 2021 and approves " Pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2A.10(E), certify that as of December 31st, 2021 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 December 2021. (Attachment 2c)

2d. The Board approves the following resolution: "Pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2A.10(d), we certify that as of December 31, 2021, no budgetary line item has been over expended in violation of NJAC 6:20-2A.10(a)."

2e. The January and February bills list below are approved (lists attached):

Bills Payable	\$3,212,948.01
Payroll/Transfers	\$1,948,356.21
Cafeteria Checks	\$ <u>21,695.57</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,182,999.79</b>

2f. Motion to approve the transfers for the month of December 2021. (Attachment 2f)

2g. BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION hereby approves the final 2022-2023 budget as follows:  
(Attachment 2g)

Current General Expense (Fund 11)	<u>\$55,898,386</u>
Total Expenditures/Appropriations	<u>\$55,898,386</u>

2h. Motion to approve \$66,550 as the maximum travel budget for the 2022-2023 school year. This amount includes reimbursements for conferences, professional development workshops, regular school travel, meals and mileage for conferences/workshops, as well as any other associated costs for school related travel events. The year to date (to January 2022) travel expenditures for the 2021-2022 school year are \$17,362.

2i. Motion to approve the attached Agreement for Licensing and Maintenance for purchasing through the Educational Data Cooperative Pricing System for the 2022-23 school year at the cost of \$1,185. (Attachment 2i)

2j. Motion to approve the attached list of Professional days with cost. (Attachment 2j)

2k. Motion to approve the attached Field Trips with cost. (Attachment 2k)

2l. Motion to approve the Stable Life Program visits for our students as per the attached agreement for a total cost of \$14,400. (Attachment 2l)

Action taken:

Ayes: Mr. Albro, Dr. Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Mr. DeCorso, Mr. Scarafile, Ms. Evans, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. Hurley, Dr. Helfant, Dr. DeNobile  
Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, and Dr. Yurchak.

Abstain: None

Nays: None

Absent: Ms. Shanley, Dr. Sforza, Ms. Sciacca, Dr. Petty

### **3. PERSONNEL:**

Motion: Dr. James Albro  
Seconded: Dr. Sue De Nobile

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, 2022 through July 31, 2022. 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. Approve the following staff for after school home programming, services and evaluations.
  - Kwabena Osei-Bonsu - Paraprofessional
  - Natasha Ishak - Paraprofessional
  - Lauren Downey - Paraprofessional
- 3c. Accept the resignation of Constina Cousins, Paraprofessional effective March 1, 2022.
- 3d. Accept the resignation, for the purpose of retirement, of Mrs. Jill Hagen, teacher effective July 1, 2022. The South Bergen Jointure Commission extends its

deepest thanks to Mrs. Hagen for her many years of service to the district and extends to her its very best wishes on the occasion of her retirement.

- 3e. Approve the appointment of Ms. Kristen Lombardi, as a Speech Therapist, effective March 1, 2022 - June 30, 2022. Annual salary of \$61,560.00 will be prorated for the period worked.
- 3f. Approve the following employee to receive the retirement benefit payment for accumulated sick leave and vacation days, per contract. This will be adjusted to actual as of February 28, 2022:

(As of 2/28/22)

<u>Name</u>	<u># of Remaining Sick Days/vacation</u>
Doreen Mondadori	33 sick / 15 vacation

- 3g. Adjust the start date of Elizabeth Steussing, BCBA Behaviorist from February 15, 2022 to April 4, 2022.
- 3h. Approve the following personnel to serve as moderator/advisor for the clubs/councils list along with their stipend amounts for the 2021-2022 school year.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Tom Barton	Yearbook Advisor	\$2,000.00
Lyzette Grassi	Middle School Advisor	\$1,000.00

- 3i. Approve the appointment of Mrs. Sidorela Cela, as a Paraprofessional, at \$22.00 which is based on the Paraprofessional Index B.A. with substitute certificate effective March 3, 2022 - June 30, 2022.. This is contingent upon receipt of proof of certification. If this proof is not provided, the rate of pay will be \$20.00 per hour.
- 3j. Accept the resignation of Heidi Vargas, Paraprofessional effective February 26, 2022.
- 3k. Approve a contract with Nutley Board of Education for the Jointure to provide Paraprofessional Services for their school district. effective March 1, 2022 - March 31, 2022 at the daily rate of \$181.24.
- 3l. Approve Ms. Jacqueline Kelly, Paraprofessional to be paid an additional .5 hours per day for providing paraprofessional services for Nutley School.
- 3m. Approve the appointment of Ms. Krizia Gonzalez, as a Paraprofessional, at \$21.00, with substitute certificate effective March 15, 2022 - June 30, 2022. This is

contingent upon receipt of proof of certification. If this proof is not provided, the rate of pay will be \$20.00 per hour.

- 3n. Approve the leave of absence for Employee ID#0027 from March 4, 2022 through April 4, 2022 using days in accordance with the individual agreement with the Board and utilizing the FMLA and/or NJFLA leave entitlement.

Action taken:

Ayes: Mr. Albro, Dr. Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Mr. DeCorso, Mr. Scarafile, Ms. Evans, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. Hurley, Dr. Helfant, Dr. DeNobile, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, and Dr. Yurchak.

