

PARK RIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION**MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**

Date: November 18, 2024

Public Started: 7:00 P.M.

Public Ended: 9:15 P.M.

HIGH SCHOOL LITTLE THEATER**I. Roll Call**

R. Fisher	J. Pierotti	D. Bradler	J. Bucco	R. Browne	N. Agoos	A. Wagner
A	X	X	X	X	X	X

Also Present:

R. Gamper R. Wright A. Zartarian

II. Pledge of Allegiance – was led by Board President, Amara Wagner.**III. Open Public Meetings Statement – was read by Board President, Amara Wagner**

This is to advise the general public and to instruct that it be recorded in the minutes that in compliance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, entitled the “Open Public Meetings Act,” the Park Ridge Board of Education on January 11, 2024 caused to be posted at the Office of the Board of Education located at 85 Pascack Road, Park Ridge, New Jersey and on January 11, 2024 sent to The Record, 1 Garret Mountain Plaza, P.O. Box 471, Woodland Park, NJ 07424-0471 and The Ridgewood News, 41 Oak Street, Ridgewood, NJ 07450-3805 and on January 11, 2024 delivered to the Office of the Municipal Clerk of Park Ridge and the Park Ridge Public Library a meeting notice setting forth the time, date and location of this meeting.

IV. Adjournment to Private Session - None**V. Minutes for Approval**

Private Meeting
Monthly Meeting

October 28, 2024
October 28, 2024

Board Approved
Board Approved

M: RB S: NA
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW
A Y Y Y Y Y Y

VI. Special Presentations to the Board - None

VII. Hearing of Citizens - None

Hearing of Citizens will be restricted to three minutes per person for a total of fifteen minutes for comments on agenda items only. The Board bears no responsibility, nor will it be liable for any comments made by the public. Please be advised that all comments are maintained as a matter of public record.

VIII. Student Representative's Report - None

IX. President's Report

Ms. Wagner congratulated the two Board candidates for their win. She commented that the job requires a lot of work and commitment. She reported on the success of the Marching band and Vocal music program, both placing highly in their events. She then reported that there were two upcoming Vocal concerts on December 4th and 11th.

X. Superintendent's Report

 HIB Update

Dr. Gamper reported that there was one HIB at East Brook which was founded and two at the High School, one founded and one unfounded.

Dr. Gamper reported that the district will be doing a search for an architect and conducting interviews in December. He then reported that he attended the school play, Hamlet. He commented that the cast did a great job and gave kudos to everyone involved. He then gave an update on the locker room project saying that furniture would be arriving Thursday, and that they are on schedule to open the locker rooms up on the Monday after Thanksgiving. The weights are due to arrive sometime in the month of December. He hoped that the entire facility would be available by early January. He commented that he is proud of the way the project came out. He then wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

XI. BOE Committee Reports

Policy – Reported that they met on 11/13 and discussed Policy 7510, Use of school facilities.

XII. Supplemental Agenda

Supplemental resolutions, if any, will be available the night of the meeting.

Mr. Wright explained the supplemental was an administrative step that was needed to move the Rod Grant application forward. The motion was added to the Supplemental agenda.

XIII. Consent Agenda

The Board reviewed the consent agenda. A question was asked about item E5, fees for SAT prep course, with regards to what happens if there is someone who cannot afford the fee. Mr. Wright explained that there were balances built up over the years in the SAT account which give the Board the ability to waive fees. Mr. Wright was asked to modify the pricing in the motion to include the Bank fees (\$10).

Ms. Browne asked about the amendments made to Policy 7510. Ms. Agoos explained that there were several changes made, including revising the fee structure and allowing for-profit groups to use the fields. Ms. Browne expressed concern about whether the fees would be sufficient enough to cover the wear and tear placed on the fields by outside groups, and if those groups would bump existing town programs. Mr. Wright explained that the process in place now requires the Athletic Director to sign off on all requests so that this does not happen. Ms. Browne asked if the motion could be tabled so further discussion could be had.

