

Board of Education

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date and Time

Tuesday, July 23, 2024
at 9:30 A.M

Location

The SBJC Ed Center
696 Route 46 West, Teterboro, NJ

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 South Bergen Jointure Commission Public Schools. This is an official meeting of the Board of Education/South Bergen Jointure Commission.

Meeting opened at 9:34 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti

Members Absent: Mr. A. Albro, Ms. A. Bellenger, Dr. S. DeNobile, Ms. A. Evans, Ms. L. Odoksta, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. S. Yurchak

Also Present: Dr. M. Kuchar, Mr. K. Sheldon

- Ms. Toni Violetti will be sworn in as a Board Member from the Saddle Brook School District.
- Dr. Jillian Torrento will be sworn in as a Board Member from the Hasbrouck Heights School District.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Kuchar spoke about the administrator retreat and the passing of Dr. Ponds. There was a moment of silence as a gesture of respect.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Motion: Dr. Yvette Lozanski

Seconded: Mr. James Knipper

A1. Motion to approve the revisions to the South Bergen Jointure Commission Constitution to reflect the addition of a new member district (Saddle Brook) effective July 1, 2024. (*Attachment A1*)

ACTION TAKEN FOR SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Ayes: Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D’Amico, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. M. Perrapato
Abstain: Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. J. Hurley, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti
Nays: None
Absent: Mr. A. Albro, Ms. A. Bellenger, Dr. S. DeNobile, Ms. A. Evans, Ms. L. Odoksta, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. S. Yurchak

- Mr. James Knipper left the meeting at 9:41 am.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Mr. Frank D’Amico
Seconded: Dr. Dr. Yvette Lozanski

1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 18, 2024 be approved.

ACTION TAKEN FOR APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ayes: Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D’Amico, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. D. Kennedy, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. M. Perrapato
Abstain: Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. J. Hurley, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti
Nays: None
Absent: Mr. A. Albro, Ms. A. Bellenger, Dr. S. DeNobile, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. J. Knipper, Ms. L. Odoksta, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. S. Yurchak

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Ms. Forte spoke of a financial planner for students and a new Instagram Page for the district.

REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

2. FINANCE REPORT

Motion: Mr. John Hurley
Seconded: Mr. Joseph DeCorso

2a. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that the FINANCE resolutions as per the attached report are approved. (*2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2h*)

2b. The Board accepts the Board Secretary’s Report as of May 31, 2024 and approves “Pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2A.10 (E), certify that as of May 31, 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 May 2024. (*Attachment 2c*)

2d. The Board approves the following resolution: “Pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2A.10(d), we certify that as of May 31, 2024, no budgetary line item has been over-expanded in violation of NJAC 6:20-2A.10(a).”

2e. Motion to approve additional appropriations for revenues and expenditures for the month of May 2024. These appropriations recognize anticipated revenues. (*Attachment 2e*)

2f. Motion to approve the June and July bills list below. (*Attachment 2f*)

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Bills Payable | \$4,414,243.49 |
| Payroll Transfers | \$1,702,887.36 |
| Cafeteria Checks | \$0.0 |
| Total | \$6,117,130.85 |

2g. Motion to approve the following professional workshops and the reimbursement costs of the workshops.

| Name | Workshop | Workshop Provider | Date(s) | Cost |
|------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|------------|----------|
| Rossig, Scott | UKERU | UKERU | 6/27/2024 | \$535.00 |
| Kavanagh, Cheryl | Facing the Future Conference | Rutgers | 10/18/2024 | \$185.00 |

2h. Motion to approve the agreement with Finalsite for website hosting for the period July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2028. (*Attachment 2h*)

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

| Field Trip Date | Destination | Teacher(s) | Cost of Trip | Est. Cost of Trans. | Total Cost of Trip for SBJC |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 7/9/24 | Bergen County Zoo | Serrano / Tocci / Grassi | \$156.00 | \$207.26 | \$363.26 |
| 7/16/24 | Bergen County Zoo | Pombo / Campillo / | \$156.00 | \$207.26 | \$363.26 |

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| | | Dabbagh / Hallahan | | | |
| 7/23/24 | Bergen County Zoo | Frangione / McGowan / Galvin | \$156.00 | \$207.26 | \$363.26 |
| 7/17/24 | Kids Empire | Malz / Markowski | \$234.00 | \$207.26 | \$441.26 |
| 7/19/24 | Indian Lake | Marszalek | | \$267.26 | \$267.26 |
| 7/15/24 7/22/24 | Bergen Equestrian Center | Payoczkowski | | \$621.78 | \$621.78 |

