

Board of Education

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date and Time

Tuesday, August 27, 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 9:35 am.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Dr. S. DeNobile, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti

Members Absent: Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. F. D'Amico, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. S. Yurchak

Also Present: Dr. M. Kuchar, Ms. S. Cucchiniello, Mr. P. Galasso arrived at 9:45 am

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Kuchar updated the board on the new school year events planned and the status of the district. He also discussed professional development training arranged for the upcoming year for both our district and the member districts.

- Mr. Peter Galasso arrived at 9:45 during the Superintendent's report.
- Mr. Peter Galasso was sworn in as a Board Member from the New Milford School District.

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 Regular Meeting of July 23, 2024 be approved.

ACTION TAKEN FOR APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

AYES: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti
ABSTAIN: Dr. S. DeNobile, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. P. Galasso
NAYES: None
ABSENT: Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. F. D'Amico, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. S. Yurchak

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Ms. Liz Forte updated the board on oncoming events and training for families. She wished everyone a good school year.

REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

2. FINANCE REPORT

Motion: Mr. James Knipper
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, 2e, 2f, 2h)*

2b. The Board accepts the Board Secretary's Report as of June 30, 2024 and approves "Pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2A.10 (E), certify that as of June 30, 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 June 2024. *(Attachment 2c)*

2d. The Board approves the following resolution: "Pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2A.10(d), we certify that as of June 30, 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 June 2024. These appropriations recognize anticipated revenues. (*Attachment 2e*)

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

Bills Payable	\$3,435,616.25
Payroll Transfers	\$726,705.33
Cafeteria Checks	\$0.00
Total	\$4,162,321.58

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

Name	Workshop	Workshop Provider	Date(s)	Cost
Warmuz, Barbara	School Finance	NJASBO	9/17/24 - 10/26/24	\$750.00
Estevez, Frances	School Finance	NJASBO	9/17/24 - 10/26/24	\$750.00

2h. Motion to approve Addendum A with Procure Therapy to provide staffing services to the SBJC for Related Services effective August 30, 2024 to June 24, 2025. (*Attachment 2h*)

ACTION TAKEN FOR 2. FINANCE

- AYES: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Dr. S. DeNobile, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti
- ABSTAIN: None
- NAYES: None
- ABSENT: Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. F. D’Amico, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. S. Yurchak

3. PERSONNEL

- Motion: Mr. Matthew Perrapato
- Seconded: Mr. Anthony Albro

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 approve the following students to complete clinical / student teaching / classroom observation hours at the South Bergen Jointure Commission as a requirement of their college

Name	College
Rahman, Jasmine	Ramapo College
Castillo, Rita	Ramapo College

3c. 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)
0658	Physical Therapist	6/8/2024 - 1/1/2025 (adjusted)
1021	Paraprofessional	5/1/2024 - 11/17/2024 (adjusted)

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

Name	Position	Effective Date	Salary/Step
Koonce, Grace	BCBA Behaviorist	9/1/24	\$81,200.00 MA
Saenz, Marcela	Paraprofessional	9/1/24	\$28.54 / hour

Perez, Emilia	Paraprofessional	9/1/24	\$24.83 or \$26.98 / hour w/ Sub. Certificate
Minutillo, Julianne	Speech Therapist	9/1/24	\$87,000.00
Juarez, Ashley	Paraprofessional	9/1/24	\$24.83 or \$26.98 / hour w/ Sub. Certificate
Schilp, Maya	Paraprofessional	9/1/24	\$24.83 or \$26.98 / hour w/ Sub. Certificate
Vinik, Rebecca	Teacher	9/1/24	\$81,200.00 MA Step 13

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

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

Name	Position	Effective Date	Purpose
Smith, Dennis	Paraprofessional	8/1/24	Resignation
Aratangi, Joseph	Paraprofessional	8/1/24	Resignation
Ballard, Matthew	Paraprofessional	8/1/24	Resignation
Haviland, Kristin	Teacher	7/1/24	Resignation
Mera, Laura	Paraprofessional	8/1/2024	Resignation
Wall, Kiley	Paraprofessional	8/1/24	Resignation

3f. 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
Scannapieco, Kim	Nurse	BA+15 to MA	\$68,775.00
Gibbons, David	Paraprofessional	BA no Sub. Cert	\$24.83 / hour
Koka, Matilda	Paraprofessional	BA with Sub. Cert.	\$26.98 / hour

3g. Motion to approve Marie Bridge to provide nursing support for student intakes and for August 2024 at her hourly rate of \$63.25. All days worked must be pre-approved by the district administrator.

