

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Palisades Park Board of Education**

Tuesday, January 24, 2023 at 6:30pm, Early Childhood Center

A. CALL TO ORDER: Board President

A work session was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by the Board President, Eun Min.

B. FLAG SALUTE

Eun Min led all those present in a salute to the flag.

C. ROLL CALL

Present: Eun Min
Anieska Garcia
Soo Chung
Helen Jeon
Kevin Lim
Rebekah Lee
Anthony Kim
William Kim
Charlie Shin
Dr. Cirillo, Superintendent
Aleksandar Kondovski, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

The Board reviewed the Finance, Personnel and Old Business resolutions. There were no changes or amendments made, only discussion.

The regular order of business commenced following the work session.

D. STATEMENT OF PRESIDING OFFICER

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975), I hereby state that notice of this **Work Session** has been provided to the public by a written notice dated January 15, 2023 (date of published notice)

The Meeting Notice has been:

- Emailed to all staff members at the district's 3 school locations
- Communicated to at least 1 of the Board's designated newspapers
- Filed with the Borough Clerk of Palisades Park

E. SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH

WHEREAS, The New Jersey School Boards Association has declared January 2023 to be School Board Recognition Month, a time when all residents can acknowledge the contributions made by our local school board members; and

WHEREAS, The Palisades Park Board of Education is one of 581 local school boards in New Jersey, which sets policies and oversees operations for public school districts; and

WHEREAS, The Palisades Park Board of Education embraces the goal of high-quality education for all New Jersey public school students; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's local school boards help determine the educational goals for approximately 1.4 million children in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's 5,000 local school board members, who receive no remuneration for their services, act as advocates for public school students as they work with administrators, teachers and parents for the betterment of public education; and

WHEREAS, School boards strive to provide the resources necessary to meet the needs of all students, including those with special needs; and

WHEREAS, Boards of education provide accountability to the public; they communicate the needs of the school district to the public; and they convey to school administrators the public's expectations for the schools; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey can take pride in its schools, which rank among the nation's best in key achievement indicators such as the National Assessment of Educational Progress scores, and the preparation for college through advanced placement offerings and SAT assessments;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Palisades Park Board of Education, does hereby recognize the services of local school board members throughout New Jersey as we join communities statewide in observing January 2023 as SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Palisades Park Board of Education urges all New Jersey citizens to work with their local boards of education and public school staff toward the advancement of our children's education.

Dr. Cirillo acknowledged the efforts and volunteerism of all school board members. He thanked them for all they do for not only Palisades Park, but all schools.

F. REVIEW AND DISCUSS RESOLUTIONS TO BE VOTED ON AT THE REGULAR MEETING

G. ADJOURN WORK SESSION: OPEN REGULAR MEETING

H. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

- Dissertation Approval

Dr. Cirillo requests a motion for a dissertation approval. A neighboring superintendent of schools is conducting a dissertation survey which will remain anonymous, conducted on the field of professional development.

Dr. Cirillo commended the students who received a seal of biliteracy, an award given to those students who achieve proficiency in two or more languages. The recipients are listed on the district's website.

Moved by: Rebekah Lee

Seconded By: Anieska Garcia

VOTE

Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.	N/P	Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.	N/P
Eun Min	X	☐	☐	☐	Rebekah Lee	X	☐	☐	☐
Anieska Garcia	X	☐	☐	☐	Anthony Kim	X	☐	☐	☐
Soo Chung	X	☐	☐	☐	William Kim	X	☐	☐	☐
Helen Jeon	X	☐	☐	☐	Charlie Shin	X	☐	☐	☐
Kevin Lim	X	☐	☐	☐					

I. REPORT OF THE BOARD PRESIDENT

- Committee Appointments

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Finance | 5. Negotiations |
| 2. Buildings and Grounds | 6. Policy |
| 3. Personnel | 7. NJ School Boards Liaison/Alternate |
| 4. Curriculum | 8. County School Boards Rep/Alternate |

Ms. Chung suggested we should update our committee structure. Dr. Cirillo agreed and spoke with other districts regarding what committees are antiquated, and which ones can be combined. Anieska Garcia suggested a committee task force committee be created, where student voices are heard. Soo Chung suggested a Safety and Security Committee be created, given the situations going on around the country.

Eun Min thanked everyone for electing her as President. She made a speech discussing her top priorities and promised to do the best for the school district.

Motion by Anieska Garcia, seconded by Rebekah Lee to accept the Committees and Committee Assignments.

Roll call: 6-3 ayes

J. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

- Approval of Minutes – Regular Business Meeting

Move that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon recommendation of the Superintendent approves the minutes of the following meeting;

- December 15, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

A motion to Table December 15, 2022 Minutes was made by Soo Chung and seconded by Charlie Shin. Soo Chung suggested that her comments regarding committee meetings should be included in the minutes. Charlie Shin stated that the Borough Reorganization Meeting should also be included in the minutes.

