

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

PUBLIC WORK SESSION

November 18, 2024

5:30 p.m.

Board of Education Office

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

Mr. Smith	<u>Present</u>
Mrs. Gilgallon	<u>Present</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 October 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.

1. The Superintendent stated that in the new NAEA contract we had to identify four days for extended staff PD, which would take place on a Monday in October, January, March, and May. Due to the month of October already passing, we will be adding three, 4-hour sessions for students for extended PLC days for January, March, and May. He stated that an updated academic calendar will be present for approval at the December meeting.
2. The School Business Administrator reviewed the Schedule of Board meetings with the Board. She said she would make any necessary changes and send the schedule to them for further review.
3. The Superintendent stated that there are no grants or donation opportunities for the Digital Board replacement at the High School. The display board replacement was estimated at around \$40,000. Mr. McDermott stated he would further ask around to businesses for sponsorships.
4. The Superintendent discussed potential renovations in the High School Home Economics Room and the potential cost of this remodel with the Board. The Board decided to hold off on this project for now.
5. The Superintendent discussed the proposal for splitting the Washington School Media Center in two classrooms. The Board agreed to hold off on this project for now.
6. The Superintendent discussed upgrading the Sound System at "RIP" Collins Athletic Complex. He stated that we did a small upgrade a year ago, but when the band plays it does not project. He said that the Athletic Director will be getting some quotes for the upgrade. The Superintendent said that he will update the Board on this when he receives the quotes.
7. The School Business Administrator discussed the lightning rods with the Board. The Board asked the Superintendent and School Business Administrator to contact the Borough about a joint venture and agreed we would be moving forward with the project.

8. Mr. McDermott said that the Tunnels 2 Towers Museum was a huge success and that it was the first time they did this for four districts. He said that both teachers and students loved it. Mr. McDermott said that he was asked if we would do it again next year, but was asked if one school district could be the focal point for the permit and payment. The School Business Administrator agreed she would be the district in charge of the event.
9. The Superintendent discussed the summer reading projects. He said that some teachers were using quiz grades and some were using test grades. He said that he would set up a meeting with the high school and middle school principals as well as the director of curriculum to discuss. He asked if two Board Members from the curriculum committee could also be in attendance at the meeting. They agreed.
10. The Superintendent discussed the new Board IDs and asked if any board Member wanted a new ID to let him know.
11. The Superintendent said that he spoke with the athletic director regarding the assistant coaches for soccer. The athletic director adamantly supported keeping the assistant coaches. He said that the numbers fluctuate from year to year just like they do with all other sports that have assistant coaches.
12. The Superintendent updated the Board on the PreK3 lottery. He said that the lottery would be held on one of the upcoming Mondays. He stated that there are approximately 60 applicants but only 12 spots available. The lottery will be used to service our low SES households first, and we are set to start the PreK3 Program in mid-December.
13. Mrs. Higgins said that the negative change order was great to see \$62,000. The 18-21 Program project was reduced by \$62,000.00.
14. Mrs. Higgins was concerned about continuing to pay the nurses for CDRSS. The Board discussed and the Superintendent explained that this would be addressed. The Superintendent will provide everyone with an update.
15. The Superintendent asked the Student Board Member if she had any questions from the student body that she wanted to share with the Board. The Student Board Member said that some students stated that they were having difficulty in trying to schedule appointments with their guidance counselors and that no one was responding. She said that students were concerned because of their college applications being due. The Superintendent thanked her and said that he would look into this in the morning and that this should not be happening.
16. The School Business Administrator said that she and the Superintendent have a budget meeting on Monday, November 25th with all administrators. She stated that there is one project for the High School; the elevator, and that one school bus would be coming off road, and we would need to replace it.
17. The Superintendent said that the Teacher of the Year dinner will be on Wednesday, May 21st at Michael's Restaurant and the Honor Society dinner will be on Thursday, January 16th at the San Carlo.

Motion to move to Executive Session at 6:09 p.m. made by Mrs. Higgins, second by Mr. Dorsett. There was no discussion. On Roll Call all Board members present voted in the affirmative and none in the negative, it was so ordered.

Respectfully,

Samantha Dembowski
SD:at