ACTION TAKEN FOR 2. FINANCE

- Ayes: Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D’Amico, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. D. Kennedy, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti
- Abstain: None
- Nayes: None
- Absent: Mr. A. Albro, Dr. S. DeNobile, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. J. Knipper, Ms. L. Odoksta, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. S. Yurchak

3. PERSONNEL

- Motion: Mr. Frank D’Amico
- Seconded: Mr. John Hurley

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 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, 2024 through July 31, 2025. 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 rescind the appointment of the following personnel to work the 2024 Extended School Program.

| Name | Position |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Ymeraj, Blerta | Paraprofessional |
| Josifoska, Vesna | Paraprofessional |
| Callaghan, Julie | Behaviorist |
| Catanzaro, Barbara | Occupational Therapist |
| Franco, Isabel | Occupational Therapist |
| Malone, Shannon | Occupational Therapist |
| Matias, Elizabeth | Occupational Therapist |
| Podwin, Deborah | Speech Therapist |
| Biboski, Bojana | Paraprofessional |
| Wixon, Tammy | Paraprofessional |
| Udina, Lori | Physical Therapist |
| Vorisek, Cheryl | Occupational Therapist |

3c. Motion to approve the following staff to be paid their hourly rate for the following functions.

| Name | Function | Date |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------|
| Ellen McCormick | Philadelphia Trip | 5/17/2024 |

3d. 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.

| Employee ID# | Position | Effective Dates |
|--------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| 1124 | Teacher | 3/11/2024-4/1/2025 (adjusted) |

3e. Motion to approve the appointment of the following personnel.

| Name | Position | Effective Date | Salary/Step |
|-----------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Parisi, Anjelica | Speech Therapist | 9/1/24 | \$64,375.00 |
| Jimenez, Catherine | Paraprofessional | 9/1/24 | \$20.16 / hour |
| Molina-Ortega, Ayerim | Paraprofessional | 7/9/24 | \$20.16 or \$21.24 w/ cert. per hour |
| Lavin, Sarah | Teacher | 9/1/24 | \$67,675.00 step 6 MA |

* Paraprofessional rate is contingent upon receipt of proof of certification. If proof is not provided, the rate of pay will change.

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

| Name | Position | Effective Date | Purpose |
|------------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Toro-Guillen, Karina | Paraprofessional | 8/1/24 | Resignation |
| Bravo-Mulligan, Bianca | Teacher | 8/1/24 | Resignation |
| Isaacs, Ayelet | Speech Therapist | 9/1/24 | Resignation |
| Vasquez, Aidee | Paraprofessional | 8/1/24 | Resignation |
| Sedita, Matthew | Paraprofessional | 7/1/24 | Resignation |

3g. Motion to approve the attached list of Paraprofessionals to be reimbursed \$125.00 for their substitute certification. (*Attachment 3g*)

3h. Motion to approve the 2024-2025 Substitute Rates. (*Attachment 3h*)

3i. Motion to approve the appointment of the following personnel to work the 2024 Extended School Year Program.

| Name | Position | Salary/Rate/Per Diem |
|------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Ruci, Ada | Paraprofessional | \$25.48 / hour |
| Aratingi, Joseph | Paraprofessional | \$22.16 / hour |
| Mullali, Blerina | Paraprofessional | \$23.33 / hour |
| Branoska, Marija | Paraprofessional | \$18.66 / hour |
| Paneva, Angela | Paraprofessional | \$25.66 / hour |

3j. Motion to approve Tom Barton to work during the month of August 2024 as needed, at his hourly rate of \$37.05. All days worked must be pre-approved by the district administrator.

3k. Motion to approve the salary adjustment for the following staff who have completed the requirements of the Teacher Salary / Paraprofessional/Outreach/Administrator contracts effective September 1, 2024. All documents have been provided.

| Name | Position | Degree/Certification | Adjusted Salary |
|------|----------|----------------------|-----------------|
|------|----------|----------------------|-----------------|

| | | | |
|------------------|------------------|--|----------------|
| Manuel, Markeya | Paraprofessional | Associates with substitute certification | \$25.95 / hour |
| Curcio, Angelica | Teacher | BA to BA+15 | \$61,400.00 |

3l. Motion to approve the following staff to be added to the substitute list for the 2024- 2025 school year.