The new members sworn in on January do not vote on the December minutes.

Moved by: Soo Chung

Seconded By: Charlie Shin

VOTE

Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.	N/P	Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.	N/P
Eun Min	☐	☒	☐	☐	Rebekah Lee	☐	☐	☒	☐
Anieska Garcia	☐	☒	☐	☐	Anthony Kim	☐	☐	☒	☐
Soo Chung	☒	☐	☐	☐	William Kim	☐	☐	☒	☐
Helen Jeon	☐	☐	☒	☐	Charlie Shin	☒	☐	☐	☐
Kevin Lim	☒	☐	☐	☐					

COMMITTEE REPORTS

K. FINANCE**Consent Agenda for Items 1-14****1. Tuition Reimbursement**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following requests for tuition reimbursement:

- Shamainie Beck- Rutgers University – 3 credits
- Karla Campos – Montclair University – 3 credits
- Christine Kim – NJ Center for Teaching & Learning – 9 credits
- Chanmi Lee – Montclair University – 3 credits
- Gustavo Miron – NJ Center for Teaching & Learning – 9 credits

Note: Tuition reimbursement shall be provided for coursework related to an employee's current job responsibilities. Reimbursement is paid at the end of the school year. Employees may take up to a maximum of 9 credits per school year.

2. Staff Workshops/Conferences

BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following staff member workshops/conferences:

<u>Staff Member</u>	<u>Conference/Workshop</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>
Jillian Romero ECC Principal	Techspo Conference Atlantic City	\$515.00	01/25 – 01/27
Patrick Phalon Lindbegh School Principal	Techspo Conference	\$515.00	01/25/ - 01/27
Andrew Garcia High School Principal	Techspo Conference	\$420.00	01/25 – 01/27
Joseph Cirillo Superintendent	Techspo Conference	\$420.00	01/25-01/27
Christian Guerro Tech Coordinator	Techspo Conference	\$515.00	01/25/ - 01/27
Ive Pavin Phys Ed Teacher	Annual "Shape" Convention Princeton Forrestal Village	\$169.00	02/27/23
Dino Eliopoulos Athletic Director	Athletic Director Conference Atlantic City	\$660.00	03/13 – 03/17

3. Food Service Vouchers

BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon recommendation of the Superintendent approves Food Service Payment(s) as follows:

• Mulligan Roofing	Drain repairs @ ECC	\$ 1,200.00
• Pomptonian, Inc.	Request for expenses w/e 12/09/22	\$14,244.11
• Pomptonian, Inc.	Request for expenses w/e 12/16/22	\$50,520.80
• Pomptonian, Inc.	Request for expenses w/e 12/30/22	\$26,473.15
• Global Industrial	Tables/Umbrellas @ HS Courtyard	\$ 8,099.98

4. Student Activities Accounts

BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon recommendation of the Superintendent accepts the financial reports for the High School and the Lindbergh School Student Activities Accounts, for the month ending 12/31/22.

5. Secretary's and Treasurer's Financial Reports

BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Park School District Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the Secretary's and Treasurer's unaudited 2022-23 financial reports, which are in agreement reflecting the district's financial activities for the period November 2022.

6. Ratification of Board Secretary's Monthly Certification – Budgetary Line Item Status

BE IT RESOLVED pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(c)3, the Board Secretary certifies that as of November 2022 no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23.11(a).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(c)4 that the Palisades Park School District Board of Education certifies that as of November 2022 after review of the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's monthly financial report, in the minutes of the Board each month that no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(b).

7. Transfers

RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the superintendent, approve transfers for the month of November 2022

8. Approval of Purchasing Manual and Standard Operating Procedures

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education approves the Purchasing Manual and Standard Operating Procedures for the Year 2023.

9. Lease for Bells and Clocks

BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon recommendation of the Superintendent approves the bid to lease to purchase bells and clocks for the Palisades Park Jr/Sr High School and the Lindbergh Elementary School, with HCESC (Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission).

10. Reimbursement for Curriculum Updates

BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves reimbursement for the attached list of teachers for updating the district's curriculum. Teachers will be paid \$30.00 per hour, not to exceed 10 hours.

11. Wage Increase – School Van Drivers

BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves an increase for the district's school van drivers. Current: \$22.00 per hour. Increase to: \$30.00 per hour, effective February 1, 2023

12. Approval of Payroll – 12/23/22

BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the 12/23/22 payroll in the amount of \$836,234.35 and 01/13/23 in the amount of \$844,318.08.

