

Oakland Public Schools
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 14, 2024
3:30 PM

A Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Education was held on August 14, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 3:37 PM by Mr. Scerbo.

Mr. Scerbo led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance and read the Open Public Meeting announcement as follows: The New Jersey Open Public Meetings 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 Oakland Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted on January 11, 2024, June 18, 2024 and July 25, 2024 in the Municipal Building, the Board Offices, all school offices and copies sent to newspapers serving Oakland: The Record News. The Board reserves the right to limit public discussion of personnel items, so as to preserve individual privacy.

The Board appreciates the concerns and comments expressed by the public and will take them into consideration. However, please remain advised that, neither the Board nor the administration may comment on or respond to public inquiries or statements regarding any internal personnel matters involving a District employee.

Please be further advised that there is no privilege or qualified privilege with regard to any statements that you make before the Board of Education. Furthermore, in addition to their respective rights to privacy, employees of this school district retains all rights regarding defamation and slander according the laws of New Jersey.

Persons wishing to speak must, upon being recognized, rise, sign in, and state their names and addresses. Each speaker shall be limited to three minutes. A speaker who has not finished in the allotted time will be directed by the presiding officer to summarize quickly and relinquish the floor within 30 seconds.

Roll Call

The following board members were present: Ms. Kilday, Mr. Mazzilli (via phone), Mr. Scerbo, and Ms. Shelkin.

The following board member was Absent: Ms. Cooper

Also present:

Dr. Gina M. Coffaro, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Annette M. Wells, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and 1 member of the public

Dr. Coffaro updated the board regarding the Summer Update/Welcome Back to School Newsletter. She highlighted important dates.

I. MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Kilday and seconded by Ms. Shelkin to approve the following Minute items A through B as follows:

- A. Approve the Regular Monthly Meeting minutes from July 16, 2024.
- B. Approve the Executive Session minutes from July 16, 2024.

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

II. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

A motion was made by Ms. Shelkin and seconded by Ms. Kilday to approve Buildings and Grounds items A through D as follows:

- A. Approve the initial application for multiple temporary instructional spaces at 117 C Franklin Avenue, Oakland, NJ (T.O.P.S. Early Childhood Learning) for Preschool Disability classrooms for the 2024-2025 school year pending NJ DOE review and approval.
- B. Approve the application for compliance with preschool students to toilet room facilities for classroom #'s 155, 156, and 157 at T.O.P.S. Early Childhood Learning for the 2024-2025 school year pending NJ DOE review and approval.
- C. Approve the application for dual use of instructional space for classroom #'s 152 and 153 at T.O.P.S. Early Childhood Learning for the 2024-2025 school year pending NJ DOE review and approval.
- D. Approve the safety drill report for the month of July 2024.

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

III. PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Ms. Kilday and seconded by Ms. Shelkin to approve Personnel items A through U as follows:

- A. Rescind the appointment of Lisa Cruciata as Full-time Paraprofessional for the 2024-2025 school year.
- B. Rescind the appointment of JoAnn Mital as Part-time Paraprofessional for the 2024-2025 school year.

PERSONNEL (continued)

- C. Amend the dates for Nicole Duno's leave as follows: FMLA starting on September 5, 2024, using 40 sick days through October 31, 2024, paid with benefits. Beginning on November 1, 2024, continuing FMLA, unpaid with benefits, until FMLA is exhausted. NJFLA, unpaid with benefits, beginning November 15, 2024 through February 13, 2025. Ms. Duno plans to return to District on February 14, 2025.
- D. Amend the dates of Grace Luinenburg's appointment as Leave Replacement Teacher for Nicole Duno to on or about September 9, 2024 through on or about February 13, 2025.
- E. Approve the appointment of Christina Stokes as District Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) at an annual salary of \$82,037 (Step 9/MA) to be prorated, effective September 30, 2024. This is a new tenure track position. This appointment is contingent upon satisfactory completion of all employment obligations.
- F. Approve the following appointments of non-certified staff for the 2024-2025 school year, effective September 1, 2024, upon satisfactory completion of all employment obligations.

Location	Name	Position	Replacing	Hourly Rate
Heights	Erin Violetti	ABA Therapist	N/A	\$23
Manito	Romanee Reid	Part-time Paraprofessional	Deborah	\$19.10
N/A	Veronica Artinger	Bus Aide	N/A	\$17.50
N/A	Susan Dishuk	Bus Aide	N/A	\$17.50
N/A	Ashley Eskholme	Bus Aide	N/A	\$17.50
N/A	Nicole Folkerts	Bus Aide	N/A	\$17.50
N/A	Margaret	Bus Aide	N/A	\$17.50
N/A	Kiley	Bus Aide	N/A	\$17.50
N/A	Stanley Saja	Bus Aide	N/A	\$17.50

- G. Approve the appointment of the following as Home Instruction Teachers for the 2024-2025 school year at an hourly rate of \$60, upon submission of an approved voucher.

