

**NORTH CALDWELL BOARD OF EDUCATION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SESSION
GRANDVIEW SCHOOL**

<https://ncboe.zoom.us/j/99892949833?pwd=UzdEQTdoUGhzTHpielovNWU5cUFHUT09>

VIA ZOOM MEETING

March 12, 2024

7:30 P.M.

AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 3. COMPLIANCE STATEMENT**

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting has been properly advertised in the designated newspaper and the agenda has been posted at the appropriate locations.
- 4. ROLL CALL**
- 5. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT**
- 6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**
 - **Audit Presentation - John Cuiffo: Lerch, Vinci & Bliss, LLP to present June 30, 2023, audit**
- 7. PUBLIC RECOGNITION**
 - **Presentation of Be Smart Program**
- 8. ACTION ITEMS**
 - **General Resolutions**
 - G1. Approve listed Bylaws, Policies and Regulations**
 - G2. Approve telephone auditing service contract**
 - G3. Approve unsubstantiated HIB incident**
 - G4. Approve unsubstantiated HIB incident**
 - G5. Approve revised School Integrated Pest Management Plans**
 - **Business Resolutions**
 - B1. Approve Public and Confidential Minutes of February 21, 2024**
 - B2. Approve Payroll**
 - B3. Approve Bills and Claims**
 - B4. Approve Title I Tutoring payment**
 - B5. Approve the 2023 fiscal year Audit and Management Report**
 - B6. Approve the Corrective Action Plan for June 30, 2023 Audit**
 - B7. Approve preliminary 2024-2025 school budget**
 - B8. Approve 2024-2025 district travel maximum**
 - B9. Approve withdrawal from Capital Reserve**
 - B10. Approve architectural professional services for the Gould School boiler replacement**
 - B11. Approve withdrawal from Capital Reserve**
 - B12. Approve architectural professional service fee for the Grandview School boiler analysis**
 - **Personnel Resolutions**

- P1. Approve substitute teacher
- P2. Approve listed Professional Development
- P3. Approve the resignation of staff member
- 9. OLD BUSINESS
- 10. NEW BUSINESS
- 11. ADJOURN TO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION (IF NECESSARY)
 - Legal Attorney-Client Privilege Personnel
 - Negotiations School Security/Public Safety Student Matter

The next scheduled public meetings of the Board will be held on:

- **Wednesday April 24th, 2024 at 7:30 pm.**

Posting: Board Members, Principals, NCPE Co-Presidents, NCEA Co-Presidents, Caldwell Progress Press Member, Board Office, Schools, and Town Hall.

The Board of Education of the Borough of North Caldwell in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in public session on March 12, 2024 in person at the Grandview School Cafeteria as well as via an online Zoom Meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Mr. Michael Halik, Business Administrator, indicated that in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting had been properly advertised and the agenda had been posted at the appropriate locations.

Roll call by the Business Administrator:

Present: Mrs. Mindy Opper, President
Mrs. Johanna Stroeve, Vice-President
Mr. Eric Finkelstein
Mr. David Ved

Absent: Mrs. Sapna Malige

Also Present: Dr. Linda Freda, Superintendent
Mr. Michael Halik, Business Administrator / Board Secretary
Mr. David Blackowski, Computer Network Systems Technician
Mr. John Cuiffo, Lerch, Vinci, and Bliss LLP

BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Mrs. Opper reported that seventeen (17) people attended the meeting. She expressed her gratitude to the teachers and staff for all of their hard work as we begin the final months of the school year.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Freda reminded the board about the following upcoming events:

March 13 th	Habitat Presentation by 2 nd graders
March 18 th	Book Fair Grandview School
March 25 th	Penguin Visit to Grandview School
March 26 th - 28 th	Conferences
April 1 st – 5 th	Spring Break
April 12 th	Kickoff Assembly for Leukemia & Lymphoma Fundraiser

Dr. Freda then introduced Mr. Cuiffo to present the audit.