13. Approval of the Bill List – January

BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the January 2023 bill list in the amount of **\$2,086,006.12:**

- Fund 10 (General/Current Expenses) \$1,792,376.35
- Fund 20 (Special Revenue) \$ 293,629.77

14. Reappointment of Architect of Record – Parette Somjen Achitects, LLC

WHEREAS, the Palisades Park Board of Education has determined that it needs to retain Parette Somjen Architects, LLC to provide professional services as Architect of Record of the Board.

Moved by: Anieska Garcia

Seconded By: Rebekah Lee

VOTE

Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.	N/P	Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.	N/P
Eun Min	X	☐	☐	☐	Rebekah Lee	X	☐	☐	☐
Anieska Garcia	X	☐	☐	☐	Anthony Kim	X	☐	☐	☐
Soo Chung	X	☐	☐	☐	William Kim	X	☐	☐	☐
Helen Jeon	X	☐	☐	☐	Charlie Shin	X	☐	☐	☐
Kevin Lim	X	☐	☐	☐					

L. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Dr. Cirillo gave credit to a former board member in the assistance of expanding the preschool program. Dr. Cirillo stated he has visited three different locations in Palisades Park searching for a suitable location to rent for expansion of the preschool program.

M. PERSONNEL

Consent agenda for Items 1-7

1.) Danielle Bruno

BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following appointment:

Danielle Bruno
BA – Rutgers University
Elementary Grades K – 6
B.S.I. Teacher @ ECC
Step 5 BA+15 - \$58,680.00
Effective: TBA

2.) Stephanie Emmerling – Family Leave Extension

BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves a family leave extension for Stephanie Emmerling (LS Teacher). Mrs. Emmerling will return to district 09/01/2023.

3.) Appointment of Custodians – Mendez, Soto, Ago

BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the appointment of the following custodians:

Zabdi J. Mendez
P/T @ High School
\$15.00 per hour
Effective: 01/09/2023

Lorenzo Lemos-Soto
P/T @ Lindbergh School
\$15.00 per hour
Effective: Pending fingerprint approval

Sal Ago
P/T @ Lindbergh School
\$15.00 per hour
Effective: Pending fingerprint approval

4.) Substitute Teachers - Shamainie Beck and Victoria McNamara

BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the appointment of: Shamainie Beck and Victoria McNamara as Substitute Teachers at the Lindbergh School after school programs. (\$36.00 per hour)

5.) Approval of Teacher Candidates (Interns) – Aminov, Miranda, Petruzzelli, Rodriguez

BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the following teacher candidates (interns) for placements at the Palisades Park School District during the Spring 2023 semester:

Sarah Aminov
High School

Jianna Miranda
Elementary K – 6

Sabino Petruzzelli
Elementary K – 6

Stephanie Rodriguez
Middle School/High School

6.) Mayra Bermeo

BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the appointment of: Mayra Bermeo as a Substitute School Van Driver for the district, effective immediately. (\$30.00 per hour)

7.) Hadil A. Alsharif

BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the appointment of: Hadil A. Alsharif as a classroom aide at the ECC, effective 02/01/23.

Moved by: Anieska Garcia

Seconded By: Anthony Kim

VOTE

Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.	N/P	Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.	N/P
Eun Min	X	☐	☐	☐	Rebekah Lee	X	☐	☐	☐
Anieska Garcia	X	☐	☐	☐	Anthony Kim	X	☐	☐	☐
Soo Chung	X	☐	☐	☐	William Kim	X	☐	☐	☐
Helen Jeon	X	☐	☐	☐	Charlie Shin	X	☐	☐	☐
Kevin Lim	X	☐	☐	☐					

N. CURRICULUM

Dr. Cirillo stated there is no report. However, on February 2nd, the State Dept of Education is coming in for QSAC. On February 28th, there will be a follow up from the state. The final report might be in May.

O. NEGOTIATIONS

Eun Min stated there is no report.

P. POLICY

Eun Min stated there is no report.

Q. NJ SCHOOL BOARDS LIAISON/ALTERNATE

Eun Min stated there is no report.

R. COUNTY SCHOOL BOARDS REP/ALTERNATE

Eun Min stated there is no report.

S. OLD BUSINESS**1.) Rullo & Juillet Associates, Inc.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education appoints Rullo and Juillet Associates, Inc, Cedar Grove, NJ as the District's Right-To-Know, PEOSH, and AHERA Consultants. Other services include: Updating Hazardous Waste Sheets, Filing State Required Surveys, Compiling the 3-Year Asbestos Management Plan, R-T-K training and Blood-Borne Pathogens training. Annual Fee - \$8,000

2.) Brown and Brown Benefit Advisors

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education renews a contract with Brown & Brown Benefit Advisors, Lambertville, NJ as the district's benefit advisors/consultants. Services include (but are not limited to) Regulatory guidance for Health Care Reform, COBRA, HIPAA, Overage Dependents, FMLA, NJ Family Leave, Medicare Part D and NJ Public Law, Chapter 78. Annual Fee - \$12,000