Vasquez, Aidee

ACTION TAKEN FOR 3. PERSONNEL

Ayes: Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D’Amico, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. D. Kennedy, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti
 Abstain: None
 Naves: None
 Absent: Mr. A. Albro, Dr. S. DeNobile, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. J. Knipper, Ms. L. Odoksta, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. S. Yurchak

4. POLICY

Motion: Mr. Giovanni Giancaspro
 Seconded: Mr. Joseph DeCorso

4a. Motion to approve the Comprehensive Equity Statement of Assurance for the 2024-2025 school year. *(Attachment 4a)*

4b. Motion to approve the first reading for following Policies/Regulations/By Laws/Procedures *(Attachment 4b)*:

| Policy/Regulation # | Policy Title |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Policy 2200 | Curriculum Content |
| Policy 3160 | Physical Examination |
| Regulation 3160 | Physical Examination |
| Policy 4160 | Physical Examination |
| Regulation 4160 | Physical Examination |
| Regulation 5200 | Attendance |
| Policy 5337 | Service Animals |
| Policy 5350 | Student Suicide Prevention |
| Policy 8420 | Emergency and Crisis Situations |
| Policy 8467 | Firearms and Weapons |

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Regulation 8467 | Firearms and Weapons |
| Policy 9181 | Volunteer Athletic Coaches and Co-Curricular Activity Advisors/Assistants |

4c. Motion to abolish the following Policies/Regulations/By Laws/Procedures:

| Policy/Regulation # | Policy Title |
|---------------------|--|
| Policy 0164.6 | Remote Public Board Meetings During a Declared Emergency |
| Policy 7231 | Gifts From Vendors |

ACTION TAKEN FOR 4. POLICY

Ayes: Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. D. Kennedy, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti
 Abstain: None
 Nays: None
 Absent: Mr. A. Albro, Dr. S. DeNobile, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. J. Knipper, Ms. L. Odoksta, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. S. Yurchak

5. TRANSPORTATION

Motion: Mr. Joseph DeCorso
 Seconded: Mr. Frank D'Amico

5a. Motion to approve the attached 2024-2025 ESY Quotes Set 2 (*Attachment 5a*).

5b. Motion to approve the attached contract addendums for 24-25 School Year (*Attachment 5b*).

5c. Motion to approve an agreement with South Plainfield Board of Education for the purposes of student transportation in accordance with Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 for the time period **2024-2025** school year in which SBJC 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.

5d. Motion to approve an agreement with Gloucester Township Schools for the purposes of student transportation in accordance with Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 for the time period **2024-2025** school year in which SBJC 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.

5e. Motion to approve the withholding of payment on Route #6307 for NJ Transportation. due to improper vehicle use (failed inspection beyond 30 days). Penalty of two times the daily rate of \$404.98 for one day (July 10th, 2024), total amount of \$809.96 will be deducted from the July/August payment.

ACTION TAKEN FOR 5. TRANSPORTATION

Ayes: Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D’Amico, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. D. Kennedy, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti
Abstain: None
Nays: None
Absent: Mr. A. Albro, Dr. S. DeNobile, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. J. Knipper, Ms. L. Odoksta, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. S. Yurchak

6. FACILITIES AND PLANNING

7. OLD BUSINESS

8. NEW BUSINESS

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

10. FOOD SERVICE

11. CURRICULUM

Motion: Mr. John Hurley
Seconded: Dr. Yvette Lozanski

11a. Motion to approve the attached Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program for the 2024-2025 school year. (*Attachment 11a*)

ACTION TAKEN FOR 11. CURRICULUM

Ayes: Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D’Amico, Mr. Giancaspro, Mr. D. Kennedy, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti
Abstain: None
Nays: None
Absent: Mr. A. Albro, Dr. S. DeNobile, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. J. Knipper, Ms. L. Odoksta, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. S. Yurchak

12. INFORMATION ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Mr. John Hurley
Seconded: Dr. Yvette Lozanski

BE IT RESOLVED, that this meeting is adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

ACTION TAKEN FOR ADJOURNMENT

Action Taken: Unanimous approval by voice vote.

Mr. Kenneth Sheldon
Assistant Business Administrator



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

July 23, 2024

Motion:

Seconded:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION will hold a closed meeting on July 23, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. to review personnel matters and other confidential concerns as listed on the Closed Agenda dated July 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:

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

Meeting Opened at _____.

Members Present:

Members Absent:

Also Present:

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

Seconded:

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

Action taken