Jody Diaz	William Kobb	Neil Peller	Lucy Talamini
Cristina	Heather	Kacie	

- H. Approve the following teachers for two hours of summer Go Math virtual professional development at an hourly rate of \$52, upon submission of an approved voucher. These salaries will be funded with Title IV funds.

Session 1 – July 22, 2024			
Joanna Aliha	Santina Carbone	Mallory Fuentes	Ruthann Russo
Heather Anzalone	Rachael Civitarese	Kristen Gombas	Kimberly Salacki
Holly Arisman	Laura Colonnelli	Amanda Hunt	Tracey Sourial
PeggyAnne Barreira	Casey Cummings	Heather Obertlik	Lucy Talamini
Mary Burns	Jody Diaz	Neil Peller	Emily Thompson
Alyssa Buske	John Dougherty	Tara Reischel	Tia Venezia
Sara Caporuscio	Robin Franz	Heather Ridgway	Karen Wilson
Session 2 – August 19, 2024			
Kathryn Conway	Jennifer Grella	Samantha Marion	Bethann Reilly-Davis
Maria D’Avirro	Gabrielle Iannucci	Heather Nebesni	Kacie Schrettner
Nicole Fallon	Jennifer Karasek	Noelle Nebbia	Kimberly Seisz
Marissa Gallo	Erin Longo	Brittany Pobanz	Megan Torpey
Kelly Enright	Aislinn Shansky	Dina Osborne	Jennifer Doyle
Erin Bassett	Sara Telford	Nancy Rivera	Kristin Gondeck
Tina Rowe			

- I. Approve the novice/mentor teacher assignments for the 2024-2025 school year, as per the attached list.
- J. Approve the change in training level and updated salary for each teacher, effective September 1, 2024, as per the attached list.
- K. Approve the appointment of daily substitute personnel for the 2024-2025 school year, as per the attached list.
- L. Approve the hourly/daily salaries for the 2024-2025 school year as per attached.
- M. Approve the appointment of Paraprofessionals and Playground/Cafeteria Aides for the 2024-2025 school year, as per the rates attached, to be paid upon submission of an approved voucher.
- N. Approve the appointment of the following staff members as Substitute Bus Aides for the 2024 Extended School Year at an hourly rate of \$20, upon submission of an approved voucher.

Kiley Kesenheimer	Dawn Odell
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- O. Approve the following staff members for state-mandated bus aide training at a rate of \$60, upon submission of an approved voucher.

Veronica Artinger	Margaret Hartwell
Susan Dishuk	Kiley Kesenheimer
Ashley Eskholme	Dawn Odell
Nicole Folkerts	Stanley Saja

- P. Approve the following student teacher assignments for the 2024-2025 school year, pending appropriate paperwork:

Student	College	Teacher/School Assignment
Lindsey Acker * Fall 2024 only	William Paterson University	John LaCugna/Dogwood (Physical Education)
Jacob Lukowiak	William Paterson University	Steven Cohen/Valley (Social Studies)
Katherine Gratto	Ramapo College	TBD
Annalisa Saljanin	Ramapo College	TBD

- Q. Rescind the appointment of Dina Pagano as Special Education Teacher at T.O.P.S. Early Childhood Learning for the 2024-2025 school year.
- R. Revise the approval for Meredith Farley, Speech Language Therapist, to provide Speech/Language evaluations and attend IEP Meetings on an as-needed basis, from June 24, 2024 to August 30, 2024, at her contracted hourly rate, upon submission of an approved voucher.
- S. Revise the approval of Meredith Farley, Speech/Language Specialist, to provide speech/language services on an as-needed basis for Summer 2024 at the hourly rate of \$57.50 not to exceed \$6,630.00, upon submission of an approved voucher to be paid for using ESSER III/ARP Grant funds.
- T. Approve Ms. Caitlin Holden for Summer 2024 duties and referral compliance on an as needed basis at her per diem rate of pay, upon submission of an approved voucher.
- U. Approve Raquel Brogan for two hours of summer Go Math virtual professional development on August 19, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$52, upon submission of an approved voucher. This salary will be funded with Title IV funds.