AUDITORS REPORT

Mr. Cuiffo from Lerch, Vinci, and Bliss, LLP, that serves as the District Auditors, presented the results of the Annual Audit. He stated that the district’s financials as presented were

given the highest opinion possible. Mr. Cuiffo had two recommendations for the District and reported that the District is fiscally sound.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Emily Goldberg, 18 Old Farm Road- Mrs. Goldberg presented information about the Be Smart Campaign along with Kathy Keegan of the Essex County Be Smart team. She discussed the importance of secure firearm storage and suggested the district adopt a resolution about the topic and to update the Student Handbook to include information about secure storage of firearms as well as continue to work with local law enforcement to inform parents of their obligations regarding secure storage of firearms in their homes.

Dr. Aimee Luers-Franco, 3 Timber Avenue- Dr. Franco expressed her support in Mrs. Goldberg’s presentation and asked about the next steps that district will be taking.

G1. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following Policies and Regulations at second reading:

- Policy 2270 Religion in Schools**
- Policy 2418 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973- Students**
- Regulation 3161 Examination for Cause**
- Policy 4161 Examination for Cause**
- Policy 3212 Attendance**
- Regulation 3212 Attendance**
- Policy 4212 Attendance**
- Regulation 4212 Attendance**
- Policy 3324 Right of Privacy**
- Policy 4324 Right of Privacy**
- Policy 5116 Education of Homeless Children and Youths**
- Regulation 5116 Education of Homeless Children and Youths**

Abolished

- Policy 3432 Sick Leave**
- Regulation 3432 Sick Leave**
- Policy 4432 Sick Leave**
- Regulation 4432 Sick Leave**

Moved: Mrs. Stroever Seconded: Mrs. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

G2. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve **Walter A. McDermott Telephone Auditing Service** effective March 4, 2024, and not to exceed two years, to provide phone audit services per the attached agreement.

Moved: Mrs. Stroever Seconded: Mrs. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

G3. RESOLVED that the Board of Education affirm Superintendent’s decision that case #2023-2024:#01 was an unsubstantiated HIB incident.

Moved: Mrs. Stroever Seconded: Mrs. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

G4. RESOLVED that the Board of Education affirm Superintendent’s decision that case #2023-2024:#02 was an unsubstantiated HIB incident.

Moved: Mrs. Stroever Seconded: Mrs. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

G5. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the revised School Integrated pest Management Plans for the Grandview Elementary School and the Gould/Mountain Elementary School Date September 1, 2023.

Moved: Mrs. Stroever Seconded: Mrs. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS

B1. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the **Public and Confidential Minutes of February 21, 2024**

Moved: Mrs. Stroever Seconded: Mrs. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

B2. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following **Payroll:**

Payroll Date:	Payroll #	Amount:
February 29, 2024	18	\$385,614.77

Moved: Mrs. Stroever Seconded: Mrs. Finkelstein
 Yes: 4 No: 0

B3. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following **Bills and Claims:**

Date	Starting check #	Ending Check #	Total Amount
Reissue of old checks	001523	001524	\$11,620.00
February 23, 2024	001525	001555	\$409,765.75
Reissue of old check	001556	001556	\$192.90
March 12, 2024	001557	001604	\$238,035.61
March 12, 2024	001605	001609	\$12,458.87

Moved: Mrs. Stroever Seconded: Mrs. Finkelstein
 Yes: 4 No: 0

B4. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following **Title I Tutoring Payment:**

February 2024 \$10,050.00

Moved: Mrs. Stroever Seconded: Mrs. Finkelstein
 Yes: 4 No: 0

B5. RESOLVED that the Board of Education accept the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, Auditor’s Synopsis of Audit and Management Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

Moved: Mrs. Stroever Seconded: Mrs. Finkelstein
 Yes: 4 No: 0

B6. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the Corrective Action Plan for June 30, 2023, Audit.

Moved: Mrs. Stroever Seconded: Mrs. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

B7. RESOLVED that the North Caldwell Board of Education approves the submission of the preliminary 2024-2025 School budget to the County Office of the New Jersey State Department of Education as follows:

	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>LOCAL TAX LEVY</u>
General Fund	\$ 17,715,206.00	\$ 15,137,113.00
Special Revenue Fund	\$ 181,775.00	
Debt Service Fund	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Total Budget	\$ 17,896,981.00	\$ 15,137,113.00

The above tax levy includes an allowable healthcare adjustment in the amount of \$83,413.00.