3h. Motion to approve the attached substitute list for the 2024-2025 school year. (*Attachment 3h*)

3i. Motion to approve the following staff additional pay for the 2024-2025 school year.

Name	Position	Type	Amount
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Deborah Chilelli-Boru	Occupational Therapist	Head O.T.	\$2,500.00
Marie Bridge	School Nurse	Nursing Coordinator	\$10,000.00

3j. Motion to approve the following district staff to provide CPI instruction training to member districts during August 2024 at the rate billed:

Desrosiers, Gandhi
Winn, Chris

3k. Motion to approve the Teacher and Paraprofessional Home Programming rates effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. *(Attachment 3k)*

3l. Motion to approve the appointment of the following personnel as Retired Teacher (Long-Term Substitute) to cover classrooms at a per diem rate of \$400.00.

Joseph Arata

3m. Motion to approve the appointment of the following personnel to coaching / assistant coaching positions for the 2024-2025 school year.

Name	Position	Sport / Season	Stipend
Alessandra Balestrieri	Gym Teacher	Head Coach Cross Country - Fall	\$4,500.00 for season
Joseph Marszalek	Teacher	Head Bowling Coach - Winter	\$4,500.00 for season
Dr. Regina Malz	Teacher	Head Basketball Coach - Winter	\$4,500.00 for season
Jason Markowski	Gym Teacher	Head Track Coach - Spring	\$4,500.00 for season
Gandhi Desrosiers	Paraprofessional	Assistant Cross Country Coach - Fall Assistant Bowling Coach - Winter Assistant Track Coach - Spring	\$2,000.00 per season
Nikhil Keys	Paraprofessional	Assistant Coach Basketball - Winter	\$2,000.00 for season

3n. 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
VanBenschoten, Jenna	Occupational Therapist	MA+15 to Doctorate	\$75,340.53

Villegas, Jamie	Teacher	MA to MA+30	\$71,275.00
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3o. 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
0475	Paraprofessional	9/3/24 - 11/25/24

3p. Motion to approve the appointment of the following personnel:

Name	Position	Effective Date	Salary/Step
Bonardo, Michelle	Paraprofessional	9/1/24	\$24.83 or \$26.98 / hour w/ Sub. Certificate

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

Name	Position	Effective Date	Purpose
Wunder, Robert	Paraprofessional	8/1/24	Resignation

ACTION TAKEN FOR 3. PERSONNEL

- AYES: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Dr. S. DeNobile, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti
- ABSTAIN: None
- NAYES: None
- ABSENT: Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. F. D’Amico, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. S. Yurchak

4. POLICY

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

4a. Motion to approve the second reading for the following Policies/Regulations/Bylaws/Procedures (*Attachment 4a*):

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

ACTION TAKEN FOR 4. POLICY

AYES: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Dr. S. DeNobile, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti

ABSTAIN: None

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. F. D'Amico, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. S. Yurchak