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

IV. REGULAR EDUCATION

A motion was made by Ms. Shelkin and seconded by Ms. Kilday to approve Regular Education items A through E as follows:

- A. Approve the HIB Report for the period June 21, 2024 through August 14, 2024 as follows:

Number of HIB Investigations	0
Number of Affirmed HIB Incidents	0

- B. Approve the submission of the Student Safety Data System (SSDS) Report to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools.
- C. Approve 2023-2024 ACCESS testing scores as per the attached.
- D. Approve the adoption of the following curricula that are aligned to the 2023 New Jersey Student Learning Standards in accordance with the NJ Department's curriculum implementation timeline as per N.J.A.C. 6A:8:

English Language Arts
Mathematics
Climate Change Companion Standards for ELA/Math

- E. Approve the Grade 7 Environmental Education Overnight Trip to Frost Valley YMCA in Claryville, NY, departing from Valley Middle School on October 9, 2024 (8:00AM departure) – October 11, 2024 (3:00PM - arrival @ VMS).

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

V. SPECIAL EDUCATION

A motion was made by Ms. Shelkin and seconded by Ms. Kilday to approve Special Education items A through M as follows:

- A. Rescind the June 25, 2024 Board approval for one student, whose name is on file in the Superintendent's office, to attend BCSS Norman Bleshman Regional Day School for the 2024-2025 regular school year.
- B. Approve the elimination of the following Preschool Disabled programs at Heights Elementary School:
- One (1) AM section
 - Two (2) PM sections
- C. Approve the establishment of the following Preschool Disabled programs at T.O.P.S. Early Learning Childhood pending NJ DOE review and approval:
- One (1) AM section
 - Two (2) PM sections

- D. Approve the Transportation contracts with Barnstable Academy for two students, whose names are on file in the Superintendent's office, at a cost not to exceed \$22,306.
- E. Approve the agreement with BrightStar Medical Staffing to provide a Nurse's Aide for T.O.P.S. Early Learning Childhood for the 2024-2025 school year from 8:45 AM to 3:15 PM at the rate of \$42.00 per hour.
- F. Approve BAYADA Home Health Care, Inc. to provide 1-1 in school nursing services for one student, whose name is on file in the Superintendent's office, for the 2024-2025 school year at the rate of \$68.00 per hour for RN and LPN.
- G. Approve the Annual Contract for Services with Bergen County Special Services to provide home instruction services for one student, whose name is on file in the Superintendent's office, from July 8, 2024 to August 14, 2024, for a maximum of ten hours per week, at a rate not to exceed \$5,280.
- H. Approve the Annual Contract for Services with Bergen County Special Services for Educational Audiology Services to provide services to six students, whose names are on file in the Superintendent's office, for the 2024-2025 school year at an amount not to exceed \$5,850.
- I. Approve the Annual Contract for Services with Bergen County Special Services for Auditory Verbal Techniques Consultative Services to provide services to one student, whose name is on file in the Superintendent's office for the 2024-2025 school, at a rate not to exceed \$5,950.
- J. Approve the agreement with Alpine Learning Group to provide ABA services to one student, whose name is on file in the Superintendent's office, for the 2024-2025 school year at an amount not to exceed \$20,000.
- K. Approve the Region II (Pascack Valley Council for Special Education) Independent Child Study Team Therapy Evaluations and/or Services Joint Agreement to provide independent Child Study Team evaluations and services on an as needed basis for the period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

Learning Evaluations	\$ 475 + FICA and Workers Comp.
Psychological Evaluations	\$ 475 + FICA and Workers Comp.
Speech Evaluations	\$ 475 + FICA and Workers Comp.
Social Histories	\$ 375 + FICA and Workers Comp.
Occupational Therapy Evaluations	\$ 475 + FICA and Workers Comp.
Physical Therapy Evaluations	\$ 475 + FICA and Workers Comp.
Occupational and Physical Therapy School Based Services	\$125 per hour

- L. Approve the Letter of Agreement for Shared Services with Northern Region Educational Services Commission to provide Speech Therapy Services from September 1, 2024 through November 25, 2024 at the total rate not to exceed \$23,144.36.

- M. Approve the annual contract with Bergen County Special Services for the Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services for the 2024-2025 school year to be provided to six students as detailed below:

Student Resident School	Rate Not to Exceed
Dogwood Hill Elementary	\$ 6,800
Dogwood Hill Elementary	\$ 3,400
Heights Elementary	\$27,200
Heights Elementary	\$13,600
Manito Elementary	\$ 3,400
Valley Middle School	\$ 2,210

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

VI. FINANCE

A motion was made by Mr. Mazzilli and seconded by Ms. Shelkin to approve Finance items A through N as follows:

- A. Approve the July 2024 certified gross (net & agency) payroll in the amount of \$377,560.43.
- B. Approve the payment of the attached list of bills in the amount of \$1,860,071.60 which in proper legal form and subject to audit, provided funds are available in their respective accounts.
- C. Approve the Board Secretary's certification to the Oakland Board of Education that, as of July 31, 2024 no line-item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which, in total, exceed the line-item appropriation in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(c)3; and further,

Approve the Oakland Board of Education's certification that, after a review of the Board Secretary's and Board Treasurer's monthly financial reports and the advice of District officials, there is no reason to doubt that any major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(c)4.