The school district has proposed programs and services in excess of the Adequacy Budget adopted by the State Board of Education. Information on this budget and the programs and services it provides is available from the district’s Board Office.

Moved: Mrs. Stroever Seconded: Mrs. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

B8. RESOLVED that the North Caldwell Board of Education hereby establishes the school district travel maximum for the 2024-2025 school year at the sum of \$35,000.

Moved: Mrs. Stroever Seconded: Mrs. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

B9. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve transferring \$80,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund to Fund 30 (Capital Projects) to fund the Boiler Replacement at the Gould School D|R Proposal No. 4335, with any remaining funds being returned to Capital Reserve at the completion of the project.

Moved: Mrs. Stroeever Seconded: Mrs. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

B10. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the fee proposal 4335 with DiCara/Rubino Architects to provide professional services for the proposed Boiler Replacement at the Gould School for the following amount:

Total Cost: \$71,000

Additional reimbursable expenses to be invoiced at 1.15 times the expense.

Moved: Mrs. Stroeever Seconded: Mrs. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

B11. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve transferring \$15,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund to Fund 30 (Capital Projects) to fund the Boiler Replacement Analysis at the Grandview Elementary School D|R Proposal No. 24-33, with any remaining funds being returned to Capital Reserve at the completion of the project.

Moved: Mrs. Stroeever Seconded: Mrs. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

B12. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the fee proposal 24-33 with DiCara/Rubino Architects to provide professional services for the proposed Boiler Replacement Analysis at the Grandview Elementary School for the following amount:

Total Cost: \$10,000

Additional reimbursable expenses to be invoiced at 1.15 times the expense.

Moved: Mrs. Stroever Seconded: Mrs. Finkelstein
 Yes: 4 No: 0

PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS

P1. RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve **Kathryn Schneider** as a substitute teacher for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.

Moved: Mr. Finkelstein Seconded: Mrs. Stroever
 Yes: 4 No: 0

P2. RESOLVED that the Board of Education , upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Professional Development Workshops/Conferences costs for the following teachers:

Name	Date	Workshop	Cost
Clutterbuck, S.	2/28/2024	Synergy Articulation	N/A
MacDonald, L.	3/15/2024	Managing Anxiety in Our Classrooms	N/A
Thomas, C.	2/28/2024	Synergy Articulation	N/A
DellaValle, G	4/22/2024	Orton Gillingham Academy	\$300.00
Garthwaite, J	4/22/2024	Orton Gillingham Academy	\$300.00
Grimaldi, L	4/22/2024	Orton Gillingham Academy	\$300.00
Jones, R	4/22/2024	Orton Gillingham Academy	\$300.00
Manni, C	4/22/2024	Orton Gillingham Academy	\$300.00
Veniero, S	4/22/2024	Orton Gillingham Academy	\$300.00
Newman, T.	5/3-5/4/2024	A River of Knowledge/ Alta Conf	\$245.00
Sibilia, L.	5/8-5/10/2024	NJSHA Conference	Travel \$ 125.00 Food \$ 88.50 Reg <u>\$ 255.00</u> \$ 468.52
Socci, D.	5/8-5/10/2024	NJSHA Conference	Travel \$ 121.26 Hotel \$ 206.72 Food \$ 88.50 Reg <u>\$ 255.00</u> \$ 671.48

Moved: Mr. Finkelstein Seconded: Mrs. Stroever
 Yes: 4 No: 0

P3. RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, regretfully approve the resignation of **Samantha Barbella** effective June 30, 2024.

Moved: Mr. Finkelstein Seconded: Mrs. Stroever

Yes: 4 No: 0

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Halik advised the board that 2024-2025 busing preparations are underway and the Transportation Committee will be meeting soon to discuss preliminary information.

NEW BUSINESS

None

The following resolution was called at approximately 7:48 pm.

RESOLVED that in accordance with section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, the Board has the authority to adjourn to closed session to discuss matters pertaining to: Legal, Negotiations, and Personnel. Said matters will be made public upon their disposition.

Moved: Mrs. Stroever Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

As there was no further business to discuss, the Board adjourned at 8:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Halik

Michael Halik
Business Administrator / Board Secretary