A motion to remove policy 7510 from item PO1 was passed as follows:

M: RB S: JP
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW
A Y Y Y Y Y Y

The revised consent agenda was then voted on and passed as follows:

M: DB S: NA
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW
A Y Y Y Y Y Y(*)

Abstained from E2, and voting No on E4.

XIV. Hearing of Citizens

Hearing of Citizens will be restricted to three minutes per person for a total of fifteen minutes for comments on agenda items only. The Board bears no responsibility, nor will it be liable for any comments made by the public. Please be advised that all comments are maintained as a matter of public record.

Ms. Stevens – Expressed disappointment that the West Ridge graduation is scheduled for 11 am. She had heard that the reason was due to the teacher's contract but after reading it, did not agree it was the reason. She wanted to know why that time was selected. It is a conflict for parents who work and have children in other buildings. She felt there were other ways to address this situation and recommended providing compensation days for staff. She asked the Board to reconsider and change the time of the graduation to help parents.

A resident commented that she was an alum of Park Ridge High School. She commented that she would like to see more vocational programs such as woodshop, cooking and sewing at the High school. She lamented that these programs are disappearing from public schools. She referred to an article where students were part of a project to build a tiny house. She stated that there is a greater demand for skilled trades. She offered her assistance in getting these programs running.

A resident thanked the Board for offering the Enrichment programs. She asked why they were run at East Brook and not West Ridge.

XV. Board Comments – New/Unfinished Business

Mr. Wright explained that the Enrichment programs were now being handled solely by the Board of Education. That was not the case in the past. This year, the Board will be using a liaison so that programs can be offered at both schools.

XVI. Adjournment – 7:32 pm

M: JB S: JP
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW
A Y Y Y Y Y Y

Robert Wright
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSENT AGENDA (XIII)

EDUCATION RESOLUTIONS

Be it resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools in conjunction with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary that the following actions be taken:

- E1. The Park Ridge Board of Education accepts the suspension, truancy and HIB reports from the Superintendent for the month of October with no SSDS suspensions and no truanancies to report.

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- E2. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the following outside vendor for services for the 2024/25 school year or as indicated:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>RATE</u>
JAG Athletic Training	Contractor to provide athletic training services as needed	\$85.00/hour

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- E3. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves Derrick Alas, Bergen Community Student, to complete an additional 10 hours of observation in an East Brook inclusive classroom, from 11/19/24 – 11/26/24.

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- E4. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the school Calendar, as attached, for the 2025-2026 school year. **"E4"**

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- E5. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the student fees for the evening SAT Prep Math and English courses:

\$530 Math & English (both sessions) – includes cost of books and instruction plus a \$10 processing fee per transaction.

The in-person program will run weekly Thursdays, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., beginning January 9, 2025, and ending on March 6, 2025.

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

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- E6. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the submission of the Statement of Assurance (SOA) for the Park Ridge School District "School Safety and Security Plan" for the 2024/25 school year.

M: S:

RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- E7. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves Michael Gorrin, St. Thomas Aquinas Student, to complete observation in a Special Education classroom, on Fridays from 11/22/24 – 1/24/25.

M: S:

RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

FINANCE RESOLUTIONS

Be it resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools in conjunction with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary that the following actions be taken:

F1. Certification Resolution: The Park Ridge Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13 (e), certifies that the Board Secretary's October 2024 monthly financial report (appropriations section) did not reflect an over expenditure in any of the major accounts or funds, has not been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 620 – 2.13(b), and based on the advice of the district 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. The Park Ridge Board of Education also certifies that the financial records are in compliance with Park Ridge Policy numbers 0171, 1320, 4413 and 6510. **“F1”**

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

F2. The Park Ridge Board of Education accepts the Cafeteria Report for the month of N/A.