- D. Approve the school year 2024-2025 Budget appropriation transfers for the month ending July 31, 2024.
- E. Approve the Board Secretary's Financial Report for the month ending July 31, 2024.
- F. Approve the Treasurer of School Monies Report for the month ending July 31, 2024.
- G. Approve the Final Board Secretary's Financial Report for the year ending June 30, 2024.
- H. Approve the Final Treasurer of School Monies Report for the year ending June 30, 2024.

- I. Approve the school year 2023-2024 Budget final appropriation transfers for the year ending June 30 31, 2024.
- J. Approve staff participation in professional conferences/workshops outside the District, as per the attached.
- K. Approve wire transfer to the NJ Department of Labor for NJ Unemployment Compensation in the amount of \$308.85.
- L. Approve the acceptance of Nonpublic technology, textbook, nursing, and security aid for the 2024-2025 school year as follows:

Technology	\$ 4,067
Textbook	\$ 4,244
Nursing	\$11,180
Security	\$33,620

- M. Approve original funding under the provisions of Chapters 192/193, Nonpublic Auxiliary and Handicapped Services, in the amount \$5,202 for the 2024-2025 school year to be allocated as follows:

	<u>Original Allocation</u>
Chapter 192 Compensatory Education	\$ 0.00
Chapter 192 E.S. L	\$ 0.00
Chapter 192 Total	\$ 0.00
Chapter 193 Initial Exam and Classification	\$ 0.00
Chapter 193 Annual Exam and Classification	\$ 760.00
Chapter 193 Corrective Speech	\$2,790.00
Chapter 193 Supplementary Instruction	\$1,652.00
Chapter 193 Total	\$5,202.00

- N. Accept, with appreciation, the donation of \$5,317.08 from Heights Elementary School PTO for the purchase and installation of a shed.

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

VII. ADMINISTRATION

A motion was made by Ms. Kilday and seconded by Ms. Shelkin to approve Administration item A as follows:

A. Approve the following 2024-2025 Board Goals for the Oakland K-8 School District:

1. The 2024-2025 School Year will continue with district wide collaboration based on NJSLs data reporting.
2. As part of the ongoing commitment to Wellness the Oakland K-8 Public Schools will continue to:
 - Focus on Student Wellness by implementing programs and interventions designed to support the overall social/emotional wellness of students.
 - Focus on Staff Wellness with “Wellness Mondays” supported through wellness implementation staff activities quarterly as well.

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

VIII. TRANSPORTATION

A motion was made by Ms. Kilday and seconded by Ms. Shelkin to approve Transportation item A as follows:

- A. Approve a parent transportation contract beginning September 4, 2024 through February 28, 2025, to transport one student whose name is on file in the Superintendent's Office, in the amount not to exceed \$3,200.00.

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

IX. POLICY

A motion was made by Ms. Kilday and seconded by Ms. Shelkin to approve Policy item A as follows:

A. Approve the *first* reading of new/revised Board policies/regulations as listed below:

P 1140	Affirmative Action Program - (M)
P 1523	Comprehensive Equity Plan - (M)
P&R 1530	Equal Employment Opportunities - Policy (M)
P 1550	Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination Practices - (M)
P&R 2200	Curriculum Content – (M)
P&R 2260	Equity in School and Classroom Practices - (M)
P 2411	Guidance Counseling – (M)
P&R 3160	Physical Examination (M)
P 3211	Code of Ethics
P 3217	Use of Corporal Punishment
P&R 4160	Physical Examination (M)
P 4217	Use of Corporal Punishment (New)
R 5200	Attendance (M)
P 5350	Student Suicide Prevention (M)
R 5440	Honoring Student Achievement
P 5570	Sportsmanship
P 5750	Equitable Educational Opportunity - (M)
P 5841	Secret Societies
P 5842	Equal Access of Student Organizations
R 7510	Use of School Facilities
P 8420	Emergency and Crisis Situations (M)
P&R 8467	Firearms and Weapons (M)

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

X. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Kilday and seconded by Ms. Shelkin that the meeting be adjourned at 3:56 PM.

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette M. Wells
School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary