

**NORTH ARLINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
NORTH ARLINGTON, NEW JERSEY**

**PUBLIC WORK SESSION**

**September 16, 2024**

5:43 p.m.

**Board of Education Office**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. ROLL CALL**

Mr. Smith	<u>Present</u>
Mrs. Gilgallon	<u>Present – 6:16 p.m.</u>
Mr. Dorsett	<u>Present</u>
Mrs. Higgins	<u>Present</u>
Mr. McDermott	<u>Present</u>
Student Board Member	<u>Present</u>

**III. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

**IV. STATEMENT OF PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE**

This Public Meeting of September 16, 2024, of the Board of Education of the Borough of North Arlington, in the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, is called pursuant to a schedule of meetings adopted on January 4, 2024 and of notice given to the Clerk of the Borough of North Arlington and to the Librarian of the Free Public Library of North Arlington for posting therein as election notices are posted and of notice given to the Editor of the following newspapers: the Bergen RECORD of Hackensack and the Newark Star Ledger.

Motion to move to Executive Session at 5:45 p.m. made by Mrs. Higgins, second by Mr. Smith. There was no discussion. On Roll Call all Board members present voted in the affirmative and none in the negative, it was so ordered.

Open Session reconvened at 5:48 p.m.

1. The Superintendent discussed the installation of lightning detectors with the Board. He said that he had three quotes, which were obtained from the athletic director and that one quote was a significantly less than the other two. He said that he would have the athletic director compare the three further. The Superintendent said that the Borough agreed to split the cost with us. Mr. Dorsett said that he would find out what type of lightning rods Bergen County installed. The Superintendent stated that we would wait for Mr. Dorsett to get back to us and discuss again at the October meeting.
2. The School Business Administrator stated that the High School elevator will need to be replaced. She said that this would be a 2025-2026 Capital Project in the budget. She stated that the parts for the current elevator are obsolete. The School Business Administrator and Board discussed further. The School Business Administrator said that she will be getting quotes and will keep the Board posted.
3. The Superintendent discussed the Roosevelt black top project with the Board. The Superintendent stated that the basketball court had cracks all over and that the court fence needed to be replaced. He also said that the grounds and dirt area should be paved to avoid puddles and mud when it rains. Mr. McDermott stated to make sure that proper drainage is considered. The Board said that they may want to hold off on this project until they have a better idea of what is happening with classroom space throughout all schools. The School Business Administrator said that it was just a discussion topic right now and that she would obtain updated quotes.

4. The Superintendent updated the Board on the replacement of the display board in front of the High School. He said that Mr. Bott went to speak to the Blue Foundary Bank, and he was told that they were waiting to hear back from their corporate office. Mr. Dorsett suggested possibly waiting until any future high school building construction is completed before getting a new sign. The Superintendent said that may be a few years before any construction is considered. Mr. Dorsett and Mr. Smith also suggested asking FedEx if they would be interested in sponsoring the sign. The Superintendent said that he would ask the high school principal to reach out.
5. The Superintendent discussed the potential Fall Festival of Fun, which would take place in mid-October. He said that all the logistics are being completed. He stated that there is a PTOC meeting on Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. and that they hoped to identify a few PTO parents wishing to take a lead in this joint event.
6. The School Business Administrator asked the Student Board Member if she had a question or anything to add or discuss from student body. The student said there was nothing yet. The Superintendent asked when the next student council meeting was and explained how that would be a good platform to bring things up at the meeting to get questions from the students to bring to the Board.
7. Mrs. Higgins inquired about busing for charter schools and the mileage involved. The School Business Administrator explained how the aid in lieu works to the Board and the limitations of the mileage.
8. Mrs. Higgins inquired about the need for the Promethean Board in the cafeteria at Susan B. Anthony School. The School Business Administrator stated that music classes are held in the cafeteria and that the Promethean Board is for class instruction. The Superintendent also mentioned that Susan B. Anthony School held their first play last school year.
9. Mrs. Higgins inquired about if a teacher in charge is leaving and why she is being approved on the agenda. The School Business Administrator stated that one of the principals needed the teacher in charge for one day in September for coverage and that is why she is being approved.

Motion to move to Executive Session at 6:15 p.m. made by Mr. Smith, second by Mrs. Higgins. There was no discussion. On Roll Call all Board members present voted in the affirmative and none in the negative, it was so ordered.

Open Session reconvened at 6:49 p.m.

10. The Superintendent, Mrs. Rodriguez-Torrento, Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Jaclyn Moreira, Supervisor of Planning, Research, and Development reviewed NJSLA scores with the Board and answered any questions for the Board Members. They also reviewed initiatives for the upcoming school year.

Respectfully,

Samantha Dembowski  
SD:at