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

F3. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the Check Journal (List of Bills) containing Check #51390 - 51507 in the total amount of \$2,521,420.87 and 910243 - 911242 (\$ 626,234.38), and EFTs using ACH technology #L58718 - L58721 in the amount of \$586,228.72. **“F3”**

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

F4. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the payment of Athletic Vouchers # 6, 9 and 14192 – 14213 in the total amount of \$15,013.90. **“F4”**

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

F5. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the Varsity Athletic Club Voucher # 1117 in the total amount of \$4,861.38. **“F5”**

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

F6. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the Unemployment Compensation Voucher #N/A in the total amount of \$N/A.

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

MO 111824

- F7. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the October 2024 “Report of the Secretary” and the “Report of the Treasurer” to the Board of Education. **“F7”**

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- F8. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the following 2024/25 General Fund Transfers for the month of October 2024 in the amount indicated per Appendix A. **“F8”**

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- F9. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the appropriation of 2023-24 Extraordinary Aid funds in the amount of \$196,587.00, to be used in the 2024-25 budget as follows:

11-000-266-300-000-00-00	\$191,187.00
11-000-266-610-000-00-00	\$5,400.00

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- F10. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves amending the 2024/25 IDEA grant application to include carry-over amounts from the 2023/24 school year, for use in the 2024/25 school year as follows:

<u>GRANT</u>	<u>PARK RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT</u>	<u>NON-PUBLIC</u>
IDEA Basic	\$187.00	\$2,636.00

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- F11. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the purchase of technical support and equipment, and maintenance, repair and operational supplies through State Contract/Cooperative pricing. Listed below are expenses anticipated to exceed the threshold (cumulatively):

<u>ITEMS PURCHASED FROM</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>
Cablevision Lightpath, Inc.	\$68,470.92	E-Rate Bid
CDW-G	\$58,463.79	ESCNJ Contract
CM3 Building Solutions, Inc.	\$61,017.38	CCESC Contract
Mark Phillips LLC.	\$71,305.56	Ed Data Contract
NRG Business Marketing, LLC.	\$70,000.00	ACES Bid
Skylark Claridge, LLC	\$61,706.32	ESCNJ Contract
Williams Scotsman, Inc.	\$83,926.00	Approved as Bid Exception

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

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F12. The Park Ridge Board of Education authorizes the use of Capital Reserve funds to be used in
(S1.) conjunction with ROD Grant funding for the following projects:

<u>Project Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Project Cost</u>	<u>ROD Grant Awarded</u>	<u>Estimated Capital Reserve Funds</u>
3490-060-23-G5PN	East Brook Elementary School HVAC System Upgrades	\$500,300.00	\$200,120.00	\$300,180.00
3940-070-23-G5PO	West Ridge Elementary School HVAC System Upgrades	\$336,400.00	\$134,560.00	\$201,840.00

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

FINANCE DISCUSSION

A. Election Results

David Bradler	2,453
Christopher A. Amitrano	2,424
David Shelton Hollers	2,111

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS RESOLUTIONS

Be it resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools in conjunction with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary that the following actions be taken:

- BG1. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the following payments to Parette Somjen Architects for the following project: ***"BG1"***

<u>PROJECT NO.</u>	<u>PROJECT NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
9280	HS Locker Room Addition	\$5,243.83

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- BG2. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves Payment #15 to Benard Associates, Inc., for work on the HS Locker Room Addition, in the amount of \$490,861.58. ***"BG2"***

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- BG3. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the Use of the Building Facilities Application by Park Ridge Girl Scouts, for use of East Brook Classroom #13 on November 26, 2024, as per Board Policy #7510 "Use of School Facilities," as per attached. ***"BG3"***

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

POLICY RESOLUTIONS

Be it resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools in conjunction with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary that the following actions be taken:

PO1. The Park Ridge Board of Education reviews the following Policies and Regulations for second reading and approval on November 18, 2024: ***"PO1"***