3.) 504 Coordinator – Joanna Hali

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education approves the appointment of Joanna Hali, Child Study Team Director, as the district's 504 Coordinator. (No stipend)

4.) Affirmative Action Officers

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education approves the appointment of the (3) Building Principals to act as the Affirmative Action Officers for their respective school buildings. (No stipend)

5.) HIB Specialists/Investigators

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education approves the appointment of (3) Building Principals to act as HIB (Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying) Specialists/Investigators for their respective school buildings. They will work in conjunction with their Vice-Principal or Guidance Counselor. (No stipend)

Charlie Shin discussed his concern with Brown and Brown. Anieska Garcia responded, stating our rate is low, and they provide quality service regarding insurance.

#6 and #7 was added in discussion regarding the approval of a Board Attorney and Board Auditor by Dr. Cirillo, suggesting there should be a resolution.

Motion by Anieska Garcia, seconded by Rebekah Lee to approve #1-5 in Finance.
All ayes for #1, 3, 4, 5

#2 – ayes 6, nays 3.

#2 passed by vote of 6-3.

The school district went out for RFP's for legal and audit services.

The following law firms submitted proposals:

- Cleary, Jacobbe, Alfieri, Jacobs, LLC
- Sarah Kim, LLC
- DiFrancesco Bateman PC
- Law Office of John McCann, LLC
- Nowell, P.A.
- Weiner Law Group LLP
- Adams, Gutierrez & Lattiboudere, LLC
- Jardim, Meisner & Susser, P.C.
- Florio, Perrucci Steinhardt LLC

Motion by William Kim, seconded by Anthony Kim to approve John McCann as board attorney.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 4

Motion passes 5-4 for approval of John McCann as board attorney.

The school district received one proposal for auditor: Wielkotz & Company.

Motion by Anieska Garcia, seconded by Rebekah Lee to approve auditor.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 3

Motion passed by vote of 6-3.

T. NEW BUSINESS

1.) Movie Night – Lindbergh Elementary School

BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves a request from the PPEA/Pride Team to host a “Movie Night” at the Lindbergh School field on May 12, 2023 (rain date May 19th) for ECC and Lindbergh School students.

2.) Prom Night – Biagio’s Terrace

BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approves a request from Nicole Turro, Senior Class Advisor, to schedule the Senior Prom at “Biagio’s Terrace”, Paramus on Wednesday, June 7, 2023 from 7:00 – 11:00 p.m.

Moved by: Anieska Garcia

Seconded By: Antony Kim

VOTE

Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.	N/P	Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.	N/P
Eun Min	X	☐	☐	☐	Rebekah Lee	X	☐	☐	☐
Anieska Garcia	X	☐	☐	☐	Anthony Kim	X	☐	☐	☐
Soo Chung	X	☐	☐	☐	William Kim	X	☐	☐	☐
Helen Jeon	X	☐	☐	☐	Charlie Shin	X	☐	☐	☐
Kevin Lim	X	☐	☐	☐					

U. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Eun Min opened the meeting to audience participation.

Neris Papoters: expressed her concern that the board appears to be divided. She inquired as to what the new members provide to our school.

Naomi Rivera – suggested the committee chairs be made public. Dr. Cirillo responded it could be posted on our website. She also stated that the traffic after school must be addressed.

Riley Rivera – expressed his concern regarding whether some board members are not here for the right reasons.

Diane Montemurro – stated that the new board members should be given a chance and not criticized so quickly, as they were sworn in less than a month ago.

Joseph Sperlazzo – stated that the new board members should work together.

Sasha Ortiz – stated she has a student in a special education class which takes place in the library. She would like to know who can assist with placing them in a classroom.

Michelle Paprota – Congratulates the new board members. She is the PTA President, asking for a resolution to be passed for a PTA vendor event on April 29th at Lindbergh School.

Rebekah Lee moved to close audience participation, seconded by Anieska Garcia, all ayes on roll call 9 - 0

Dr. Cirillo replied to all audience members, stating many board members asked to tour the schools to see what work needs to be done.

Charlie Shin answered the audience, stating he came back to Palisades Park from northern NJ to help and try to make the school district better.

Dr. Cirillo said he will work with the police department to be better organized during school dismissals.

William Kim responded to the audience stating he will try to improve the school system.

Rebekah Lee responded to the audience stating we must work for the kids of the school.

Anieska Garcia shares the audience frustrations.

Soo Chung responded to the audience stating that she would do her best to improve the schools.

Motion by Anieska Garcia, seconded by Charlie Shin for approval of the PTA vendor event on April 29th at Lindbergh School. All ayes on roll call 9 - 0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m by roll call vote. 9 - 0

Respectfully,



Aleksandar Kondovski
Business Administrator/Board Secretary