5. TRANSPORTATION

Motion: Dr. Jillian Torrento

Seconded: Mr. John Hurley

- 5a. Motion to approve the attached 2024-2025 ESY Quotes Set 3 (Attachment 5a).
- 5b. Motion to approve the bid results from July 25th, 2024, Special Education/Regular Student Transportation Services, Bid # 072524 (Attachment 5b).
- 5c. Motion to approve the bid results from August 13th, 2024 Special Education/Regular Student Transportation Services, Bid # 081324 (Attachment 5c).
- 5d. Motion to approve an agreement with Upper Township School District 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 addendums for the addition of a second vehicle on Contract #IN222, route IN222C, Mayor Transportation. Second vehicle was added September 1st, 2024. Vehicle cost is \$219.87 per diem and aide cost is \$80.00 per diem. Total route cost is \$298.97 per diem.
- 5f. Motion to approve the addendums for the addition of a second vehicle on Contract #5053, route 5053A, First Choice Tranz, LLC. Second vehicle was added September 1st, 2024. Vehicle cost is \$440.00 per diem and aide cost is \$39.00 per diem. Total route cost is \$479.00 per diem.
- 5g. Motion to approve the transfer of all contracts from American First Choice Transportation, LLC. to First Choice Tranz, LLC. Effective date of transfer is September 1st, 2024. Contracts terms will remain the same and in effect through June 30th, 2025. Contracts to be transferred are MC# AF23C, AF23E, AFC052124, AFC23A, AT302, which includes routes 5151, 5165, 5168, 5323, 7043, 4979, 4990 and AT302.

ACTION TAKEN FOR 5. TRANSPORTATION

AYES: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Dr. S. DeNobile, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti

ABSTAIN: None

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. F. D'Amico, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. S. Yurchak

6. FACILITIES AND PLANNING

Motion: Mr. James Knipper
 Seconded: Dr. Sue DeNobile

- 6a. Motion to approve the revised Linkage Agreement between the South Bergen Jointure Commission and the Garfield Board of Education for the 2024-2025 school year. (*Attachment 6a*)
- 6b. Motion to approve the Linkage Agreement between the South Bergen Jointure Commission and the Garfield Board of Education for the 2024-2025 school year. (*Attachment 6b*)
- 6c. Motion to approve the License and Use Agreement with the Boys and Girls Club of Lower Bergen County to facilitate an After School Program for the SBJC students for the 2024-25 school year. (*Attachment 6c*)
- 6d. Motion to approve the Linkage Agreement between the South Bergen Jointure Commission and the Wood-Ridge Board of Education for the 2024-2025 school year. (*Attachment 6d*)

ACTION TAKEN FOR 6. FACILITIES AND PLANNING

AYES: Mr. J. DeCorso, Dr. S. DeNobile, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti
ABSTAIN: Mr. A. Albro (6d only)
NAYES: None
ABSENT: Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. F. D’Amico, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. S. Yurchak

7. FOOD SERVICE

8. CURRICULUM

Motion: Dr. Sue DeNobile
Seconded: Dr. Jillian Torrento

8a. Motion to approve the adoption of the 2024-2025 South Bergen Jointure Commission District Curriculum.

8b. Motion to approve the continuation of the existing curriculum textbooks, policies and bylaws for the 2024-2025 school year. (*Attachment 8b*)

8c. Motion to approve the South Bergen Jointure Commission District Professional Development Plan for the 2024-2025 school year. (*Attachment 8c*)

8d. Motion to approve the submission of the District Professional Development Plan Statement of Assurance for the 2024-2025 school year via NJ Homeroom by September 25, 2024.

8e. Motion to approve the South Bergen Jointure Commission District Mentoring Plan for the 2024-2025 school year. (*Attachment 8e*)

8f. Motion to approve the submission of the District Mentoring Plan Statement of Assurance for the 2023-2024 school year via NJ Homeroom by September 25, 2024.

8g. Motion to approve the adoption of Proximity Learning’s American Sign Language curriculum for the 2024-2025 school year.

ACTION TAKEN FOR 11. CURRICULUM

AYES: Mr. A Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Dr. S. DeNobile, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti

ABSTAIN: None
NAYES: None
ABSENT: Mr. J. Chirichella, Mr. F. D'Amico, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko,
Dr. S. Yurchak

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

10. OLD BUSINESS

11. NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Kennedy wished all a good school opening for the new school year.

12. INFORMATION ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that this meeting is adjourned at 10:01 am.

ACTION TAKEN FOR ADJOURNMENT

Action Taken: Unanimous approval by voice vote.

Ms. Susan Cucciniello
Business Administrator/Board Secretary



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

August 27, 2024

Motion:

Seconded:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION will hold a closed meeting on August 27, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. to review personnel matters and other confidential concerns as listed on the Closed Agenda dated August 27, 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