Policy 3212	Attendance
Regulation 3212	Attendance
Policy 4212	Attendance
Regulation 4212	Attendance

TABLED:

Regulation 7510	Use of School Facilities
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Policy 8500	Food Services
Policy 9162	Spectator Code of Conduct

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS

Be it resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools in conjunction with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary that the following actions be taken:

- P1. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the appointments of the following substitute teacher for the 2024/25 school year:

Substitute Teachers

Kanter, Marlene

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- P2. The Park Ridge Board of Education acknowledges and approves the appointments of the following, as indicated in the areas listed, and for the amounts cited for the 2024/25 school year:

APPOINTMENTS FOR THE 2024/25 SCHOOL YEAR:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>RATE/SALARY</u>
Weise, Benjamin*	Substitute Paraprofessional	\$17.00/hr.

**pending completion of state mandated paperwork*

APPOINTMENTS FOR 2024/25 YEAR:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SALARY</u>
Awais, Muhammad	SAT Prep Course (Math Instructor)	Based on student tuition (net of expenses) up to a maximum of \$6,500.00
Dow, Christine	SAT Prep Course (English Instructor)	Based on student tuition (net of expenses) up to a maximum of \$6,500.00

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- P3. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the reimbursement of conference/expenses for the following board/staff members, for the 2024/25 school year:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>REASON/LOCATION FOR CONFERENCE/SEMINAR</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>AMOUNTS NOT TO EXCEED</u>
David Bradler	NJSBA 2024 Conference Atlantic City, NJ	10/21 – 10/24/24	\$425.00
Robert Gamper	NJSBA 2024 Conference Atlantic City, NJ	10/21 – 10/23/24	\$375.00
Krista Kersting	NJSBA 2024 Conference Atlantic City, NJ	10/21 – 10/23/24	\$375.00
Troy Lederman	Eduscape AI in Education West Windsor, NJ	12/11/2024	\$250.00
David Librera	NJSBA 2024 Conference Atlantic City, NJ	10/21 – 10/24/24	\$425.00

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Robert Wright	NJSBA 2024 Conference Atlantic City, NJ	10/21 – 10/23/24	\$375.00
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M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- P4. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves Jose Serna as the Night/Lead Custodian for the 24-25 School year, in the amount of \$1,500.00.

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- P5. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the following staff members for professional development workshops on November 5, 2024, as indicated below and charged to the ESEA Grant, Title IIA (prep and presentation \$84.00/hr.):

<u>PRESENTER</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>HOURS PRESENTING</u>	<u>HOURS PLANNING</u>
Almeida, Sophia	Exploring Digital Tools for Classroom Support	2	4
Buckley, Stephanie	ELA II Writing to Explain across the Curriculum	2	2
Cheman, Kim	Math Discussion	2	4
Misciagna, Desiree	Supporting our ML Learners	1.5	2
Plucinski, Keith	Supporting our ML Learners	1.5	2

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- P6. The Park Ridge Board of Education accepts the resignation of Susan Sharber, Middle School Science teacher, due to retirement, effective July 1, 2025.

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- P7. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the appointment of Alejandro Gutierrez as a .6 Night Custodian (Step 2 Custodian Guide) for the 2024-25 school year, pending completion of state mandated paperwork and prorated to his start date.

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

- P8. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the appointment of Melissa Ballaera as Acting Principal of East Brook Elementary School, starting January 2, 2025 – February 14, 2025, at a stipend of \$5,000.00.

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

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P9. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves an extension to the Leave-of-Absence for Kaitlyn Jacobus (EB Teacher) as follows:

- A Child-Rearing Leave from May 5, 2025, to June 30, 2025, without pay and without benefits.

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW

P10. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the extension of Cheryl Fuqua as East Brook maternity leave teacher, from May 5, 2025, to June 20, 2025, on Step 1 of the BA Guide, at an annual salary of \$61,435.00, prorated.

M: S:
RF JP DB JB RB NA AW