Abstain: None

Nays: None

Absent: Ms. Shanley, Dr. Sforza, Ms. Sciacca, Dr. Petty

#### **4. POLICY:**

Motion: Dr. Matthew Helfant

Seconded: Ms. Alison Evans

4a. Motion to adopt the July 2022 Extended School Year calendar. (Attachment 4a)

4b. Adopt the following Policies/Regulations/By Laws/Procedure (Attachment 4b)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the South Bergen Jointure Commission, on the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby temporarily waives the requirement for two readings set forth in Bylaw 0131 for the adoption of policies and adopts on a single reading the following Policy #5541, effective March 1, 2022.

P 5541 Anti-Hazing (M) (New)

#### **Adoption (First Reading)**

P 2415.05 Student Surveys, Analysis, Evaluations, Examinations, Testing, or Treatment (M) (Revised)

P 2431.4 Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries (M) (Revised)

R 2431.4 Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries (M) (Revised)

P 2622 Student Assessment (M) (Revised)

R 2622 Student Assessment (M) (New)

P 3233 Political Activities (Revised)

- P 5460 High School Graduation (M) (Revised)
- P 8465 Bias Crimes and Bias-Related Acts (M) (Revised)
- R 8465 Bias Crimes and Bias-Related Acts (M)
- P 9560 Administration of School Surveys (M) (Revised)

Action taken:

- Ayes: Mr. Albro, Dr. Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Mr. DeCorso, Mr. Scarafile, Ms. Evans, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. Hurley, Dr. Helfant, Dr. DeNobile, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, and Dr. Yurchak.
- Abstain: None
- Nays: None
- Absent: Ms. Shanley, Dr. Sforza, Ms. Sciacca, Dr. Petty

**5. TRANSPORTATION:**

- Motion: Dr. James Albro
- Seconded: Mr. James Knipper

5a. Motion to approve the attached 2021-2022 Quote Set 6 (Attachment 5a)

5b. BE IT RESOLVED that the South Bergen Jointure Commission does hereby approve an agreement with Region V for the purposes of student transportation in accordance with Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 for the time period **2021-2022** school year in which Region V is the host district, as needed. The services to be provided include, but are not limited to, the Coordinated Transportation of out of district, special education, and summer programs.

5c. BE IT RESOLVED that the South Bergen Jointure Commission does hereby approve an agreement with Region V for the purposes of student transportation in accordance with Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 for the time period **2022-2023** school year in which Region V is the host district, as needed. The services to be provided include, but are not limited to, the Coordinated Transportation of out of district, special education, and summer programs.

Action taken:

- Ayes: Mr. Albro, Dr. Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Mr. DeCorso, Mr. Scarafile, Ms. Evans, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. Hurley, Dr. Helfant, Dr. DeNobile, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, and Dr. Yurchak.
- Abstain: None
- Nays: None
- Absent: Ms. Shanley, Dr. Sforza, Ms. Sciacca, Dr. Petty

**6. FACILITIES AND PLANNING:**

None

7. **OLD BUSINESS:**

None

8. **NEW BUSINESS:**

None

9. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

None

10. **FOOD SERVICE:**

None

11. **CURRICULUM:**

None

Motion: Dr. Matthew Helfant  
Seconded: Mr. Damien Kennedy

11a. Motion to approve the Report on 2021-22 Period 1 School Safety Data System incidents. (Attachment 11a )

Action Taken:

Ayes: Mr. Albro, Dr. Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Mr. DeCorso, Mr. Scarafile,  
Ms. Evans, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. Hurley, Dr. Helfant, Dr. DeNobile  
Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, and Dr. Yurchak.

Abstain: None

Nayes: None

Absent: Ms. Shanley, Dr. Sforza, Ms. Sciacca, Dr. Petty

12. **INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion: Dr. Matthew Helfant  
Seconded: Dr. Sue De Nobile

BE IT RESOLVED, that this meeting is adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

Action Taken: Unanimously approved by voice vote.

Ms. Susan Cucciniello  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS  
CLOSED MEETING TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE**

**March 1st, 2022**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION will hold a closed meeting on March 1st, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. to review personnel matters and other confidential concerns as listed on the Closed Agenda dated March 1, 2022. The items discussed will be made public at the conclusion of the executive session or at a date not determined at this time.

**SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION  
CLOSED - MONTHLY MEETING**

March 1st, 2022

Meeting Opened at 9:39 a.m.

Members Present: Mr. Albro, Dr. Albro, Mr. Chirichella, Mr. DeCorso, Mr. Scarafile, Ms. Evans, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. Hurley, Dr. Helfant, Dr. DeNobile, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Knipper, and Dr. Yurchak.

Members Absent: Ms. Shanley, Dr. Sforza, Ms. Sciacca, Dr. Petty

Also Present: Dr. Michael Kuchar, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Susan Cucciniello, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Rod Hara, Esq, Mr. Sheldon, Mr. Rota

**Special Order of Business**

- Discussion regarding Real Estate Purchase

**Adjournment**

Motion: Mr. Frank Scarafile

Seconded: Mr. Damien Kennedy

BE IT RESOLVED, that this closed session is adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

Action taken: Unanimously approved by voice vote.

Ms. Susan Cucciniello  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary